
Superintendent's Report To the Baltimore County Board of Education

October 6, 2009

Since my last Board report, we have continued to garner positive attention for the development of the virtual learning environment at Chesapeake High School and for the groundbreaking partnership behind it, which brings our staff together with major defense contractors, major universities, and area software developers. At the end of September, CNBC sent a film crew to profile the project for an upcoming primetime special called "The Business of Innovation."

We are also working to expand our relationships with members of the local media. I went to visit the general managers of local television stations WMAR, WBAL, WJZ, WUTB, WBFF, and WNUV, as well as the chairman of the *Afro-American Newspaper*. These meetings proved to be immediately fruitful. In addition to increased coverage of our school system, the *Afro* has offered space for a weekly editorial in its pages. WBFF would like to involve some of our high school students in developing programming for its digital station. WUTB would like to facilitate a roundtable discussion with us on developing more positive coverage of our school system. WBAL invited me to appear on its "11 TV Hill" show. Finally, based on a press release I delivered to the station, Channel 13 did a news segment about the success of Baltimore County Public Schools that very evening.


I wanted to mention three other significant events. Dundalk High School, and in particular its GEAR UP students, welcomed State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, County Executive Jim Smith, and Maryland Secretary of Education Dr. James E. Lyons for the launch of www.mdgo4it.org, a new college planning and prep Web site.

The Governor and County Executive both joined us for the official groundbreaking for the new George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology. Scheduled to open in 2012, this new 1,020-seat, \$58.7 million school will replace the existing school and provide a more dynamic learning environment for students.

Finally, last week, I had the opportunity once again to engage in conversations with local business leaders at the Essex-Middle River-White Marsh Chamber's 20th Annual Principals' Breakfast. The theme of their event was "One Size Doesn't Fit All: Options After High School."

As I shared at that breakfast, in Baltimore County Public Schools, we use as many strategies as we can to personalize learning for our 104,000 students, and we want our students to have as many options as possible when they graduate.

Our success in meeting these goals brings us attention, but more important, it yields increased academic rigor and learning opportunities for our students, and their enhanced preparation benefits us all.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe A. Hairston". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Joe A. Hairston
Superintendent

Review of Superintendent's Calendar

Past

- 9/9 **Participated in Stevenson University Advisory Board Meeting, Owings Mills Campus**
- 9/11 **Participate in Archdiocese Committee Meeting**
- 9/12 **Attended dedication ceremony of Parkville High School's football field to Coach Joseph Anthony Yates, Sr.**
- 9/14 **Presented keynote address at Mercy Medical Center National Environmental Services Week celebration**
- 9/14 **Participated in kick-off event for African American Cultural Festival, with County Executive Jim Smith, Old County Court House, Towson**
- 9/15 **Hosted groundbreaking ceremony for new George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology building, with Governor Martin O'Malley and County Executive Jim Smith, Towson**
- 9/16 **Met with John Jake Oliver, Chairman, Afro American Newspaper**
- 9/16 **Met with Senator Brochin**
- 9/16 **Participated in Cancer Foundation Kick-off, ESS Building**
- 9/17 **Participated in meeting of County Executive's Regional Advisory Board for Business and Education, Chesapeake High School**
- 9/17 **Met with search team seeking replacement for Johns Hopkins University's School of Education dean**
- 9/17 **Hosted meeting of Superintendent's Educators Advisory Board, Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium**
- 9/18 **Offered remarks at grand opening event for Dundalk School-based Wellness Center, with County Executive Jim Smith and County Health Officer Dr. Gregory Branch**
- 9/19 **Congratulated scholarship winners at African American Cultural Festival with County Executive Jim Smith, Towson Courts Plaza**

- 9/21 **Met with Bill Fanshawe, General Manager, WBFF-TV and WNUV-TV**
- 9/21 **Met with Allen Sawyer, Vice President and General Manager, WUTB-TV**
- 9/21 **Met with Jordan Wertlieb, President and General Manager, WBAL-TV**
- 9/21 **Met with Jay Newman, Vice President and General Manager, WJZ-TV**
- 9/21 **Met with Bill Hooper, Vice President and General Manager, WMAR-TV**
- 9/21 **Met with Senator Klausmeier**
- 9/23 **Spoke at Principals' Meeting, Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium**
- 9/25 **Interviewed by CNBC for a prime time special called "The Business of Innovation," hosted by Maria Bartiromo, Chesapeake High School. Others interviewed for the segment about the development and promise of virtual learning in Baltimore County Public Schools included: Dave Peloff, Program Director, Johns Hopkins University Center for Technology in Education; Stephanie Hill, Vice President, Programs and Site Operations, Lockheed Martin; Gloria Flach, Vice President, Manufacturing and Innovation, Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems; and three Chesapeake students**
- 9/26 **Visited the 50th Anniversary Celebration for Johnnycake Elementary School**
- 9/28 **Participated in meeting of College Success Task Force, Maryland State Department of Education**
- 9/30 **Attended Maryland Association of Boards of Education/State Superintendents Meeting, Ocean City**
- 10/1 **Participated in Maryland State Department of Education/Maryland Higher Education Commission launch of a college planning and prep Web site (www.mdgo4it.org), with State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, County Executive Jim Smith, and Maryland Secretary of Education Dr. James E. Lyons, Dundalk High School**
- 10/2 **Attended Essex-Middle River-White Marsh Chamber 20th Annual Principals' Breakfast, Hilton Garden Inn, White Marsh**

- 10/2 **Spoke at Baltimore County Student Councils Annual Leadership Workshop, Camp Ramblewood, Darlington**
- 10/2 **Attended Maryland Teacher of the Year Annual Gala Awards, with Baltimore County Teacher of the Year Cecily Anderson, Martin's West**
- 10/3 **Offered greetings at 100 year anniversary celebration for Sparks Elementary School**
- 10/6-10/7 **Attending Blackboard Symposium, Dallas, Texas**
- Upcoming*
- 10/8-10/9 **To attend Scholastic Superintendents' Leadership Summit, New York**
- 10/12 **To be interviewed by the Baltimore Afro-American Newspaper**
- 10/14 **To host meeting of Superintendent's Student Advisory Board, Greenwood**
- 10/14 **To participate in inaugural convocation of new School of Education at Loyola University, Baltimore**
- 10/15 **To participate in College Success Task Force open forum**
- 10/15 **To give remarks at the County Executive's Higher Education Celebration, featuring the presidents of Towson University, University of Maryland Baltimore County, Goucher College, Stevenson University, and the Community College of Baltimore County, Chesapeake High School**
- 10/16 **To give greetings at Maryland Gifted and Talented Conference, with State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, Randallstown High School**
- 10/21 **To tape interview for "11 TV Hill," WBAL-TV's public affairs show, Baltimore**
- 10/21 **To participate in Principals' Meeting, Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium**
- 10/21 **To give opening remarks for United Way Kickoff, New Town High School**

- 10/22 **To host celebration of Kennedy Center recognition of George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology and Patapsco High School and Center for the Arts, including State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, County Executive Jim Smith, and Kennedy Center representatives, Greenwood**

- 10/23-10/24 **To participate in College Board Superintendents Advisory Panel, New York**

- 10/27 **To attend Baltimore County Retired School Personnel Fall Luncheon, Columbus Gardens**

- 10/28 **To be interviewed by the Afro-American Newspaper**

- 10/28 **To be honored by Baltimore City NAACP Centennial Celebration, Martin's West**

- 10/29-30 **To participate in Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland State Conference, Ocean City**

- 11/2 **To participate in College Success Task Force**

- 11/2 **To meet with Senator Kathy Klausmeier**

- 11/3 **To bring greetings to Office Professional Fair, Sheppard Pratt Conference Center, Towson**

- 11/4 **To participate in Board of Education Fall Recognition Night, New Town High School**

- 11/4 **To host meeting of Superintendent's Student Advisory Board**

- 11/5 **To participate in PTA Executive Board Meeting, ESS Building**