

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: October 11, 2011

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **CONSIDERATION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION'S FOCUS AREAS FOR 2011-2012**

ORIGINATOR: Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esq., Board President

RESOURCE PERSON (S):

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education approves its Focus Areas for 2011-2012.

Attachment I – Proposed Focus Areas 2011-2012

Performance Goal 4

All students will be educated in school environments that are safe and conducive to learning.

Facilities

Build and maintain facilities in the Baltimore County Public Schools system that are conducive to teaching and learning by:

1. Increasing maintenance-related budgets and maintaining all buildings to specified standards.
2. Exploring alternatives for additional school sites.
3. Developing a long range plan for providing air conditioning in all schools.
4. Supporting the Superintendent's budget request related to safe school initiatives.
5. Incorporating the latest trends in green design into future construction/renovation projects.

Performance Goal 6

Engage parents/guardians, business, and community members in the educational process.

Performance Goal 7

Involve principals, teachers, staff, stakeholders, and parents/guardians in the decision-making process.

Communications and Marketing

Promote Baltimore County Public Schools and enhance Board communications by:

1. Increasing effective Board communications (e.g., **on-line public comment for Board of Education policies; reordering agenda to include public comment at the beginning of the meeting.**)
2. Using **all communication vehicles effectively to inform internal and external stakeholders about BCPS.**
3. Developing a legislative agenda, and sharing it with Board advisory councils, stakeholder groups and elected officials.
4. Meeting with the County Executive and County Council.
5. Lobbying more effectively in Annapolis.
6. Exploring new ways of engaging families and communities to join with us in promoting student achievement.
7. Encouraging citizens to participate in the work of the Area Education Advisory Councils, which provide input to the Board.
8. **Establishing uniformity and consistency for all written and electronic communication.**

Performance Goal 8

All students will receive a quality education through the efficient and effective use of resources and the delivery of business services.

Fiscal Management

Maintain BCPS status as a model of public sector fiscal management by:

1. Continuing initiatives to enrich Board knowledge in fiscal areas.
2. Setting Board priorities and fiscal decisions based on hard data.
3. Ensuring an effective Education Foundation to enhance corporate and community support.