
Superintendent's Report To the Baltimore County Board of Education

May 9, 2006

This evening I want to yield most of my time to a special speaker, June Streckfus, executive director of the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education. Through this dynamic organization, Maryland's business community invests in and advocates for tomorrow's workforce. The Maryland Business Roundtable has been a welcome partner whose mission and activities are aligned with the objectives of our *Blueprint for Progress*.

Baltimore County Public Schools has received support through a number of Maryland Business Roundtable activities including their speakers bureau, Be What I Want to Be teen web site, and monitoring of rigorous course completion rates.

I want to share with you a few highlights regarding rigorous course completion. According to the Maryland Business Roundtable's review, from 2004 to 2005, Baltimore County Public Schools continued to make overall progress in increasing the number of students completing rigorous coursework. The most progress was made in raising participation for African American and Hispanic students and students living in poverty. For example, the number of African American students completing algebra II and completing a fourth science course both increased 12 percent. The number of Hispanic students completing algebra I increased 15 percent and completing algebra II increased 18 percent. Increases were even more dramatic for children living in poverty, with a 23 percent increase for algebra II, a 39 percent increase for physics, and a 22 percent increase for a fourth science course.

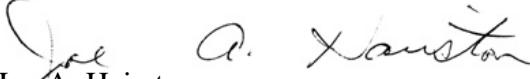
These numbers reflect our overall approach of increasing academic rigor and expanding opportunities for all students. These numbers also reflect our understanding of the urgency of this work. Our students must have strong math, science, critical thinking, and communication skills to compete in the global and technological economy.

In a few weeks, we will hear from another speaker who will share with us additional insights about changes in our world that will impact what we teach our students and how. General _____ will discuss base realignments and their impact on Maryland in general and Baltimore County in particular.

To prepare our students for the future, it is essential that we continually look ahead.

In closing, I also want to congratulate our Department of Fiscal Services for receiving its 10th consecutive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. This award from the Government Finance Officers Association is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting. This honor reflects the high quality of our

Business Services Division, which works tirelessly behind the scenes to support this school system's stability and growth and the teaching and learning in our schools.


Joe A. Hairston
Superintendent

Review of Superintendent's Calendar

Past

- 4/26 **Panelist at *Summit on Protecting Maryland's Competitive Edge*, University of Maryland, College Park**
- 4/26 **BCPS Job Fair, Timonium Fairgrounds**
- 4/27 **School Visits – Chapel Hill, Kingsville**
- 4/27 **Lansdowne High School Employer Appreciation Luncheon, Snyder's Willow Grove**
- 4/27 **COMCAST Student Achievement Award Ceremony, Towson University Arts Center**
- 4/28 **AIMMS Ceremony (honoring Board President Tom Grzymiski and several staff members), Martin's West**
- 4/30 **Maryland Muslim Council Dinner, BWI Marriott**
- 5/1 **Sandy Plains Elementary School Science Fair**
- 5/1 **Press Conference with County Executive (re: school construction funds), Catonsville Middle School**
- 5/2 **Reading to students at Middlesex Elementary School**
- 5/2 **TABCO Recognition/Retirement Dinner, Martin's East**
- 5/3 **Speaking to students at Logan Elementary School's Career Day**

- 5/3 **Career and Technology Education Student Recognition Dinner, Martin's West**
- 5/4 **Governor's Mathematics, Science, and Technology Education Advisory Committee**
- 5/4 **Ridgely Middle School Blue Ribbon School Award Ceremonies with State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy Grasmick and County Executive Jim Smith**
- 5/5 **Visit to Stemmer's Run Middle School**
- 5/5 **Towson University Distinguished Alumni Awards Banquet, University Union**
- 5/7 **Wellwood International School's 50th Anniversary Celebration**
- 5/7 **Presenting award at Cappies of Baltimore Gala, The Hippodrome Theater**
- 5/8 **Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce Awards for Excellence in Education**
- 5/9 **Offering remarks at First Year Assistant Principals' Meeting, Perry Hall Middle School**
- 5/9 **Bringing greetings to Student Support Services MSDE Review, Pulaski Business Park**

Upcoming

- 5/10 **College Access Program Press Conference, Dundalk High School library**
- 5/10 **Board of Education National Merit and Ethics Awards Ceremony, Cockeysville Middle School**
- 5/11 **PSSAM State Superintendents' Meeting, Anne Arundel County Board of Education**
- 5/11 **Dundalk Middle School Honor Roll Student Dinner**
- 5/12 **Virginia Tech Graduate School Commencement Exercises (receiving Graduate Alumni Award),**
- 5/13 **Baltimore County Community Waterfront Festival, Eastern Boulevard near Martin State Airport**
- 5/15 **McCormick Unsung Heroes Banquet, Marriott Hunt Valley Inn**

- 5/17 **Principals' Meeting, Timonium Holiday Inn**
- 5/17 **Celebration honoring AVID seniors, Merrick Lecture Hall and Rosenberg Gallery, Goucher College**
- 5/18 **Tour of Windsor Mill**
- 5/18 **Offering remarks at Baltimore County Department of Aging Volunteer Luncheon, Martin's West**
- 5/18 **County Council Budget Work Session on BCPS budget, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson**
- 5/18 **Offering remarks at STEM Parent Information Night for secondary schools, Woodlawn High School**
- 5/19 **Baltimore County Public Schools Teacher of the Year Award Ceremony, ESS Board Room**
- 5/19 **Carney Elementary School's 40th Anniversary Learning Celebration**
- 5/20 **Presenting awards at BCPS Elementary Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Fair Open House and Awards Program, Randallstown High School**
- 5/22 **Children's Cancer Foundation Awards Assembly, Perry Hall Middle School**
- 5/22 **Baltimore Jewish Council Annual Meeting and Tribute to Senator Sarbanes, 7401 Park Heights Avenue**
- 5/24 **Public Hearing on FY 08 Capital Budget, ESS Board Room**
- 5/25 **County Council adoption of FY 07 Budget, Council Chambers**
- 5/25 **Baltimore County's Alliance of Black School Educators Awards, ESS**
- 5/26 **10th Anniversary of the Baltimore County Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Old Courthouse, Towson**
- 5/26 **Job Fair, Timonium Fairgrounds**
- 5/30 **Carver Center for Art and Technology graduation, Goucher College, Kraushaar Auditorium**
- 5/31 **Delivering address at Ridge Ruxton graduation ceremony**
- 5/31 **Franklin High School graduation, McDaniel College**