
Superintendent's Report To the Baltimore County Board of Education

December 2, 2008

This afternoon prior to the Board meeting, the Board's Building and Contracts Committee reviewed plans for a new building for George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology. The Carver Center is internationally known for the quality of arts and academic education it offers. We look forward to providing a new facility conducive to expanding the school's tradition of excellence. All Board members received copies of the schematic design in their packets prior to this meeting, and it has also been – and remains – available on the Baltimore County Public Schools Web site.

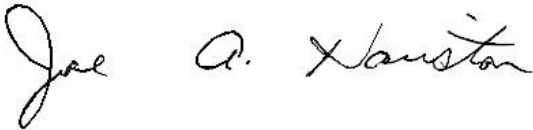
Baltimore County Public Schools continues to attract national and local attention for its progress. Since the last Board meeting, I have had the honor to represent our school system in presentations and discussions about our success in many venues. Of particular note: a presentation before an audience of superintendents and university faculty at Virginia Tech, a very productive discussion with the Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce, and remarks to the latest class of Leadership Baltimore County – part of a day-long presentation on our public schools that was also supported by many of our principals. We also continue to attract national media to our successful efforts and have been featured in *Education Week* and will be featured in an upcoming issue of *Scholastic Administr@tor*.

Also of national significance is an upcoming celebration of our partnership with University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) on a multi-year STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) project. Funded by a National Science Foundation grant that expires this month, the initiative involves Woodlawn High School and four elementary schools and three middle schools that feed into it. Through the program, graduate students are placed as interns in the schools, all teachers at the schools receive STEM-related professional development, and all schools' staff are linked with college faculty members. The benefits of the program are many – increasing the pipeline of science and math teachers, improving the quality of instruction in schools, and enhancing student achievement. Interns have played a critical role in raising students' interest levels and facilitating partnerships with STEM-related area businesses. Next week's event will celebrate these accomplishments as well as the receipt of an additional grant that will extend many aspects of the program through December 2010.

Continuing on the theme of partnerships, this evening I have invited Rob Windsor, president of First Financial Federal Credit Union, to talk about financial literacy for students. The recent economic crisis has underscored a need to better manage personal finances and better understand the economic system. First Financial Federal Credit Union is an excellent partner to our school system – having opened student-run credit union

branches in Dundalk and Lansdowne high schools – and is committed to helping young people succeed in money management.

As I work on these partnerships and as I speak at various events and to the media, it is my honor to represent all of you – the hardworking and dedicated leaders, students, staff, and supporters of Baltimore County Public Schools – and to continue to reinforce that it is possible for a school system to succeed in educating all of its students.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe A. Hairston". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "J" and a distinct "A".

Joe A. Hairston
Superintendent

Review of Superintendent's Calendar

Past

- 11/5 **Made presentation to Hunt Valley Rotary, Hayfields Country Club**
- 11/6 **Hosted meeting of Superintendent's Student Advisory Board**
- 11/7 **Participated in Association of Elementary School Administrators Executive Board Meeting, Seven Oaks Elementary School**
- 11/10 **Participated in Maryland State Department of Education Stakeholder Committee meeting for the MGT of America Project**
- 11/10 **Attended High School Honors Concert, Meyerhoff Symphony Hall**
- 11/13 **Participated in legislative dinner with Senator Klausmeier**
- 11/14 **Conducted STEM observation at Chesapeake High School**
- 11/15 **Attended NASA-UMBC STEM Expo, Windsor Mill Middle School**
- 11/17 **Presented annual remarks to Leadership Baltimore County, Community College of Baltimore County – Essex**
- 11/18 **Participated in Economic Alliance Dinner, with County Executive Jim Smith, Hyatt Regency Baltimore**
- 11/19 **Visited schools**
- 11/20 **Participated in Chamber of Commerce 2008 Business Hall of Fame event, Marriott Hunt Valley Inn**
- 11/21 **Presented school awards at Good Neighbor Week Ceremony, Towson Sheraton**
- 11/22 **Gave presentation on the success of Baltimore County Public Schools, at Superintendents' Brunch at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia**
- 11/25 **Made presentation to Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce, Oak Crest Village**
- 11/25 **Interviewed by Lucinda Blumfeld of *Scholastic Administr@tor* magazine**

- 11/25 **Participated in dinner with County Executive and members of the County Council, Greenwood**
- 11/26 **Spoke at Principals' Meeting, Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium**
- 12/1 **Participated in Annual Meeting of the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education, The Center Club**
- 12/1 **Offered greetings at a meeting of Maryland School System In House Attorneys, hosted by Margaret-Ann Howie, Greenwood**
- 12/1 **Participated in legislative dinner with Senator Stone**
- 12/2 **Attended event for Baltimore Jewish Council Israel Mission Alumni Scholars Program, Baltimore Hilton**

Upcoming

- 12/3 **To participate in legislative lunch with Senator Kelley**
- 12/3 **To host meeting of Superintendent's Student Advisory Board, Greenwood**
- 12/4 **To speak at PTA Council Board Meeting, Greenwood**
- 12/9 **To participate on panel at National Staff Development Council Conference, Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, National Harbor**
- 12/10 **To participate in UMBC/National Science Foundation event, UMBC, University Center Ballroom**
- 12/11 **To participate in legislative dinner with Senator Zirkin**
- 12/12 **To participate in meeting of Public Schools Superintendents Association of Maryland, Anne Arundel County Board of Education**
- 12/15 **To participate in legislative dinner with Senator Haines**
- 12/16 **To participate in meeting of Governor's Career and Technology Education Task Force, The Meeting House, Columbia**
- 12/17 **To participate in Principals' Meeting, Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium**

- 12/17 **To host annual reunion dinner of Superintendent's Student Advisory Board, ESS Building**
- 12/18 **To participate in Annual Legislative Breakfast Meeting with Senator Harris**
- 12/19 **To participate in Secondary School Administrators Association (SSAA) Breakfast Meeting, Greenwood**
- 12/19 **To participate in legislative lunch with Senator Brochin**
- 1/5 **To speak as a panel member on educational technology, Pearson National Meeting, Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, National Harbor**
- 1/5 **To participate in legislative dinner with Senator Kasemeyer**
- 1/6 **To participate in meeting of Governor's Career and Technology Education Task Force, location to be decided**
- 1/8 **To host Diversity Achievement Steering Committee meeting, Greenwood**
- 1/9 **To offer greetings at Department of Technology Retreat, Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium**
- 1/9 **To participate in meeting of Public Schools Superintendents Association of Maryland, Anne Arundel County Board of Education**
- 1/10 **To attend TABCO/BACE Legislative Breakfast, Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium**