
Superintendent's Report To the Baltimore County Board of Education

August 14, 2007

Last month's Board meeting came just a few days after I had returned from my first trip to China. As a participant in the 2007 Virginia Tech Leadership Conference, I had the opportunity to travel with an impressive group of educators to meet with China's Vice Minister for Education and learn more about China's education system in the context of its history and culture. I am still processing all that I saw and learned, but I already know that it will have a lasting impact on my perspective.

Just before I left for China, I presented my priorities for the new fiscal year and spent time speaking to our schoolhouse leaders at the annual Principals' Academy. I have said, and I will continue to say, that this initiative is one of the most important that we have instituted during my tenure. Designed by principals for principals, this academy provides invaluable professional development and peer support and has become an integral part of how principals plan for the next school year.

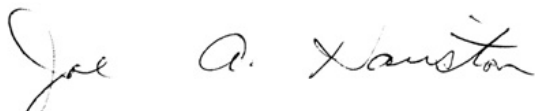
At tonight's meeting, we have been joined by representatives of the Maryland Association of Educational Office Professionals executive board from Baltimore, Frederick, and Howard counties.

Last month, the National Association of Educational Office Professionals held its annual Conference in Seattle. Six office professionals and two retirees represented Baltimore County schools at this event, including Debra Blimline, CEOE (Certified Educational Office Employee), of Dundalk Middle School, who serves as president of the Maryland association.

The group returned with four major awards, confirming the quality of our administrative staff. Tracy Gover, administrative assistant to our chief financial officer, was named Maryland Office Professional of the Year. The state newsletter that she edits won second place nationally. The state association also won the Louise Henderson Nelson Award for outstanding service and third place for membership increase.

I would like to recognize the office professionals here tonight and all BCPS administrative support staff. They are essential team members in our schools and offices. As the public's first point of contact with our school system, their demeanor and professionalism contribute positively to the image and operations of Baltimore County Public Schools.

The success of our school system in educating every child depends on the quality of commitment and expertise of each worker in each role. We are proud to have such outstanding administrative professionals as a part of our team.



Joe A. Hairston
Superintendent

Review of Superintendent's Calendar

Past

- 6/15 **Northrop Grumman Engineering Scholars Awards Dinner, Historical Electronics Museum, Linthicum**
- 6/20 **Executive Leadership Retreat, Loyola Conference Center, Timonium**
- 6/21 **AESA Luncheon, Raffles Restaurant**
- 6/25-27 **Principals' Academy**
- 6/29-7/8 **Virginia Tech Educational Leadership Conference in China (included meeting with Vice Minister of Education, His Excellency Dr. Boaqing Zhang, and visiting the Peoples Education Press, Beijing Normal University, and schools in Beijing and Xian)**
- 7/22-25 **Education Research and Development Institute, St. Louis, Missouri – Served as chair of National Training Network/Algebraic Thinking Corporate Panel**
- 7/26 **Swearing-in ceremony for new Baltimore County Chief of Police, Goucher College**
- 8/1 **Presented priorities at Annual Curriculum and Instruction and Business Services Retreat, Sheppard Pratt Conference Center**
- 8/3 **Met with Dr. Andres Alonso, CEO of Baltimore City Public School System**
- 8/14 **Offered welcoming remarks at New Teacher Induction, Randallstown High School**

Upcoming

- 8/15 **To offer keynote address at New Teacher Induction, Randallstown High School**
- 8/17 **To speak at annual Administrative and Supervisory Personnel Meeting, Loch Raven High School**
- 8/18 **Minority Achievement Advisory Group Retreat, Maritime Institute of Technology Training and Conference Center**
- 8/20 **Visit to Chesapeake High School with State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy Grasmick**

- 8/22 **Teacher Focus Group Meeting, Timonium Holiday Inn**
- 8/24 **Jonathan Kozol Presentation, Martin's West**
- 8/25 **2007 Football Jamboree, Dundalk High School**
- 8/27 **Opening day school visits**
- 9/6 **To serve on education panel with State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy Grasmick at Maryland Military Installation Council Meeting, Crownsville**
- 9/7 **Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland, Frederick County Public Schools**