



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Clean Green 15 partnership awards \$22,000 to 17 BCPS schools for keeping schools and county clean and green**

*Celebration Tuesday also marks kickoff of 2021-22 competition*

TOWSON, MD — After pausing a year for Covid, the Team BCPS Clean Green 15 Litter Challenge blossomed anew Tuesday, led by a bouquet of Baltimore County civic and educational leaders who brought thanks – and rewards – to students, schools, and community volunteers whose anti-litter efforts helped to beautify Baltimore County.

Led by BCPS Superintendent Dr. Darryl L. Williams and Baltimore County Executive Johnny Olszewski, dignitaries visited three Dundalk schools that were among the 17 school winners of the 2019-21 Clean Green 15 Challenge. The annual competition, which this year awarded \$22,000 in environmental literacy grants and technology prizes, challenges schools, students, and community partners to engage in quick, 15-minute local litter clean-up events.

“Clean Green 15 is a wonderful opportunity for Baltimore County students and their schools not only to help beautify their grounds and neighborhoods but also to learn the lessons of keeping the environment healthy,” said Dr. Williams. “Congratulations to our 17 winning schools for doing such a great job in keeping BCPS clean and green and also to all of those who participated in this important project both this year and last.”

Added County Executive Olszewski, “Over the past two years, Clean Green 15 volunteers removed tons of litter from our communities, and 17 of our Baltimore County schools earned

thousands of dollars to pay for school-based environmental projects that will have a lasting impact on students for years to come.”

Stopping at Charlesmont Elementary School, Battle Monument School, and nearby General John Stricker Middle School, the Clean Green delegation noted that 406 litter clean-ups were logged from May 2019 through April 2021, resulting in 3,391 bags of trash and a total of 57,862 pounds of litter and debris cleaned from Baltimore County’s school grounds, fields, forests, and communities.

At each school stop on Tuesday, Debbie Phelps, executive director of The Education Foundation of Baltimore County Public Schools, led the applause for school staff, students, and supporters who completed the clean-ups.

Through this program – now in its ninth year – BCPS schools and their community supporters compete for doing the most clean-ups. The program is open to any groups, including school-based groups, places of worship, youth groups, civic or community groups, scout troops, sport teams, businesses or other organizations, that wish to help clean up their community. Groups are asked to report their clean-ups online and designate a school to receive credit toward the grant competition.

Team BCPS Clean Green 15 is a collaboration of the Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability, BCPS, and The Education Foundation of BCPS.

The Education Foundation awards grants to 11 top winning schools to fund school-based instructional projects that emphasize the theme of environmental literacy. Another six schools earned Honorable Mention awards and received funds to purchase STEM supplies and equipment. The list of winning schools is attached.

The celebration also marked the kickoff for the 2021-2022 Team BCPS Clean Green 15 Litter Challenge for this school year, with schools and groups eligible to log clean-up events taking place from May 1, 2021, through April 30, 2022, for consideration in next year’s awards.

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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](#).

**Winning Schools – Combined School Years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021:**

<b>Award</b>	<b>Prize</b>	<b>School</b>
Grand Prize	\$3,000 grant	Charlesmont Elementary School
High Schools 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	\$2,000 grant	Patapsco High School & Center for the Arts
High Schools 2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	\$1,500 grant	Dulaney High School
High Schools 3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	\$1,000 grant	Franklin High School
Middle Schools 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	\$2,000 grant	General John Stricker Middle School
Middle Schools 2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	\$1,500 grant	Ridgely Middle School
Middle Schools 3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	\$1,000 grant	Sparrows Point Middle School
Elementary Schools 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	\$2,000 grant	Grange Elementary School
Elementary Schools 2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	\$1,500 grant	Glyndon Elementary School
Elementary Schools 3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	\$1,000 grant	Chesapeake Terrace Elementary School
Special School Prize	\$2,000 grant	Battle Monument School
Honorable Mention	\$500 STEM prize	Sparks Elementary School

Honorable Mention	\$500 STEM prize	George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology
Honorable Mention	\$500 STEM prize	Lansdowne Middle School
Honorable Mention	\$500 STEM prize	Rosedale Center Middle/High School
Honorable Mention	\$500 STEM prize	Deer Park Middle School
Honorable Mention	\$500 STEM prize	Sparrows Point Technical High School