



NEWS RELEASE

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BCPS leadership thanks administration, staff for keeping school system “solid and moving forward”

Board Chair Scott: BCPS resilient, strong against pandemic, ransomware attack

TOWSON, MD. – Top BCPS leadership today commended the administration and staff of the nation’s 25th largest school system for a strong, flexible, and student-centered response to both the COVID-19 pandemic and to a crippling Nov. 24 ransomware attack.

“I could not be more proud of Superintendent (Darryl L.) Williams, his professional and talented team, and of all of our dedicated educators across Baltimore County who are weathering a combination of challenges that would buckle many other school systems,” said Makeda Scott, chair of the Board of Education of Baltimore County. “Dr. Williams’ leadership has brought out the best in each of us whose first priority are the children of our community, and I am confident that with him, our Board, and ‘Team BCPS’ leading the way, we can handle any crisis and overcome any obstacle that stands in the way of student success.”

Dr. Williams also voiced support and confidence in his staff and in educators across Baltimore County. “This has been a year like no other for educators and students alike,” he said today, “but thanks to the determination of the many talented and selfless educators throughout BCPS, we are finishing the year standing strong and more committed than ever to serving the students of our county. I am so appreciative to all BCPS personnel, and especially those based in our schools, who have focused on our students throughout this time and on providing them the best possible instruction and educational

services. Kudos to our students and families for their flexibility and patience during these challenging times.”

With the assistance of federal, state, and local resources, BCPS continues to recover from what was called a “catastrophic” ransomware attack just before Thanksgiving. Missing just three days of instruction, BCPS is working on every aspect of school system operations, including instruction, personnel, payroll, and communications. “We still have a long way to go, but we are making substantial progress every day,” said Williams.

Just as the school system prioritized restoring instruction following the Nov. 24 attack, BCPS leadership has also made student and staff health and safety as a top goal in managing system operations and decision-making as BCPS prepares for 2021. “The road has not been easy, and we have appreciated everyone’s patience and support during this dark time,” said Scott. “But I am convinced that brighter, better days are ahead. BCPS is solid and moving forward today, and I am convinced that we shall reach tomorrow stronger, better, and together.”

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[Baltimore County Public Schools](#), the nation’s 25th 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 [many honors](#).