DATE: May 22, 2012

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: REPORT ON THE NORTHBAY ENVIRONMENTAL AND CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION PROGRAM

ORIGINATOR: Renee A. Foose, Deputy Superintendent

RESOURCE PERSON(S): Roger L. Plunkett, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction
                John Quinn, Executive Director, STEM
                George Newberry, Director, Office of Science
                Lisa Williams, Director, Office of Equity and Cultural Proficiency

INFORMATION

That the Board of Education receives a report on the NorthBay Environmental and Character Development Education Program

* * * * *

Attachment I – Executive Summary
Attachment II – PowerPoint presentation
NorthBay Environmental and Character Development Education Program
Executive Summary

May 22, 2012

The NorthBay Environmental and Character Development Education Program offers students a transdisciplinary 7-day experience emphasizing the exploration of environmental science, character education, and experiential learning opportunities. The NorthBay program supports the Baltimore County Blueprint for Progress as well as the Maryland State Department of Education’s statutory guidelines related to increasing students’ experiences in environmental science. During the FY 11 school year, 12 BCPS schools participated in the NorthBay environmental science program and the purpose of this presentation is to provide: (1) an overview of the initiative, (2) data describing BCPS student participation, (3) benefits of participating in this initiative and, (4) feedback from BCPS school-based administrators engaging in the NorthBay program.
NorthBay Environmental and Character Development Education Program
What is NorthBay?

… A Location
… An Experience
… A Curriculum
… A Life-Changing Event

Aligned to BCPS *Blueprint for Progress*

Performance Indicator 1.1 – c,f,g,k,q,s
Performance Indicator 4.1 – b,j,k
Performance Indicator 5.3 – b
Performance Indicator 6.5 – h

Also aligned with Environmental Literacy Standards and supports the new Maryland Environmental Literacy requirements
Program Outcomes

• Connect student to the environment; get them active
• Reinforce character education
• Bring the integrated curriculum experience to life
Baltimore County Public Schools’ Participation in NorthBay

- BCPS schools have been participating since 2006-2007

- Started with a MSDE-funded grant
FY 11 BCPS Participating Schools

- Deep Creek Middle
- Deer Park Middle
- Dundalk Middle
- Golden Ring Middle
- Holabird Middle
- Lansdowne Middle
- Loch Raven Academy
- Middle River Middle
- Old Court Middle
- Stemmers Run Middle
- Southwest Academy
- Windsor Mill Middle
Demographic Descriptors of Participation FY 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Students</strong></td>
<td>1258</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>46.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>668</td>
<td>53.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FARM</td>
<td>768</td>
<td>61.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Language</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Racial Identifiers</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amr. Indian</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black/Afr Amr.</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>54.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>33.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or More</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Benefits of the NorthBay Experience

• Connects to outdoors

• Helps build a foundation for an active lifestyle to assist in mitigating the instances of childhood obesity

• Issues of character development abound in contemporary issues in education
The Benefits of the NorthBay Experience

- Lifelong learning
- Academic growth
- Environmental stewardship
- Appreciation for the Chesapeake Bay, its health, and organisms
- Appreciation for wildlife
- One person making a difference
- “The buck stops with me!”
- NO “Away!”
- Character development
- Personal change starting with the first step
- New outlook
- New insights
- Better habits
The Benefits of the NorthBay Experience

• Increase students’ interests in STEM

• Increase BCPS capacity to provide students rigorous, relevant experiences with taught curriculum
NorthBay and Accelerating Student Achievement

- Equity and access challenges
- Opportunity for fun; transdisciplinary, deep and meaningful learning
How NorthBay Provides a Supplemental Experience

- Service learning

- Character education

- Where the state is going with environmental literacy
Let’s hear from the students
School Reflections
Next Steps

- Culminate participation for school year FY 12

- Strengthen coordination with schools and Student Support Services in promoting character development

- Provide professional development to assist teachers in embedding the experience in teaching and learning as we transition to Common Core