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# Superintendent's Report To the Baltimore County Board of Education

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February 14, 2006

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I have had the privilege of spending a great deal of time lately in our schools and with our students. Just this evening, the Board had dinner with the leaders of the Student Council. In addition, I have spent time with students during my school visits and at meetings with my student advisory group and with student leaders at Woodlawn High School. I have also spent time with students at the Black Saga Finals, during Job Shadow Day, visiting an environmental science class at Lansdowne High School, and at the Tools for Schools kickoff. I come away from all of these interactions impressed with the intellect of our young people and their commitment to education.

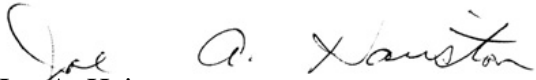
Others are paying attention, too. Our news coverage for the past month has been overwhelmingly positive, and much of it has been generated by our expanded outreach to the press. Here are just a few of the positive stories that have received media attention:

- The Black Saga finals
- Kenwood High School's IB (International Baccalaureate) Alumni Day
- The growth of the AVID program
- Family Math Night at Johnnycake Elementary School
- The concert at Deer Park Middle Magnet School, sponsored by the Baltimore County Alliance of Black School Educators
- African American History Month activities at New Town and Deer Park elementary schools
- Reisterstown Elementary School students raising funds for the Start Bright Foundation
- The peer mediation program at Cockeysville Middle School
- Woodholme Elementary School's teleconference with Congressman Bartlett in Antarctica
- Dundalk Middle School's new Junior Optimist Club
- The Windsor Mill Middle School community forum and its big turnout
- A Franklin Middle School eighth-grader, Esther Chezvinsky, playing at Carnegie Hall
- A Hereford Middle School seventh-grader, Casey Kolb, performing at the Hippodrome Theater
- Cockeysville Middle School's production of Aladdin

In addition, at the Governor's Mansion, I was present as three of our leading educators were honored by the state – our Teacher of the Year Jodi Grosser-González (of New Town High School), Milken Award winner Kelly Smith (of Dulaney High School), and Principal Susan Evans of Ridgely Middle School, a Maryland Blue Ribbon School.

In closing, I would also like to mention that I had a successful trip with County Executive Jim Smith and Police Chief Terry Sheridan to visit an alternative program in Philadelphia. Earlier Board President Tom Grzyski, Vice President Warren Hayman, and Board members John Hayden and Donald Arnold traveled with some of our staff to visit a facility in Florida. At tonight's Board meeting we will hear more about the status of our transition program – The

Bridge Center. At an upcoming meeting, I will bring additional information about alternative education options for Baltimore County.



Joe A. Hairston  
Superintendent

## **Review of Superintendent's Calendar**

### *Past*

- 1/25 Meeting with League of Women Voters
- 1/25 Public Hearing on FY 2007 Operating Budget
- 1/26 Educational Advisory Board Meeting
- 1/26 PTA Council Meeting with Board of Education, Cockeysville Middle School
- 1/27 Program Visit in Philadelphia with County Executive Jim Smith and Police Chief Terry Sheridan
- 1/31 Tools for Schools Kickoff at Fullerton Elementary School
- 1/31 Board Work Session – FY 2007 Operating Budget
- 2/1 Curriculum and Instruction Winter Retreat, Sheppard Pratt Conference Center
- 2/2 Job Shadow Day (with students interested in careers in education)
- 2/2 *District Administrator* magazine interview
- 2/2 Governor's Reception Honoring Award Winning Educators, Government House, Annapolis
- 2/2 County Planning Board Meeting
- 2/3 Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland (PSSAM) – State Superintendents' Meeting, Anne Arundel County Board of Education
- 2/4 Black Saga Finals for Baltimore County, Randallstown High School
- 2/6 Optimist Meeting
- 2/7 Governor's Advisory Committee on Math, Science & Technology
- 2/8 Student Council Advisory Group
- 2/9 School Visits

- 2/9            **Board Recognition Ceremony, Cockeysville Middle School**
- 2/13           **Human Resources Mini-Retreat, Sheppard Pratt Conference Center**
- Upcoming*
- 2/15           **Southwest Advisory Council, Woodmoor Elementary School**
- 2/16           **MABE Legislative Day Luncheon, Annapolis**
- 2/17           **Addressing the Baltimore County Delegation, Annapolis**
- 2/21           **MSDE/BCPS Schoolwide Achievement Recognition Breakfast, Towson Sheraton**
- 2/21           **Southeast Area Advisory Council, Dundalk Middle School**
- 2/22 – 2/25   **American Association of School Administrators (AASA) Conference, San Diego**
- 2/26 – 2/27   **Education Research and Development Institute (ERDI) Conference, San Diego**
- 3/10           **Keynote address at AVID/College Board National Conference 2006, San Diego**