



MEDIA ADVISORY

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BCPS stakeholders invited to live virtual town hall on student and staff safety

What: Baltimore County Public Schools invites parents, staff, students, and community members to a live virtual town hall to learn more about the school system's efforts to ensure student and staff safety, available community resources, and opportunities to build positive partnerships for student support. The town hall will include a question-and-answer period. Families can submit questions in [advance online in English](#) and [in Spanish](#).

When: Thursday, October 13, 2022
6 – 7 p.m. for families of elementary school students
7:15 – 8:15 p.m. for families of middle and high school students

Where: Access the meeting via the [BCPS website](#) and the [BCPS-TV YouTube channel](#)

Background: School safety concerns are a national challenge and a shared responsibility among families, communities, and schools.

This summer, BCPS shared with families its expectations for appropriate student behavior in schools and on buses. Schools reviewed these expectations with all students, and families signed off to confirm understanding. Enhanced safety measures taken by BCPS include placing new safety assistants in all secondary schools. These safety assistants focus on de-escalation strategies and relationship building and provide additional adult presence in middle and high school buildings. To provide even greater

support for students' physical, social, and psychological well-being, BCPS has hired additional school counselors and psychologists.

Any student who endangers the safety of others on BCPS school campuses receives serious consequences aligned with the [BCPS Student Handbook](#) (see [Code of Conduct at-a-glance](#)) and state regulations. While student privacy laws prohibit BCPS from sharing specific details about student consequences, the community can be assured that students are held accountable. Students, parents, and community members are urged to promptly report incidents of bullying and harassment to school administrators so that they can take swift action to address and correct such behaviors.

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[Baltimore County Public Schools](#), the nation's 22nd largest school system, is focused on raising the bar and closing gaps to prepare our students for the future. Thanks to innovative and talented leaders, teachers, staff, and students, BCPS celebrates [many honors](#).