

---

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

---

September 6, 2006

---

I would like to thank and congratulate everyone involved in another successful school year start. This year was especially eventful with the opening of Windsor Mill Middle School, the announcement of the new Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics initiative at Chesapeake High School, and first day visits from the Governor and First Lady, County Executive, and other dignitaries. Yet we were still able to focus on getting 107,000 students acclimated to classroom and school procedures in preparation for learning.

I also want to share with the Board and with the public the results of *The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools*. This just-released poll shows that the nation as a whole continues to strongly support public education. Almost half – 49% – of poll takers graded the public schools in their communities with an A or B. Parents with children in public schools graded the schools even higher, with 56% awarding an A or B.

These poll results come on the heels of a U.S. Department of Education report, released this summer, which showed little to no difference in the academic performance of public school students versus private school students when students' income and socio-economic status are considered.

As we continue to increase academic rigor and expand learning opportunities for all of our students, it is important to remember that the work that we are doing is valued locally and nationally and is proven to be effective.



Joe A. Hairston  
Superintendent

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

### *Past*

- 8/25            **Chamber of Commerce luncheon with Governor and Mrs. Ehrlich**
- 8/26            **2006 Baltimore County Football Jamboree at Dundalk High School**
- 8/28            **Opening day school visits to Parkville Middle School, Chesapeake High School, Dulaney High School, Reisterstown Elementary School, and Windsor Mill Middle School**
- 8/31            **Participating in meeting of the Greater Baltimore Economic Forum, Mayor Martin O'Malley as guest speaker**
- Maryland Science and Technology Education Meeting at Maryland State Department of Education**
- 9/1             **Visits to Woodlawn High School, Woodlawn Middle School, and Chesapeake High School**
- Baltimore County Day Luncheon at Maryland State Fair**
- 9/5             **Lunch with County Executive**
- 9/6             **Visit to Cromwell Elementary School**

### *Upcoming*

- 9/7             **Lunch with High School Principals**
- 9/8             **Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland meeting in Charles County**
- 9/9             **Board of Education Retreat**
- 9/13            **Governor's visit to Chesapeake High School, Eastern Technical High School, and Deep Creek Middle School**
- 9/13            **Student Advisory Board Meeting**
- 9/14            **Good News Ambassadors Kick-off**
- 9/14            **Lunch with Middle School Principals**

- 9/15            **Visits to Pikesville High School and Pikesville Middle School**
- 9/15            **Lunch with Elementary School Principals**
- 9/16            **Baltimore County African American Cultural Festival**
- 9/16            **Black Engineer Award Luncheon at the Baltimore Convention Center**
- 9/18            **Lunch with Elementary School Principals**