
Superintendent's Report To the Baltimore County Board of Education

March 10, 2009

During the spring, our students and teachers are involved in some of their most challenging assignments and assessments. This spring, the nation as a whole is also facing multiple challenges – economic, environmental, political, and social.

These circumstances raise public awareness of our public schools as steadfast anchors for our communities and as beacons of hope for the future. The students in our classrooms today are our future innovators, leaders, workers, and citizens. We will have to depend on them to resolve the issues we have yet to solve. Moreover, education itself is an important economic engine, providing significant employment opportunities and attracting new businesses and residents.

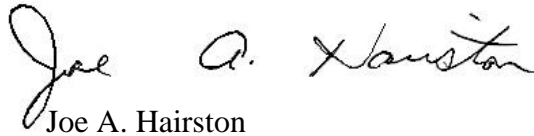
Earlier this month, I represented Baltimore County Public Schools at two events that focused on these themes. The first was a Legislative Breakfast organized by the Governor's Workforce Investment Board and the Workforce Investment Network. Meeting organizers sought to educate state leaders about the resources available to assist job-seekers and businesses and to better match employer needs with workforce readiness.

The second event was a joint meeting of the Baltimore County and Baltimore City delegations to the Maryland State Legislature. Hosted by the Baltimore County Educational Advisory Board, Baltimore Collegetown Network, and the Greater Baltimore Committee, this meeting brought together a broad range of leaders, including County Executive James Smith and Baltimore City Mayor Sheila Dixon, to begin a dialogue about the importance of educational institutions to the economy of the state and region.

Last month, I also represented the school system before the Baltimore County delegation to the Maryland State Legislature. State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick and I addressed the delegation about the High School Assessments and other testing programs.

Tough times cause all of us to focus on what is truly important and what is truly effective. Throughout the school year, I find inspiration in my visits to schools, meetings with principals, and conversations with teachers. Spending time with those most directly involved in the teaching and learning process enhances my ability to lead this school system. In particular, I want to recognize, once again, the Superintendent's Student Advisory Board. I meet monthly with these student representatives from across our

school system, and I welcome the opportunity to hear their candid opinions about what is working in our schools. Their intelligence, curiosity, and energy inspire great hope for the future.



Joe A. Hairston
Superintendent

Review of Superintendent's Calendar

Past

- 2/11 **Attended meeting of Governor's Career and Technology Education Task Force, Anne Arundel Community College, Cade Building**
- 2/12 **Participated in Diversity Achievement Steering Committee meeting, Greenwood**
- 2/13 **Introduced renowned reading expert Dr. Richard Allington at a workshop for Baltimore County Public Schools administrators, Sheppard Pratt Conference Center**
- 2/14 **Participated in Baltimore County 350th Anniversary Celebration of African American Firsts, Banneker Museum, Catonsville**
- 2/16-2/21 **Participated in American Association of School Administrators conference, San Francisco**
- 2/16-2/19 **Participated in Education Research and Development Institute conference, San Francisco**
- 2/23 **Hosted lunch with elementary school principals, Greenwood**
- 2/24 **Offered greetings at Character Education Conference for Administrators, Sheppard Pratt Conference Center**
- 2/24 **Participated in Maryland State Board of Education recognition ceremony for Willard Hackerman, State Board Room**
- 2/25 **Attended Congressional Community Stakeholders Networking Reception, U.S. Capitol, Washington, D.C.**
- 2/26 **Hosted lunch with elementary school principals, Greenwood**

- 2/27 **Addressed the Baltimore County Delegation to the Maryland State Legislature, along with State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, James Senate Building, Annapolis**
- 2/28 **Attended Coppin State University Vision Awards (ceremony included presentation of alumni award to Dr. Warren Hayman), Hyatt Regency on the Harbor**
- 3/4 **Hosted meeting of Superintendent's Student Advisory Board**
- 3/5 **Participated in Legislative Breakfast organized by the Governor's Workforce Investment Board, Governor Calvert House, Annapolis**
- 3/5 **Spoke at Baltimore County PTA Council Board meeting, ESS Building**
- 3/6 **Participated, along with County Executive Jim Smith and Mayor Sheila Dixon, in meeting with joint Baltimore County and Baltimore City delegations to the Maryland State Legislature, hosted by the Educational Advisory Board, Baltimore Collegetown Network, and the Greater Baltimore Committee, Miller Senate Building, Annapolis**
- 3/7 **Attended 24 Challenge Math Tournament, Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium**
- 3/9 **Participated in Blue Ribbon Schools Honors Dinner, along with Board President JoAnn C. Murphy, Governor Calvert House in Annapolis**
- 3/10 **Participated in annual lunch meeting with Baltimore County Council, Towson**
- 3/10 **Attended county reception for recent BCPS honorees, Towson**

Upcoming

- 3/11-13 **To participate in Blackboard Executive Symposium, Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, National Harbor, MD**
- 3/14 **To attend Carver Celebration 2009, George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology, Towson**
- 3/16 **To participate in meeting of Governor's Career and Technology Education Task Force, location not yet determined**
- 3/16 **To attend Optimist Club Oratorical Contest, Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium**

- 3/17 **To participate in meeting of the Educational Coordinating Council for the Juvenile Services Education Program, Maryland State Department of Education Headquarters, Baltimore**
- 3/18 **To participate in meeting of the Archdiocese of Baltimore Blue Ribbon Committee, Archbishop Curley High School, Baltimore**
- 3/19 **To attend reception honoring County Executive and Baltimore County Council, The Maryland Zoo Mansion House, Baltimore**
- 3/20 **To attend Maryland State Teachers Association reception honoring new National Board Certified Teachers, Annapolis Marriott Waterfront Hotel, Annapolis**
- 3/23 **To visit the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute, Baltimore**
- 3/23 **To participate in ribbon cutting for new Perry Hall branch of Baltimore County Public Library, Perry Hall**
- 3/25 **To attend Baltimore County Tech Prep Career Pathways Business Dinner Meeting, Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium**
- 3/27 **To participate in Microsoft Exchange Visit, Reston, VA**
- 3/30 **To participate in Annual Human Resources Administrative Retreat, Sheppard Pratt Conference Center, Towson**
- 3/31 **To participate in United Way Community Partnership Breakfast, Stevenson University**
- 4/1 **To participate in Lansdowne High School's Annual Employer Appreciation Luncheon, Snyder's Willow Grove Restaurant**
- 4/1 **To host meeting of Superintendent's Student Advisory Board, Greenwood, Towson**
- 4/1 **To participate in Board of Education's Spring Recognition Ceremony, Loch Raven High School, Towson**
- 4/2 **To serve as the Honors Convocation speaker at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Ella Fitzgerald Performing Arts Center**
- 4/3 **To participate in meeting of Public Schools Superintendents Association of Maryland, Anne Arundel County Board of Education**

- 4/14 **To welcome visiting teachers from the United Kingdom, ESS Building, Towson**
- 4/14 **To attend the County Executive's presentation of the FY 2010 budget to the Baltimore County Council, Council Chambers, Towson**
- 4/14 **To participate in Diversity Achievement Steering Committee meeting, Greenwood, Towson**
- 4/15 **To participate in Principals' Meeting, Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium**
- 4/15 **To meet with Southwest Area Educational Advisory Council, Chadwick Elementary School**
- 4/17 **To participate in ribbon cutting ceremony for Fort Garrison Elementary School library**
- 4/20 **To meet with Special Education Citizens' Advisory Council, ESS Building, Towson**