



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Career and technical education automotive programs at two BCPS high schools receive national accreditation**

*Programs accredited at Sollers Point Technical High School and Western School of Technology and Environmental Science*

Towson, Md. – The automotive training programs at Sollers Point Technical High School and Western School of Technology and Environmental Science have received ASE Training Program accreditation from the ASE Education Foundation for maintenance and light repair.

“This accreditation reflects the commitment of our teachers, staff, and schools to provide students with high-quality and relevant instruction,” said Baltimore County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Darryl L. Williams. “I am so proud that, through our Office of Career and Technical Education, we are offering so many students opportunities to prepare for careers in their fields of interest.”

MiVida Parham, technical programs supervisor in the BCPS Office of Career and Technical Education, added, “During the past few months, the automotive training teachers at both schools, Justin Rowland at Sollers and Scott Cunningham at Western Tech, have worked closely with the ASE Education Foundation to make certain that our programs would meet strict industry standards to maintain ASE accredited training programs. Students will be assured of a quality education, and shop owners will be assured of getting quality job applicants.”

To achieve this coveted recognition, the school’s automotive training program underwent rigorous evaluation by the ASE Education Foundation. Nationally accepted standards of excellence in areas such as instruction, facilities, and equipment were used. Upon completion of the evaluation, both schools have maintained accreditation by the ASE Education Foundation. The ASE Education Foundation is a nonprofit, independent organization that evaluates and accredits entry-level technician training programs against standards developed by the automotive industry.

“This is great news for automotive-minded young people and their parents,” said Michael Coley, ASE Education Foundation president. “Because this program increases cooperation between local education and industry leaders, it gives added assurance that BCPS CTE Automotive Program graduates will be employable entry-level technicians. As a result of the quality education provided by Sollers Point Technical High School and Western School of Technology and Environmental Science, the motoring public will benefit since better repair technicians will join the work force.”

*(Editor’s note: Photos from the automotive training programs at Sollers Point Technical High School and Western School of Technology and Environmental Science can be found on [Flickr](#).)*

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[Baltimore County Public Schools](#), the nation’s 22nd largest school system, emphasizes literacy across all subject areas and warm, healthy school climates to prepare every student for college and careers. Thanks to innovative and talented leaders, teachers, and staff, BCPS celebrates [many honors](#).