
Superintendent's Report To the Baltimore County Board of Education

January 23, 2007

Our progress depends first of all on clarity of mission. Why do we all come together at Board of Education meetings twice a month? Why do the men and women around this table volunteer their time and expertise? What is the reason for employing 17,000 workers and spending more than \$1 billion each year? The answer is simple: we are here to teach all children to their highest potential. Our *Blueprint for Progress* clearly describes what we stand for – providing the type of comprehensive education every responsible parent wants for his or her child.

As Superintendent, what helps me maintain clarity of mission is the time I spend with our students. I work from a stronger position when I hear directly from them. They give me another critical lens on our schools. To stay closely connected, every month I visit schools and participate in various student events. Every year I participate in activities with the Baltimore County Student Councils. I will talk with them next at their general assembly meeting on March 14.

Throughout the school year, I also meet monthly with my Superintendent's Student Advisory Board. At each meeting, the six members of this group impress me with their intelligence and with their insights into the needs, concerns, and interests of today's students.

While these young people are all exceptional scholars and leaders, wise beyond their years, they also reflect the overall quality of our students.

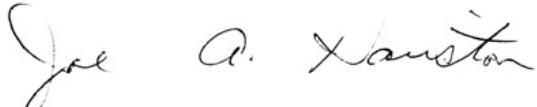
Last month educators from around the nation toured our schools, reviewed our materials, and talked to parents, students, principals, administrators, and stakeholders as a part of the curriculum audit we hired Phi Delta Kappa to conduct. We are just beginning to receive preliminary glimpses into their findings, but I want to share with you that one of the first and strongest messages I received from them was how impressed they are with the intelligence and maturity of all our students.

This evening, it is my pleasure to introduce the members of this group for the 2006-2007 school year:

- Peter Bacon, *Dulaney High School student and the Student Member on the Baltimore County Board of Education*
- Scott Carbone, *Chesapeake High School student*
- Klara Kim, *Woodlawn High School student*
- Glory Ojiere, *Kenwood High School student*

- Jennifer Oswald, *Carver Center for the Arts and Technology student and President of the Baltimore County Student Councils*
- Stacy Siegel, *Pikesville High School student*

It is my pleasure now to yield the remainder of my report time to the Superintendent's Student Advisory Board so they can share highlights of our discussions about the concerns and interests of Baltimore County students.



Joe A. Hairston
Superintendent

Review of Superintendent's Calendar

Past

- 1/11 **Red House Run Elementary School visit with State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy Grasmick and County Executive Jim Smith**
- 1/11 **RMI Luncheon with County Executive, The Conference Center at Executive Plaza, Hunt Valley**
- 1/11 **Presentation at Joint Education Area Advisory Council Meeting, ESS Building**
- 1/12 **Visit to Dundalk High School and Deep Creek Middle School with Area Assistant Superintendent Jean Satterfield**
- 1/12 **Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Commemoration, Union Bethel Church, Randallstown**
- 1/13 **Fullwood Foundation Benefit and Recognition Breakfast, Martin's West**
- 1/15 **Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast, Martin's West**
- 1/17 **Gubernatorial Inauguration and Celebration, Annapolis and Baltimore**
- 1/18 **Educational Advisory Board Meeting, Villa Julie College**

1/18 **Presentation with School Board President Don Arnold at PTA Council General Meeting, Dumbarton Middle School**

1/20 **Board Retreat, Greenwood**

Upcoming

1/24 **Maryland Board of Public Works Appeal, Annapolis**

1/24 **Public Hearing on FY 2008 Operating Budget, Ridge Ruxton School**

1/29 **Visits to Villa Cresta Elementary School, Pot Spring Elementary School, and Jacksonville Elementary School**

1/30 **Board Work Session on FY 2008 Operating Budget, ESS**

1/31 **Visit to Deep Creek Middle School with Area Assistant Superintendent Jean Satterfield**

2/1 **Presentation of Capital Budget to County Planning Board, County Courts Building Room, Towson**

2/2 **PSSAM/State Superintendent's Meeting, Anne Arundel County Board of Education**

2/3 **Black Saga County Finals and Awards Presentation, Randallstown High School**

2/7 **Student Advisory Board Meeting**

2/8 **Board of Education Winter Recognition Ceremony, Perry Hall High School**

2/9 **Human Resources Retreat, Sheppard Pratt Conference Center**

2/12 **Maryland State Department of Education Blue Ribbon Panel Breakfast, St. Joseph Hospital**