

## **BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**DATE:** March 25, 2003

**TO:** **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**FROM:** Dr. J. Hairston, Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** **Recognition of National Professional Social Work Month,  
March 2003**

**ORIGINATOR:** Christine M. Johns, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

**RESOURCE** Robert J, Kemmery, Executive Director of Student Support Services

**PERSON(S):** Vivian Ferguson, Coordinator of Pupil Personnel Services

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Education read a proclamation declaring March 2003 as National Professional Social Work Month, recognizing that school social workers provide essential support services to students and their families in order to promote student achievement. Additionally, school social workers, as members of the IEP and Student Support Teams provide information and assistance to staff in developing well-rounded educational programs for students.

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## RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS, Professional social workers have over a century of experience helping individuals and effecting social change that benefits everyone; and
- WHEREAS, Social work in schools began in 1906 as a result of the need to address factors both in the community and family which prevent children from successful participation in educational programs; and
- WHEREAS, Over 20,000 school social workers across the nation provide psychoeducational services and develop programs which help children experience success in school; and
- WHEREAS, School social work services began in Baltimore County during the 1993-94 school year to provide assistance to students by alleviating those psychosocial problems that interfere with academic success; and
- WHEREAS, School social workers provide therapeutic services to assist students in becoming more available for learning; and
- WHEREAS, School social workers collaboratively assist staff in developing social-emotional learning objectives to assist students in meeting with academic success; and
- WHEREAS, School social workers provide links between the home, school, and community to marshal those available resources to promote students' academic achievement; and
- WHEREAS, School social workers advocate that all students can achieve success in schools that are programmatically nurturing, safe, and orderly environments; and
- WHEREAS, School social workers continue to promote the development of programs that will increase student achievement in all schools and encourage parental participation in the schools; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of Baltimore County herewith extends its deep appreciation to all school social workers for their dedicated and committed services to students and their families; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Education does hereby proclaim the month of March 2003 as **Professional Social Work Month.**

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Donald L. Arnold, President

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Joe A. Hairston, Secretary-Treasurer

March 25, 2003