

NEWS RELEASE

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BCPS resource teacher recognized as a state lead advocate for Advanced Placement[®] program

Amanda Lattimore recognized for her work to increase student access to challenging coursework

Towson, MD – Amanda Lattimore, computer resource teacher in the Baltimore County Public Schools Office of Career and Technical Education (CTE), has been recognized as one of only 23 state leads in the national <u>Advanced Placement[®] (AP) Advocates Program</u>.

Through the Advanced Placement[®] Advocates Program, AP teachers seek to expand AP accessibility and increase equity in AP programs. From the more than 1,600 advocates, 23 state leaders are selected to represent 14 states and Washington, D.C. Advanced Placement courses are designed to offer students the opportunity to take college-level courses and to earn possible college credits through high scores on AP exams.

"BCPS is deeply committed to providing all students with opportunities for truly challenging coursework, such as the Advanced Placement program," said Superintendent Dr. Darryl L. Williams. "We applaud Amanda Lattimore's work on behalf of our students and schools."

Lattimore described some of her recent efforts. "I have spoken with Senator (Chris) Van Hollen's team to advocate for AP exams to be paid for low-income families as well as on House Bill 1208 to advocate for a standardized acceptance of AP scores at Maryland state colleges," Lattimore said. "Due to our efforts, Governor (Larry) Hogan has allocated more than \$2 million of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief state budget to help pay for AP exams. I also had a meeting recently about increasing diversity in AP courses, of which I am a huge proponent. I have done a lot of work in BCPS with the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program to inform students about the AP Computer Science Principles course and to increase diversity." Lattimore has been teaching for BCPS for 19 years: three at Golden Ring Middle, 12 at Dulaney High, and four as a computer science resource teacher for the CTE office. Her role in the CTE office is the first position of its kind in Maryland. Although she is not a BCPS graduate, she attended BCPS schools for 12 years until her junior year at Dulaney High School. Lattimore has earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics teacher education and a master's degree in instructional technology, both from Towson University, and administrator 1 certification in educational leadership and administration from Trinity College DC (now Trinity Washington University).

(Editor's note: A photo of Lattimore accompanies this release.)

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<u>Baltimore County Public Schools</u>, 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 <u>many honors</u>.