

## BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Date:** June 10, 2003

**To:** **Board of Education**

**From:** Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

**Title:** **Status of the Master Plan for Baltimore County Public School**

**Originators:** Christine Johns, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction  
Merle Audette, Chief of Staff

**Resource**

**Persons:** Oversight Committee Members; Members of Work Groups; Executive Directors of Curriculum and Instruction, Business Services, and Schools; and Central Office staff

### INFORMATION

The Maryland State Department of Education requires that each school system in the state of Maryland prepare a five-year Master Plan. The plan is to be submitted to the County Executive and County Council for information by August 1, 2003 prior to it being forwarded to the State Department of Education on October 1, 2003 for its approval. To comply with these requirements, the system has implemented an involved process to develop a draft Master Plan for the Board's review and consideration.

The *Blueprint for Progress* that was presented and implemented in the 2000 – 2001 school year has provided a foundation for the Master Plan. It was in the fall of 2002 that a process was implemented to revise the original *Blueprint for Progress* to reflect the *No Child Left Behind Act 2001*, *Bridge to Excellence in Public School Education Act*, and also the Maryland Visionary Panel for Better Schools: *Achievement Matters Most*. .

The Board was extensively involved in the revision of the *Blueprint for Progress* as were representatives from parents and the community, staff from schools, and central offices. The Board of Education approved the revised version of the *Blueprint for Progress* on January 14, 2003 and also approved that it serve as the framework for the design and development of the Master Plan.

Following the approval of the revised *Blueprint for Progress*, a Master Plan Oversight Committee was selected composed of 26 members representing parents, community, business, advisory councils and groups, association members; and staff from the County Government. The Oversight Committee's charge was to advise the Superintendent on the content of the Master

Plan. The Executive Directors of Curriculum and Instruction, Business Services, and Schools served as facilitators of work groups, made up of students, parents, community members, teachers, principals, guidance counselors, and central office staff. These work groups provided input into the content of the Master Plan. The Oversight Committee received oral presentations and written documentation for its consideration prior to providing feedback to the Superintendent.

As a result of the commitment of the Oversight Committee, work groups, and staff, a draft document of the Master Plan has been produced and will be provided to Board Members at the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. This document contains an executive summary, a needs assessment, a profile of the system, and a five-year plan “At a Glance.”

A Board study session is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, June 17, 2003 that will be followed by a public hearing, tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 26, 2003. The public will have access to the draft document via the Baltimore County Public Schools web site on Wednesday, June 11, 2003.

A recommendation for approval of the Master Plan will be brought to the Board of Education on July 8, 2003 to enable the administration to meet the required timelines established by the Maryland State Department of Education.

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