

NEWS RELEASE

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The Education Foundation of BCPS launches its Tools for School campaign

Area residents, businesses, and organizations asked to donate to school supply drive

Towson, MD – The Education Foundation of Baltimore County Public Schools, Inc., asks the community to assist in ensuring that BCPS students have the school supplies they need for the new school year.

"Supporting the Tools for School campaign is a tangible way for community members to help us get the school year off to a positive start," said BCPS Superintendent Dr. Myriam Yarbrough. "Too often low-income families struggle to get their children ready for the new year, and, too often, teachers and school staff dig into their own pockets to fill this gap. This campaign allows the entire the community to show our students how valued they are and how important their education is."

All school supplies collected through the campaign will be used to stock the shelves of the Education Foundation's two Exchangeree (teacher resource) centers so that teachers can shop for the supplies for their students throughout the school year.

Through the foundation's annual Tools for School campaign, there are several ways to participate in the school supply drive.

This year, during Maryland's Tax-Free Week, August 14-18, WBAL-TV, 98 Rock, and WBAL
NewsRadio are partnering with the Baltimore Orioles and local Walmart stores for an inaugural
"Stuff the Bus" campaign. The Stuff the Bus event to benefit Baltimore County students will take

place on Friday, August 18, from 2-7 p.m. at the Walmart in Hunt Valley at 1 Frankel Way, Cockeysville 21030. The goal is to fill a new school bus with donated new supplies.

- Businesses and organizations are asked to host supply drives and then schedule a donation drop-off with foundation headquarters staff (at 443.809.8962 or hwooldridge@bcps.org).
- Online shoppers can purchase items from the foundation's wish lists for <u>Amazon</u>, <u>Target</u>, or <u>Walmart</u>. Please indicate that items should be delivered to Susan Goodhand, the Exchangeree volunteer coordinator, 506 Patleigh Rd., Catonsville, MD 21228
- Individuals and groups can make monetary donations through the foundation's <u>electronic "dip</u> <u>jar"</u> or <u>website</u>.

A list of the most needed school supplies can be found online.

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<u>Baltimore County Public Schools</u>, 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 <u>many honors</u>.