

**BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**DATE:** October 19, 2010  
**TO:** **BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**FROM:** Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent  
**SUBJECT:** **REPORT ON RACE TO THE TOP**

**ORIGINATOR:** Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

**RESOURCE**

**PERSON(S):** Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
Roger Plunkett, Assistant to the Superintendent, Accountability  
and Supervision

**INFORMATION**

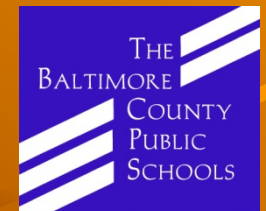
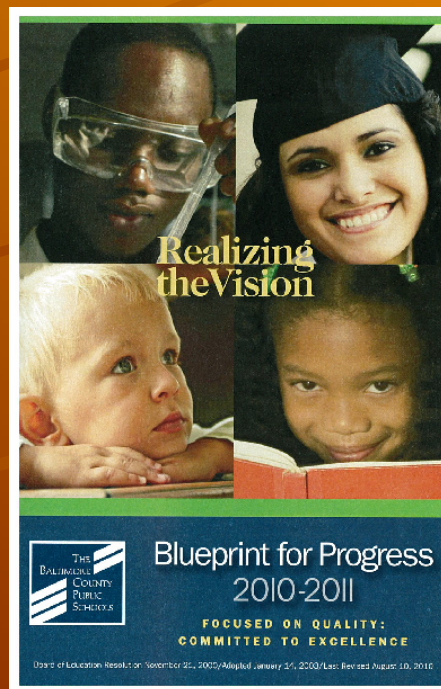
That the Board of Education receives an update on the proposals for the Race to the Top initiative.

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# RACE TO THE TOP (RTTT)

Report to the  
Board of Education  
Tuesday, October 19, 2010

Dr. Donald Peccia  
Dr. Roger Plunkett



# Executive Summary

## Background and Overview of Race to the Top (RTTT)

A silhouette of a sprinter in a starting crouch on a track, positioned to the left of the main text block.

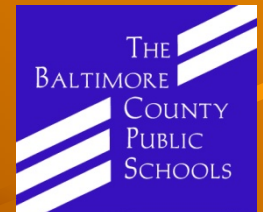
Overall cost of the BCPS proposals  
under RTTT is \$17,403,073

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# RACE TO THE TOP

RTTT is a \$4.35 billion dollar incentive program designed by the U.S. Department of Education to spur progressive reforms in the state and local district K-12 education.

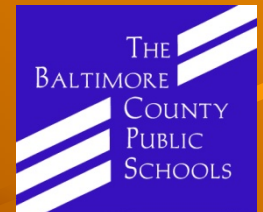
Revised 10/8/10



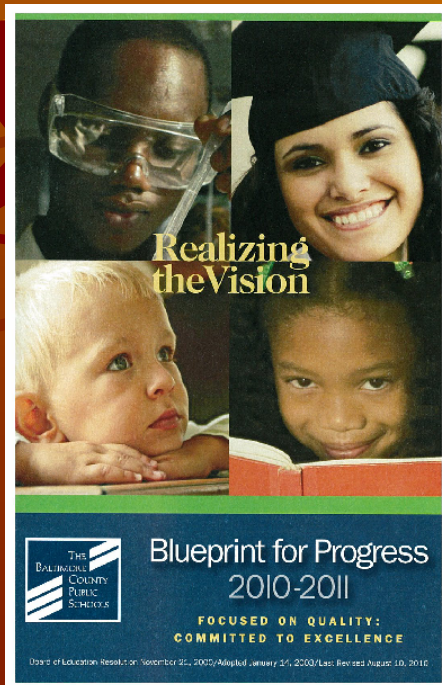
# RTTT is a Federal Program Aimed at

- ✦ Boosting student achievement
- ✦ Striving to reduce gaps in achievement among student subgroups
- ✦ Focusing on turning around struggling schools
- ✦ Improving the teaching profession

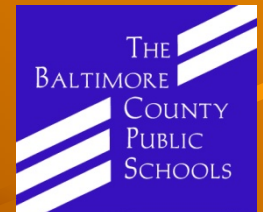
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Our role is to develop proposals for programs with the aim of improving student achievement and will be aligned with the BCPS' *Blueprint for Progress* and the Bridge to Excellence.



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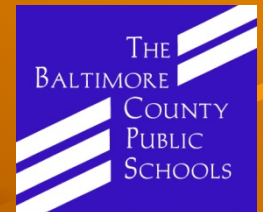
# BCPS Requirements

The Memorandum of Understanding

Approved in April, 2010

BCPS will receive approximately  
\$17,403,073

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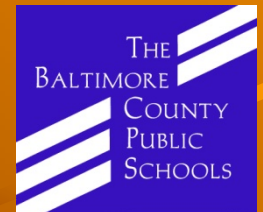


# Allowable Expenses

## THE FOUR ASSURANCES

1. Standards and assessments
2. Data systems to improve instruction
3. Great teachers and leaders
4. Turning around low-achieving schools

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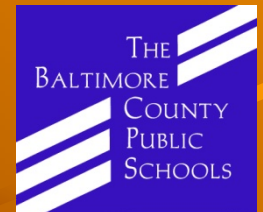
# Prohibited Expenses

1. Maintenance costs
2. Stadiums and other facilities
3. Purchase or upgrade of vehicles
4. Improvements of stand alone facilities
5. School modernization, renovation, or repair inconsistent with state law

# Meeting the Requirements

- ◆ Project Review Team formed
- ◆ Identified leaders for each section
  - Section A: Overview of Project
    - ◆ Dr. Donald Peccia
  - Section B: Standards and Assessments
    - ◆ Dr. John Quinn and Dr. Thomas Rhoades
  - Section C: Data Systems
    - ◆ Michael Goodhues, Sonja Karwacki, and Dale Rauenzahn
  - Section D: Great Teachers & Leaders
    - ◆ Michelle Prumo, William Burke, and Dr. Donald Peccia
  - Section E: Turning Around Low-Achieving Schools
    - ◆ Dr. Roger Plunkett and Sonja Karwacki

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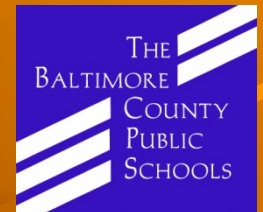
# Meeting the Requirements

• Teams worked within grant directions and within BCPS requirements:

- Alignment with *Blueprint for Progress*
- Focus on student achievement
- Sustainable
- No “funding cliff”

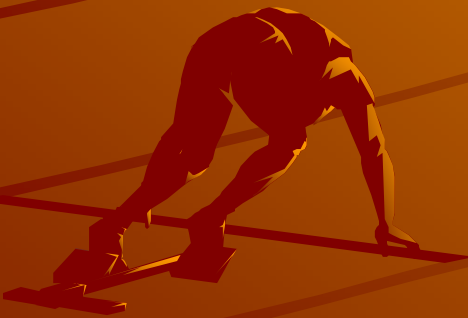
• Input from community

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# Meeting the Requirements

- ◆ Proposals submitted to the Project Review Team
- ◆ Project Review Team ranked proposals
- ◆ Superintendent review



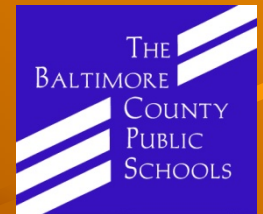
# Selected Proposals for RTTT

## Section B: Standards and Assessments

### Project B1: Curriculum Alignment and Development



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# Selected Proposals for RTTT

## Section C: Data Systems to Support Instruction

Project C1: Education, Assessment and Student Information (easi)

Project C2: Virtual High School and Game Development

Project C3: Virtual Learning Arena at Chesapeake High School

# **Selected Proposals for RTTT**

Section C continued:

Data Systems to Support Instruction

Project C4: E-Center

Project C5: BCPS Longitudinal Data Systems



# Selected Proposals for RTTT

## Section D: Great Teachers and Leaders

Project D1: Improving teacher and principal effectiveness based on performance





# Selected Proposals for RTTT

## Section D Continued: Great Teachers and Leaders

Project D2: BCPS – Towson University  
Exchange Program

Project D3: Teach for America



# **Selected Proposals for RTTT**

## **Section E: Turning Around our Lowest-Achieving Schools**



### **Project E1: Turning around low-achieving schools**



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# Race to the Top Program

## Proposed Budget

<b>1. Data Systems to Support Instruction</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>
a. easi	
b. E-Center	
c. Virtual Learning Arena at Chesapeake High	
d. Virtual High School & Game Development	
e. Longitudinal Data Systems	
<b>2. Curriculum Alignment &amp; Development</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>
<b>3. Turning Around Low-Achieving Schools</b>	<b>\$2,000,000</b>
<b>4. Alternative Evaluation Methods</b>	<b>\$1,909,748</b>
<b>5. Towson University Exchange Program</b>	<b>\$1,650,429</b>
<b>6. Teach for America</b>	<b><u>\$4,722,623</u></b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$16,282,800</b>
 <b>Estimated Indirect Costs</b>	<b>\$ 661,200</b>
 <b>Salaries-Project Director &amp; Fiscal Assistant</b>	<b><u>\$ 460,000</u></b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,404,000</b>

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**Proposals will be submitted to MSDE on  
November 3, 2010.**

**Questions?**

**Thank you.**



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