

**BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**DATE:** February 19, 2013  
**TO:** **BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**FROM:** S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent  
**SUBJECT:** **REPORT ON SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY**  
**ORIGINATOR:** Michael Sines, Chief Operations Officer  
**RESOURCE**  
**PERSON(S):** Dale R. Rauenzahn, Executive Director

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Education receives the report on school safety and security.

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Attachment I: Executive Summary  
Attachment II: PowerPoint on School Safety and Security

## **Department of School Safety and Security Executive Summary**

The Department of School Safety and Security was created by Dr. Dance and approved by the Board of Education on October 9, 2012. Since then, a review of safety, security, and student behavior was conducted. Other school systems were visited: Harford, Anne Arundel, and Montgomery counties. Partnerships with key agencies including police, fire, and emergency management were enhanced. The department was organized as reflected in the organizational chart presented on February 5, 2013, to have four offices - the Office of School Safety, the Office of Security, the Office of Student Behavior, and the Office of Risk Management.

During these four months, the following has occurred:

- Continued monthly training of principals on the reduction of suspensions through the use of alternatives to suspensions.
- Collaboration with partners, police, fire, emergency operations, and health departments.
- Principals' self survey of their facility for eight key security components. This identified 192 projects. The Department of Facilities has completed 81% of these to date. Also, 29, or 15%, of the 192 projects are new installation of systems. The department has reviewed numerous vendors, security companies' products, demonstration of products, and has discussed decisions related to the needs of schools on systems to fill gaps in security.
- Developed a three-phase approach to meet the needs of schools for security systems.
  - Phase 1 – To be completed by the beginning of school 2013-2014.
  - Phase 2 – To be completed during the 2013-2014 school year.
  - Phase 3 – To be completed during the 2014-2015 school year.
- Phase 1 projects are funded through the county supplemental appropriation approved on February 5, 2013.
  - Electronic entry systems for schools that do not currently have systems (13 schools).
  - Camera system for elementary schools and special education schools that is specific to the entry and movement to the office of the schools (109).
  - Closing in an open space area at one school (Halethorpe Elementary) to assist with security of students and staff.
- An additional Phase 1 project, funded by the reallocation of school system funding, is the visitor identification system.
- Phase 2 planning continues, and the list of projected projects includes an identification system for all staff and students, the upgrade of cameras at middle

and high schools, and the use of a one-card-system. This will be funded, in part, by the 2.5 million dollars requested in the operating budget.

The Department of School Safety and Security continues to work with the police department in a thorough assessment of all schools. This process started on February 5, 2013, and will continue through the end of the year with reports on each school, followed by a complete review of those reports to generate a systemic report of recommendations to assist in developing the full scope of Phase 2 and Phase 3.



# SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY

February 19, 2013

Dale R. Rauenzahn, Executive Director  
Department of School Safety and Security

TEAM BCPS

# THE 30-90 DAYS

- ◉ Visited other school systems
- ◉ Held collaboration meetings
- ◉ Reviewed numerous public comments and suggestions
- ◉ Enhanced partnerships with agencies
- ◉ Planned strategically
- ◉ Provided ongoing engaging professional development



TEAM BCPS

# CURRENT STATUS

- Self assessments in December
  - 192 projects - 81% completed
- Standards developed for security
- Three-phase approach
  - Phase 1 - Now until beginning of school, August
  - Phase 2 - 2013-2014
  - Phase 3 - 2014-2015
- Tactical assessments of all schools
  - Data to identify projects for Phases 2 and 3



TEAM BCPS

# PHASE 1

- Approved \$3,740,000 for Phase 1 projects
  - Camera systems for elementary and special education schools
  - Electronic entry systems for remaining schools
- Visitor identification system
  - Checks sex offenders database system off of state-issued IDs



# MISSION

- ◉ *To establish a safe and orderly teaching and learning environment to promote personal well-being and student achievement.*
- ◉ *To improve the BCPS safety and security through:*
  - *Open communications*
  - *Efficient training*
  - *Strong partnerships*
  - *Proactive policies*
  - *Effective protocols and procedures*

