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

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March 11, 2008

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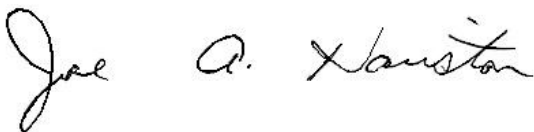
During the past few weeks, on behalf of our school system and community, I have engaged with students, our elected officials, and other stakeholders. I met with the Baltimore County Senate delegation to discuss the state of our schools and testified before the Ways and Means Committee about the High School Assessments.

My talks with students, including those involved in initiatives such as the 24 Challenge and the College Gateway Partnership, reinforce what I already know about these young people. We are very fortunate to have classrooms full of enthusiastic, creative, and dedicated young learners. As I have mentioned before, when the PDK auditors concluded their curriculum management review, the first thing they said was that this is a school system with good kids. This is a reason for all of us to be proud.

I have had excellent conversations with our students lately – from members of my Superintendent's Student Advisory Board to students in the Maryland's Tomorrow/AdvancePath Academy at Chesapeake High School – about the impact of quality instruction and a positive school culture on High School Assessment scores and on student achievement in general.

All of these interactions reinforce the importance of securing full funding of our proposed FY 2009 budget. Unlike some other jurisdictions, we have proposed, through our budget, to preserve positions and programs so that we can continue providing a quality education to our students. As we all know, increased deficits at the state level bring more uncertainty about local funding. For this reason, we need to remain vigilant in advocating for the budget we have proposed and closely following the funding process as it unfolds.

Our students are counting on us.



Joe A. Hairston  
Superintendent

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

### *Past*

- 2/27 **College Gateway Partnership with students from Loch Raven Middle School, Community College of Baltimore County - Essex**
- 2/27 **Superintendent's Student Advisory Board meeting**
- 2/27 **Public Hearing on Vincent Farm Elementary Boundary Changes, Stemmers Run Middle School**
- 2/28 **Visit to Catonsville Middle School**
- 2/28 **Authors' Tea with students at Westchester Elementary School**
- 2/29 **Executive Staff and Human Resources Retreat, Sheppard Pratt Conference Center**
- 3/5 **Meeting with League of Women Voters**
- 3/5 **Testified for HB 519 and HB 520 with State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, Annapolis**
- 3/6 **Addressed Baltimore County Senate Delegation, James Senate Office Building, Annapolis**
- 3/7 **Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland, Anne Arundel County Board of Education**
- 3/8 **M&T Bank 24 Challenge, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Timonium**
- 3/10 **Offered greetings at reception for the Maryland's Tomorrow/AdvancePath Academy, Chesapeake High School**
- 3/11 **Presented remarks at United Way Recognition Breakfast, Villa Julie College Rockland Center, Owings Mills**

### *Upcoming*

- 3/12 **To speak at Student Council General Assembly, Community College of Baltimore County - Essex**
- 3/12 **Villa Julie College New Middle School Teacher Preparation Program celebration, Villa Julie College Rockland Center, Owings Mills**

- 3/13 **To speak at Future Educators Association Conference, with State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy Grasmick, College of Notre Dame of Maryland**
- 3/13 **To present at PTA General Meeting, Loch Raven High School**
- 3/14 **Hop for Hopkins, Hernwood Elementary School**
- 3/15-3/16 **Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Conference – “Reinventing Schools: Courageous Leadership for Positive Change,” New Orleans**
- 3/18 **Tech Prep Council Dinner, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Timonium**
- 3/19 **To present MSA awards at Principals’ Meeting, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Timonium**
- 3/19 **Chinese Delegation Reception, Martin’s Valley Mansion, Hunt Valley**
- 3/19 **Chinese Delegation Dinner, Liberatore’s Restaurant, Timonium**
- 3/20 **Sollers Point visit with Board Vice President Ed Parker**
- 3/27-3/28 **Blackboard K-12 Advisory Board meeting, Washington, D.C.**
- 3/29-3/30 **National School Board Association conference, Orlando, Florida**
- 4/2 **National Technical Honor Society Induction, Sollers Point Technical High School**
- 4/2 **Board of Education Spring Recognition Ceremony, Loch Raven High School**
- 4/3 **Human Resources Retreat, Sheppard Pratt Conference Center**
- 4/3 **To present at PTA Council Board of Directors Meeting, ESS Building**
- 4/4 **Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland, Anne Arundel County Board of Education**
- 4/5 **Carver Center Foundation Celebration 2008, George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology**