
Superintendent's Report To the Baltimore County Board of Education

April 8, 2008

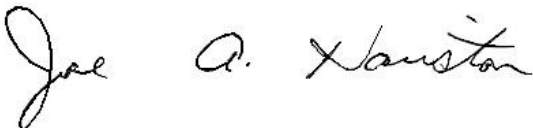
It has been almost a month since the last Board of Education meeting. During that time, my schedule has been filled with meetings, planning, school visits, and special events – including a reception for Chinese education leaders visiting Baltimore County Public Schools in conjunction with our teacher and student exchange program.

In countless ways, the school system continues to advance, and this spring, as every spring, awards pour in, recognizing the quality of our staff and programs and the achievements of our students. Some of the recent national honors received by our staff will be briefly recognized at the next Board meeting. These and other honors are celebrated on our web site, in our press releases, at Board of Education recognition events, and in our publications.

Throughout the past month, in the midst of all these activities, my focus has been on securing full funding of our proposed FY 2009 budget. This will remain my focus until the budget process is completed.

As we all know, increased deficits at the state level bring more uncertainty about local funding. However, guided by our *Blueprint for Progress* and by our own sense of responsibility, we also know that must provide increasingly effective and relevant instruction for our children. For this reason, despite state and local funding uncertainties, we have proposed a 4.7 percent budget increase to ensure that we can preserve the positions and programs needed to continue providing a quality education to our students.

Our students are counting on us.



Joe A. Hairston
Superintendent

Review of Superintendent's Calendar

Past

- 3/12 **Presented remarks at Baltimore County Student Councils General Assembly, Community College of Baltimore County - Essex**
- 3/12 **Participated in Villa Julie College's New Middle School Teacher Preparation Program celebration, Villa Julie College Rockland Center, Owings Mills**
- 3/13 **Presented remarks at Future Educators Association Conference, with State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy Grasmick, College of Notre Dame of Maryland**
- 3/13 **Discussed state of the school system and current issues at PTA Council General Meeting, Loch Raven High School**
- 3/15-3/16 **Participated in Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Conference – “Reinventing Schools: Courageous Leadership for Positive Change,” New Orleans**
- 3/18 **Attended Tech Prep Council Dinner, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Timonium**
- 3/18 **Gave testimony, with State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, opposing SB 933 Public High School – Graduation Requirements – Weighted Numerical Assessment System, Annapolis**
- 3/20 **Visited Sollers Point Technical High School with Board Vice President Ed Parker**
- 3/27-3/28 **Attended Blackboard K-12 Advisory Board meeting, Washington, D.C.**
- 3/29-3/30 **Participated in National School Board Association conference, Orlando, Florida**
- 4/2 **Attended National Technical Honor Society Induction, Sollers Point Technical High School**
- 4/3 **Conducted Human Resources Retreat, Sheppard Pratt Conference Center**
- 4/3 **Attended reception for Chinese visitors**

- 4/3 **Gave presentation at PTA Council Board of Directors Meeting, ESS Building**
- 4/4 **Attended Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland, Anne Arundel County Board of Education**
- 4/4 **Attended Meyerhoff Scholars Program 20th Anniversary Celebration**
- 4/5 **Attended Carver Center Foundation Celebration 2008, George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology**

Upcoming

- 4/9 **To host Superintendent's Student Advisory Board meeting**
- 4/10 **To offer "Educational Vision for Baltimore County," as part of the Baltimore County League of Women Voters' Lecture Series, Towson Unitarian Universalist Church**
- 4/11 **To conduct staff retreat**
- 4/14 **To speak at Special Education Advisory Council, ESS**
- 4/15 **To attend County Executive's Budget Message to Council, Baltimore County Council Chambers**
- 4/16 **To participate in Principals' Meeting, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Timonium**
- 4/17 **To attend Rotary 4-Way Test Event, Hunt Valley Golf Club**
- 4/22 **To make presentation at environmental education field hearing sponsored by Congressman John Sarbanes, Washington, D.C.**
- 4/23 **To present 1,000 Hour Volunteer Awards, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Timonium**
- 4/24 **To attend Lansdowne high appreciation luncheon, Snyder's Willow Grove Restaurant**
- 4/24 **To participate in Dundalk Chamber of Commerce Teacher Recognition Dinner, Martin's East**
- 4/25 **To make presentation to Maryland Business Roundtable Strategic Steering Committee**

4/26

**To attend 50th Anniversary Gala for Community College of Baltimore
County, Martin's Valley Mansion**