
Superintendent's Report To the Baltimore County Board of Education

November 21, 2006

Far beyond raising student academic achievement, the ultimate goal of Baltimore County Public Schools is to prepare all of our students for success in college, careers, and life.

Looking at future trends for Maryland offers some insight into where the global economy and workforce are headed. Here are a few notes about Maryland's economy from the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development web site:

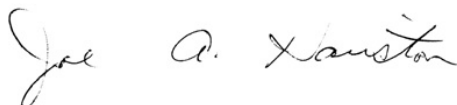
- Maryland is undergoing a huge transformation - from a manufacturing-based economy to a knowledge-based economy, an economy that is as much about developing new products as producing them.
- Maryland has a growing presence in information technology, telecommunications, and aerospace and defense. Maryland is also becoming a noted biotechnology area.

To prepare students to take advantage of the opportunities ahead, as described in *The Blueprint for Progress*, the focus for Baltimore County Public Schools is on academic rigor and excellence. The goal is for all students to be college-ready. The expectation is not that they will all attend college, but we know that for *all* students – regardless of their career paths – success will require lifelong learning – on the job, in college, in technical schools – and much higher skill levels than ever before. Regardless of their career paths, students will need to know how to learn, how to analyze, and how to communicate.

We have no right to judge children's futures; instead we have an obligation to prepare them for that future. Every child deserves access to a high-quality education – and we are committed to providing that.

We all play an important role in this process. In my communications with our administrators and staff, with parents and stakeholders, and with the community, I encourage everyone to talk with children now – whether they are in elementary, middle, or high school – about the importance of education beyond high school and about the need to prepare for the future by taking challenging coursework.

We look forward to working with the community as we continue to look, think, and move ahead on behalf of our students' future and the future of this community.



Joe A. Hairston
Superintendent

Review of Superintendent's Calendar

Past

- 11/9-12 **College Board Forum, first meeting of College Board Superintendent Advisory Panel, San Diego (see attached press release)**
- 11/13-17 **American Education Week**
- 11/13 **Visits to Shady Spring, Lansdowne, and Baltimore Highlands elementary schools**
- 11/13 **High School Honors Concert, Meyerhoff Symphony Hall**
- 11/15 **Principals' Meeting, Timonium Holiday Inn**
- 11/15 **Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council Meet and Greet, Parkville High School**
- 11/16 **Offering greetings during the AVID Directors' Leadership Training Conference site visit to Catonsville High School**
- 11/16 **School visits**
- 11/16 **Board of Education Fall Recognition Event, New Town High School**
- 11/18 **Receiving Distinguished Leader Award at White Rose Luncheon of the Patapsco River Chapter of The Links Incorporated, Martin's West**
- 11/20 **Governor's STEM Education Advisory Committee Meeting, Maryland State Department of Education offices**
- 11/20 **Visit to Southwest Academy with Area Assistant Superintendent Dr. Manuel Rodriguez**

Upcoming

- 11/27 **Visits to Golden Ring Middle School and McCormick Elementary School with Area Assistant Superintendent Bill Lawrence**
- 11/28 **Meeting of the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education**
- 11/30 **Visit to Woodlawn High School with Area Assistant Superintendent Dr. Manuel Rodriguez**
- 12/1 **Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland (PSSAM) meeting at Anne Arundel County Board of Education**

12/1

Offering greetings at the Fall Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Seminar, Timonium Holiday Inn