

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: September 8, 2009

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **CONSIDERATION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION'S FOCUS
AREAS FOR 2009-2010**

ORIGINATOR: JoAnn C. Murphy, Board President

**RESOURCE
PERSON (S):**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education approves its Focus Areas for 2009-2010.

Attachment I – Focus Areas 2009-2010



Board of Education Mission

The Board of Education of Baltimore County is committed to providing a quality education for all students in safe and orderly schools by developing and implementing policies reflective of global conditions and community values while also ensuring the efficient and effective use of fiscal and human resources.

Focus Areas 2009-2010

Every year, the Baltimore County Public Schools Board of Education identifies specific focus areas. This document highlights the Board's focus areas for 2009-10 and shows how they are aligned with the school system's foundational *Blueprint for Progress* and the Phi Delta Kappa curriculum audit.



Performance Goals from the Baltimore County Public Schools *Blueprint for Progress*

Performance Goal 1

By 2012, all students will reach high standards, as established by the Baltimore County Public Schools and state performance level standards, in reading/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Performance Goal 2

By 2012, all English Language Learners will become proficient in English and reach high academic standards in reading/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Performance Goal 5

All students will graduate from high school.

Performance Goal 3

All students will be taught by highly qualified teachers.

Board of Education Focus Areas for 2009-10

Student Achievement

Through increased rigor and data-driven decision-making, promote continued advancement of student achievement in Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS).

1. Monitoring the success of programs through performance data.
2. Addressing the decline in student performance between elementary and middle school.
3. Providing teachers with ongoing assessments of students' learning needs.
4. Ensuring that all students are enrolled in rigorous courses preparing them to be college ready and career ready upon graduation.
5. Expanding participation in Advanced Placement and SAT programs.
6. Ensuring that all students have instruction in technology, art, music, and physical education.
7. Monitoring that resources are directed to schools where they are most needed.

Staffing

Continue to demonstrate to Baltimore County Public Schools' employees that they are the school system's most important resource.

1. Striving to place the most qualified leadership and staff into underperforming schools.
2. Providing effective professional development and resources to teachers to facilitate differentiated instruction.
3. Advocating for competitive employee salaries and benefits.

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Performance Goals from the Baltimore County Public Schools *Blueprint for Progress*

Board of Education Focus Areas for 2009-10

Performance Goal 4

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

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KEY																							
Atomic Number																							
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Facilities

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

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.

1. Increasing effective Board communications (e.g., including executive summaries in Board reports; sharing Board committee reports; refocusing constituent reports at Board meetings to emphasize Board areas of focus).
2. Using multiple strategies to spread the good news about BCPS at the local, state, and national levels.
3. Developing a legislative agenda, and sharing it with Board advisory and stakeholder groups.
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.

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.

1. Continuing initiatives to enrich Board knowledge in fiscal areas.
2. Setting Board priorities and fiscal decisions based on hard data.

The Baltimore County Public Schools
Board of Education

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