

---

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

---

May 8, 2007

---

To begin, I want to share with you that Tuesday, June 19, 2007, will be the final day of the 2006-2007 school year. Barring any unforeseen events, all instructional time requirements will be met at that time. Therefore, there will be no adjustments to the current calendar.

Next, I want to touch briefly on two priorities that connect many of my activities since our last meeting.

One of those priorities is the growing involvement of Baltimore County Public Schools in the larger economic development process.

I often talk about the impact that school quality has on home values and overall quality of life. Last month, as part of its "Best Places to Live" cover story, *Baltimore* magazine compared neighborhoods in Baltimore County to communities in Anne Arundel, Carroll, Cecil, Harford, and Howard counties, Baltimore City, and York, Pennsylvania. In considering the quality of schools among its criteria, *Baltimore* magazine reaffirmed the impact strong schools have on economic development and community growth and stability.

Twenty-two Baltimore County communities were included on *Baltimore's* "Best Places to Live" list, and two others were named "up and coming" neighborhoods. Our continued progress in raising student achievement throughout the county is reflected in the strong showing of Baltimore County communities in this study.

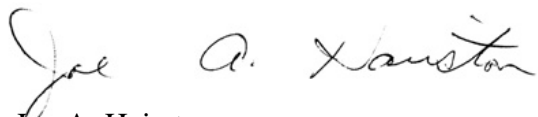
In addition, the magazine named the region's top five public elementary schools and top five public high schools. I am proud to share with you that, of those ten schools, four were from Baltimore County – Carroll Manor and Summit Park elementary schools and Eastern Technical and Hereford high schools. The four schools specifically honored by this magazine represent the overall strength of our school system and its commitment to increased academic rigor and expanded opportunities for all students.

At the end of April, I took a walking tour of Dundalk Village that was spearheaded by Board Member Ed Parker. We talked with Councilman John Olszewski, County Executive Jim Smith, Area Assistant Superintendent Jean Satterfield, and county and community economic development leaders about the school system's integral role in the continued renaissance of Dundalk. We discussed the importance of quality schools to attract more young families to the community and the opportunity for new teachers to find good housing values in Dundalk.

I participated in even broader economic development discussions in meetings with Dr. Kevin Manning, president of Villa Julie College, and David Iannucci, executive director of the Baltimore County Department of Economic Development, and in gatherings with members of the Dundalk and Essex-Middle River-White Marsh Chambers of Commerce.

Another priority over the past few weeks has been having face-to-face meetings with a broad range of stakeholders about the implementation of curriculum management audit recommendations. These meetings have included in-depth and fruitful conversations with chairs of our advisory groups, PTA leadership, Gifted and Talented and special education advisory committees, principals, Curriculum and Instruction staff, the Baltimore County Student Councils General Assembly, my Student Advisory Board, and a focus group of 50 teachers.

Working together, we have built a strong school system. Working together in an even more collaborative and focused way, we can make our strong school system even stronger that continues to enrich this county, state, region, and nation.



Joe A. Hairston  
Superintendent

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

### *Past*

- 4/25            **Luncheon with Department of Research, Testing, and Accountability**
- 4/25            **Gifted and Talented Advisory Committee Meeting**
- 4/26            **Dundalk Village Tour with Board Member Ed Parker, Councilman Johnny Olszewski, Area Assistant Superintendent - Southeast Jean Satterfield and Revitalization Specialist Chris McCullough**
- 4/26            **Dundalk Chamber of Commerce Teacher Appreciation Banquet, Martin's East**
- 4/27            **Meeting with Chinese exchange students and teacher at Dulaney High School**
- 4/27            **Luncheon with Dr. Kevin Manning, President, Villa Julie College, and David Iannucci, Executive Director, Baltimore County Department of Economic Development**
- 4/30            **1000 Hour Volunteer Afternoon Tea Awards Ceremony, Holiday Inn - Timonium**
- 4/30            **Essex-Middle River-White Marsh Chamber Legislative Wrap-up Dinner, Martin's East**

- 5/2 **Teacher Focus Group regarding curriculum management audit, Holiday Inn - Timonium**
- 5/2 **Career and Technology Recognition Dinner, Martin's West**
- 5/3 **Board of Education National Merit Finalists/Awards, New Town High School**
- 5/4 **Lansdowne High Academy of Finance Luncheon, Snyder's Willow Grove Restaurant**
- 5/5 **Presented greetings at Early College Awareness Workshop, Loyola Graduate Center - Timonium**
- 5/7 **Baltimore County Public Schools Scholarship Award Ceremony, ESS, Room 114**

***Upcoming***

- 5/9 **Teacher of the Year Award Ceremony, ESS, Room 114**
- 5/9 **Superintendent's Student Advisory Board meeting**
- 5/9 **Dinner with Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks**
- 5/10 **Workforce Development Council meeting, 1101 McCormick Road**
- 5/10 **TABCO Retirement and Recognition Dinner, Martin's East**
- 5/11 **PSSAM – State Superintendent's Meeting, Strathmore Music Center**
- 5/14 **Awards for Excellence, Martin's West**
- 5/16 **Principals' Meeting, Holiday Inn – Timonium**
- 5/16 **To present keynote address at AVID Senior Celebration, Chesapeake Room at Towson University**
- 5/17 **County Council Budget Work Session – FY 08 Request**
- 5/18 **To swear in new officers for Baltimore County Student Councils, Oregon Ridge**
- 5/23 **Collage presentation by Gifted and Talented art students from Riderwood Elementary School, Greenwood Administration lobby**
- 5/23 **UMBC 2007 Honorary Degree Award Dinner, The Center Club**

- 5/24            **FY 08 Budget Adoption by County Council, Council Chambers, Towson**
- 5/29            **Woodlawn High School graduation, UMBC**
- 5/30            **Mildred Murray Scholarship presentation, Greenwood Administration lobby**
- 5/31            **Groundbreaking for Villa Julie College School of Business, Villa Julie  
College Owings Mills Campus**
- 5/31            **Kenwood High School graduation, CCBC Essex, Field House**