

**Town Meetings  
Harford Business Roundtable and  
Board of Education of Harford County  
October 27, October 28, and October 29, 2005**

Results of Discussion Question #1:

What is it that Harford County Public Schools needs to do in preparing our students to prepare for the future? What are the programs, services, and improvements that should occur in the next five to ten years to provide our children with a world-class education? Envision what schools will need to look like to effectively educate students.

<b>October 25, 2005 (Tuesday)</b>	<b>7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Rich, Fidler, Garrett, Haas, Scarborough, Spence HBRT – Richard Bock</b>	<b>Bel Air High School Auditorium</b>
<b>October 26, 2005 (Wednesday)</b>	<b>7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Rich, Merrell, Williams, Volrath, TBA HBRT – Betsy Champion</b>	<b>Aberdeen High School Cafeteria</b>
<b>October 26, 2005 (Wednesday)</b>	<b>7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Wolkow, Thomas, Garrett, Scarborough, Moore, Talbert HBRT – Warren Hamilton</b>	<b>Joppatowne High School Cafeteria</b>
<b>October 27, 2005 (Thursday)</b>	<b>7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Rich, Hess, Garrett, Scarborough, Spence HBRT – Craig Ward</b>	<b>Fallston Middle School Cafeteria -</b>

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Meeting Held	Comments
AHS	“Flex” time for teachers to teach classes
AHS	Access to OT; increased plug in vs. pull out
AHS	Accountability to the system of pass/fail – elementary through high school
AHS	Advancing technology programs for middle school students
AHS	After school programs
AHS	An AP course with only two students could be combined with another class from another school
AHS	Athletics, arts, music, character development/education are important
AHS	Better disciplinary actions and consequences
AHS	Better facilities (buildings to be state of the art)
AHS	Better preparation for teachers
AHS	Better training resources for teachers
AHS	Better transition for math from elementary to middle school
AHS	Business like classes to help students prepare for reality
AHS	Centralized area for scholarship information – laundry list available to students and parents
AHS	Character education, study skills, awards assembly at both elementary and high schools
AHS	Class size ratio – student to teacher – better
AHS	Classes in world current events
AHS	College preparation; as in Science and Mathematics Academy - all students should benefit from this type of curriculum
AHS	Components of “Harford Tech High School” in each school

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Meeting Held	Comments
AHS	Concern with magnet schools: early bus pick-up for students traveling long distances
AHS	Conduct needs assessments of those moving into the area
AHS	Continue emphasis on Advanced Placement courses
AHS	Continue fine arts classes
AHS	Continue tutoring for after or during school
AHS	Continued improvements in math and science
AHS	Continued improvements with reading and writing skills
AHS	Create more magnet schools
AHS	Differentiated instruction and move beyond regrouping and we're done; monitor where kids are and ensure growth and accountability
AHS	Diverse curriculum in schools
AHS	Earlier identification of special needs children
AHS	Elementary schools performing well
AHS	Emphasis on language skills/phonics
AHS	Enrichment courses for all elementary schools
AHS	Expand Pre-K to more students
AHS	Expansion of vocational technical training and career education
AHS	Explain different levels of achievement, i.e., advanced placement, certificate of merit course vs. general course
AHS	Explain why open book testing is happening at IEP level classes

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Meeting Held	Comments
AHS	Family involvement (home and school)
AHS	Find more time for learning – look at school year; school day
AHS	Focus on personal finance
AHS	Focus on writing and vocabulary
AHS	Freshman seminar – more in depth study skills; time management skills
AHS	Full time Gifted and Talented teacher in each elementary school
AHS	Funding to meet needs
AHS	Gifted education programs/teaching
AHS	Guidance and preparation for adulthood for students - More preparation and practice for PSAT's and SAT's, Senior refresher courses
AHS	Guidance counselors – less responsibilities so that they can actually guide
AHS	Guidance counselors' communication with students and parents regarding students' ambitions, emotional stability and confidence
AHS	Harford County needs to be more proactive, not so much reactive!
AHS	Have a school based business manager
AHS	High quality alternative education
AHS	High technology
AHS	Highly qualified teachers with first choices given to school with high percentages of at risk students
AHS	Home school connection; partnerships
AHS	How do students go about receiving tutoring/mentoring help if not available through their teacher

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Meeting Held	Comments
AHS	How to cover all material needed to cover curriculum as well as to pass the standardized testing
AHS	Improve technical resources
AHS	Improved technology training/in-service/utilization
AHS	Inclusion doesn't work – find some other way to help special education students
AHS	Increase use of technology
AHS	Insuring technology access by students
AHS	Internet tutoring for extra help
AHS	Intervention programs/advancement programs
AHS	Interview process to ensure teachers have true desire to be a teacher caring for and about children
AHS	Keep class sizes as low as possible and balance capacity with growth with state needs
AHS	Keyboarding class as a requirement; possible one quarter class
AHS	Look at the rigor of classes and programs
AHS	Magnet schools do not serve enough children
AHS	Maintain and/or expand intervention programs
AHS	Math – algebra 2/science technology
AHS	Math specialists available in every school
AHS	Mentoring programs – older children helping younger kids
AHS	Middle schools possibly having sports to play other middle schools
AHS	Modernize buildings and equipment
AHS	More accountability for students (not parents and schools) for attendance

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Meeting Held	Comments
AHS	More AP courses offered
AHS	More AP, magnet, better selection for college prep
AHS	More attention and resources geared to the average student
AHS	More classes for test prep – SAT
AHS	More creative classrooms
AHS	More early intervention at primary grades with appropriate staff
AHS	More emphasis on foreign languages, especially Spanish at earlier grade levels
AHS	More fun time for students
AHS	More information available for students seeking scholarships from the Guidance Department
AHS	More of the “academy” approach to education
AHS	More Para-educators for younger students
AHS	More physical education, especially in elementary school
AHS	More programs for students with disabilities for more interesting things for SEM
AHS	More SAT preparation; special education classes should be offered in science and social studies
AHS	More staffing for special education inclusion
AHS	More strategies available for teachers to meet the diverse needs of the students
AHS	More student involvement in the community
AHS	More vocational training – another tech high school – other trades
AHS	More, better staff development, job embedded
AHS	Motivation programs that are ongoing – elementary through high school

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Meeting Held	Comments
AHS	New building replacement and improvement of existing facilities
AHS	Notify students and parents/packet/etc. 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> grade about scholarships
AHS	Offer more foreign languages, including at elementary school level
AHS	Offering more opportunities for the “average” student to excel
AHS	Offering programs to high school students in advanced technology
AHS	Possible study hall/tutoring in high schools (with student requirements)
AHS	Recognizing students who are being bullied, and also those who need more encouragement
AHS	Recruit and retain highly qualified personnel
AHS	Route 40 schools should be looked at as an equal to the Northern Harford County Schools
AHS	Safety!! In school and on buses
AHS	Safety, quality of education, access to all programs, special help for children with needs
AHS	School psychologist or behavior specialist (at least a counselor) in each school
AHS	School-based staff development and practices
AHS	Schools need to be held to a standard at which they all must meet. There should not be a school which is below standard
AHS	Schools seem to be moving away from trade education (shop class, tech ed, etc.)
AHS	Seriousness of high school – transcripts
AHS	Service to assist children below reading levels
AHS	Services, staff and training to provide for special needs students
AHS	SLC – small learning communities (small class size)

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Meeting Held	Comments
AHS	Smaller class sizes
AHS	Stability
AHS	State of the art technology with staffing, funding to make it happen
AHS	Stop acting like there are two different Harford Counties – the Route 40 corridor and the rest of the County
AHS	Stress basic skills for all students
AHS	Student identification with barcodes (cheaper than swipe cards)
AHS	Study skills/basic skills
AHS	Tailor summer school to mirror regular school day at the home school
AHS	Teach kids to set goals (Baldrige) and monitor achievement
AHS	Teacher evaluation and grading to assure an equal spread of talent for the schooling of children
AHS	Teachers concentrate on one subject at a time so the kids understand
AHS	Teachers could teach
AHS	Teachers from other colleges can come to different schools and have an orientation on the requirements of a college
AHS	Tech education should be inclusive – not exclusive
AHS	Technology – expand technology classes, have more computers in middle school, teach typing in elementary school
AHS	Technology specialist to teach students and teachers within each school
AHS	The gist is all schools are not equal and we want our children in the best school in the area we live in



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Meeting Held	Comments
	(moved to that neighborhood we bought our home)
AHS	To become more organized with agenda
AHS	Train students in trades for those not on a college track
AHS	Transition class for 9 <sup>th</sup> graders to include ROTC
AHS	Up to date equipment
AHS	Up-date grades
AHS	Use data to make decisions; data driven decision making
AHS	With influence of “BRAC” forthcoming, there needs to be resources made available for more schools to be built in this area
AHS	Communicate what is needed – clear expectations of students
AHS	10-20% of students are college bound, we need something for others
BAHS	“Mainstream” special ed must be better managed at the elementary level, especially now with four and five year olds starting full day Kindergarten; more IEP’s than ever before and teachers are always out of class “meeting about IEP’s”
BAHS	A stable climate
BAHS	A variety of AP classes at each school
BAHS	Academic students – college prep – expect educators to know where higher ed is headed and what students will need
BAHS	Access to new technology – 1 computer to 1 student
BAHS	Access to programs (special education) parents do not know how to get help

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Meeting Held	Comments
BAHS	Add effort indicators for third grade and up
BAHS	Additional tech school – (only accepting 50% of applicants) – not serving the needs of kids; more vocations now
BAHS	Air conditioning
BAHS	American history in elementary schools
BAHS	Back to basics in elementary curriculum, focusing technological advances on middle and high school; concentrate on socializing elementary, combining relationships and technology
BAHS	Be proactive to growth, not reactive – opportunity exists with renovation of Bel Air/Edgewood High
BAHS	Become less MSA score focused
BAHS	Before bells and whistles – more spending on technology
BAHS	Begin foreign language at lower grades
BAHS	Better bank equipment
BAHS	Better communication lines between school districts and parent community
BAHS	Better enrichment program
BAHS	Better facilities
BAHS	Better nutrition
BAHS	Better parking for parents (more space)
BAHS	Better quality teachers
BAHS	Better salaries for teachers
BAHS	Big question – where does it fit? With the “new” school at Patterson Mill, how will competitive sports

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Meeting Held	Comments
	teams be handled? Will varsity players who make a Bel Air Team as a sophomore be forced to try out at the new school? Will there be varsity teams? How will they be formed? Dance team at Fallston, CMW and NH (maybe Bel Air too) try out in May. How will that play out?
BAHS	Bigger school size (less portables)
BAHS	BRAC (moving from Monmouth – 30,000 jobs coming into Aberdeen Proving Ground; this will change the culture of Harford County; must be addressed – where are the plans?
BAHS	Bring back penmanship in elementary
BAHS	Bring in other – college educators to work with the students on MSATS, etc.
BAHS	Budget support from Annapolis as well as from Harford County
BAHS	Build more schools – more proactive leadership funding for the future
BAHS	Build schools or limit development
BAHS	Building moratorium
BAHS	Business class (balancing a check book)
BAHS	Career oriented classes (exploratory careers – more hands on)
BAHS	Children going to school in home community in their safe environment/good working conditions for staff
BAHS	Class sizes – reasonable (20's)
BAHS	Classroom size too large
BAHS	Classrooms – well balanced, not overcrowded, secure, enclosed, comfortable (i.e., air cond); smaller class sizes (18-20)

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Meeting Held	Comments
BAHS	Community nature of schools
BAHS	Compensation (\$14 over 2 years)
BAHS	Computer access and training
BAHS	Computer use in elementary schools, more training
BAHS	Concern over mixing middle and high in new school
BAHS	Concern themselves with the basics – math, English, etc. rather than the “extras”
BAHS	Concerns on inclusion that all students are being challenged
BAHS	Consider alternating schedule ( i.e., longer periods on alt. days)
BAHS	Consistency throughout the schools – i.e., block schedule and class electives
BAHS	Consistent methods of learning throughout grades (concern over changing methods between grades)
BAHS	Consistent programs, curriculum, schedules so that there is cohesiveness which can only lead to growth and success
BAHS	Continue to address the various learning styles of young children, i.e., some cannot “do” phonics
BAHS	Continue to increase education support staff at early elementary level; assist K,1, 2 teachers to provide basic skills and bring a child to required passing level
BAHS	Continue with early introduction of “rotating” classes – this prepares kids for middle and high school setting
BAHS	Continue/add town meetings; solicit parent input – particularly regarding the preconceived ideas of “levels,” “special ed”
BAHS	Continued development of a “master tutor” program

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Meeting Held	Comments
BAHS	Control and maintain teacher/pupil ratio – goal 1:18 or add aides
BAHS	Create opportunities for students to be included in community and business
BAHS	Curriculum consistency and articulation with feeders
BAHS	Curriculum seems appropriate but there needs to be increased access to technology/computers
BAHS	Curriculum that gears classes and students to post high school career tracks and college tracks (college prep); earlier planning and assistance to prepare for college (pre-Senior year!); and more guidance counselors or time for college prep and guidance
BAHS	Cutting edge technology
BAHS	Develop a savings plan in elementary for families to deposit money for future technological tools (i.e., computer). (Tax exempt CD)
BAHS	Develop critical thinking
BAHS	Develop life skills
BAHS	Develop understanding of business
BAHS	Discipline issues to develop better classroom environments
BAHS	Don't group children by one subject, i.e., math; some children excel in different areas; classes should be a challenge and in all subjects, not just some
BAHS	Don't let a school become run down
BAHS	Don't penalize the gifted because of the No child Left Behind requirements.
BAHS	Educate the educators – expect them to stay current and keep the good teachers
BAHS	Eliminate overcrowding – overcrowding means more distractions and less personal attention from

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Meeting Held	Comments
	teachers
BAHS	Eliminate stretch spelling, teach them how to spell
BAHS	Elimination of standardized testing (HSA's, etc.)
BAHS	Elimination of summer homework – not needed
BAHS	Ensure teachers are appropriately compensated to attract best talent
BAHS	Environmental concerns – HVAC – A/C
BAHS	Envision – keep
BAHS	Every student needs to have a book
BAHS	Expose children to different cultures
BAHS	Extra programs (i.e., Destination Imagination)
BAHS	Facility improvements
BAHS	Fence funds for improvements, not funneled into general fund
BAHS	Field trips – more diverse learning situations
BAHS	Field trips that are career oriented like Junior Achievement
BAHS	Fix climate in classes
BAHS	Focus on skills that are most needed to build on higher learning – communicating ideas, writing, vocabulary, math skills – know facts
BAHS	Foreign language in middle schools
BAHS	Funding for second modernization of aging county schools

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Meeting Held	Comments
BAHS	Funnel students into classes at the high school level that are in the areas of greatest need in the community, e.g., teachers, nurses, etc. before the child goes to college
BAHS	Generalized education versus career specifics – due to the importance of a well rounded student and lack of certainty as to career choice; don't make student choose career path so early
BAHS	Get rid of S&O for report cards prior to third grade
BAHS	Gifted and talented program – citizen advisory committee on gifted and talented education; these children get 20 minutes per week
BAHS	Grass on the fields – partnership with community groups
BAHS	Guest speakers
BAHS	Guidance programs that help our students present as best as possible to prospective colleges
BAHS	Have more college appearances
BAHS	Have speakers come in for college
BAHS	Have study hall – help with homework load for sports/extra curricular studies
BAHS	Healthier food choices/more health ed (full spectrum)
BAHS	High class ratio now; need to accommodate all needs, i.e., A/C rooms for music, instruments, gym equipment; sports need to be well applied for all children; not all have a chance; no personal space in halls, rooms larger, halls larger
BAHS	Higher pay for subs
BAHS	Higher pay for teachers and support staff
BAHS	Higher standards for teachers

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Meeting Held	Comments
BAHS	Highly qualified teachers at all levels
BAHS	Implement state of the art technology in each classroom, main server in each subject; software kept current regularly
BAHS	Improve multi cultural approach to education, i.e., add languages
BAHS	Improvements – a) modern school buildings – not overcrowded, b) more support for teachers and c) County Council raise impact fees on new construction and home sales to support school improvements
BAHS	Improvements to facilities – air conditioning, heat – monitoring of building/health conditions
BAHS	Improvements to the “Arts” – more club oriented now, whereas it needs to be more curriculum based; Idea – arts based magnet a definite possibility – models – Carver, Patapsco, Baltimore School for the Arts – all within 30 miles of Harford County
BAHS	Improvements: 1) more schools; 2) decrease in teacher/student ratio; and 3) uniform days for “early dismiss” and “in-service day” for example – all Mondays or Fridays
BAHS	Incorporate more of the character education piece into curriculum – respect, responsibility, manners, honesty
BAHS	Increase support to special needs child
BAHS	Increase technology education in the school curriculum – use technology as a tool
BAHS	Individual learning styles being addressed
BAHS	Internship opportunities to broaden the horizons of students
BAHS	Internships
BAHS	Job related classes – college majors



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BAHS	Keep up with technology
BAHS	Keeping up with technology and updating current facilities
BAHS	Kids can't add/subtract in their heads due to reliance on calculators
BAHS	Kids need enough time to be kids if we go to year round schooling
BAHS	Lap top for students over 12
BAHS	Less emphasis on tech-ed type classes – do not make it a requirement
BAHS	Less homework
BAHS	Less students/teacher
BAHS	Limiting disruptive behaviors (disrespect) to allow best learning environment
BAHS	Look to more magnet schools (programs taken out of schools –art, music)
BAHS	Looks like: no leaks, no mice
BAHS	Lower class sizes
BAHS	Magnet programs – what is available and/or possible?
BAHS	Magnet schools
BAHS	Magnet schools
BAHS	Magnet schools
BAHS	Maintain academic standards
BAHS	Make a long term plan and stick with it to achieve its goals for success; this often difficult with Annapolis “gov’t” flip-flopping as they do
BAHS	Making student aware of the future

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BAHS	Making the school increase academic rigor
BAHS	Managers must expect the best from their staff
BAHS	Maximize classroom size
BAHS	Medical assistant program/dental assistant
BAHS	Mentoring of teachers
BAHS	Mice in classes? Need for renovation plans; 5-10 year to deal with growth and limit growth
BAHS	Minimize cost by creating state curriculum instead of each county creating their own.
BAHS	Modern adequate facilities – health, safety (portables); meet basic needs – desk/locker/under roof
BAHS	Modernization
BAHS	Modernize the school
BAHS	Modified schedules (classes – flexibility)
BAHS	More access to A&P courses – consistency across the system with course offerings
BAHS	More advanced classes are needed at the high school level
BAHS	More advanced tech classes – communications
BAHS	More and newer technology (computers)
BAHS	More career oriented courses
BAHS	More challenging academic programs, i.e., science fairs, national foreign language exams model UN, scholastic art programs
BAHS	More challenging classes for students who are A/B students
BAHS	More classroom support

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BAHS	More cooperation with local businesses for internships, observation, etc.
BAHS	More counselors to help students determine colleges and develop personal relationships and motivate students
BAHS	More flexibility in entering Harford Tech: (going in after 9 <sup>th</sup> grade)
BAHS	More flexible with the curriculum, be able to advance those that can be challenged above grade level
BAHS	More focus on academics than on social issue education
BAHS	More focus on the education of 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 graders – we need skills assessments that are mandatory for students to pass to show they are still being challenged and prepared to graduate
BAHS	More funding for student organizations
BAHS	More funding for student publications (lit mag and paper)
BAHS	More guidance counselors for high school students to help obtain scholarships as well as support students in their everyday life
BAHS	More hands on curricular activity for science in elementary school
BAHS	More inclusion from business community – mentoring, internships, etc.
BAHS	More intellectual challenges, stimulators and discussions for students
BAHS	More nutritious meals at lunch and snacks
BAHS	More opportunities for high school seniors to go to HCC in their senior year ½ day and day
BAHS	More parental involvement = better education
BAHS	More participation in after school activities
BAHS	More professional staff to support students on the bubble to proficient and lower

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Meeting Held	Comments
BAHS	More required library time for middle school
BAHS	More rigorous fundamentals in the 3 R's
BAHS	More schools
BAHS	More schools (plan for growth in Aberdeen) 543 corridor, Rt. 7 and Rt. 22
BAHS	More schools/building – middle and high
BAHS	More space
BAHS	More staff – computer; assistants in classrooms; other adjunct staff
BAHS	More student representation
BAHS	More support for families at home, i.e., child tested; how about sending items home to help child practice and parents help children to further skills and achieve better outcomes
BAHS	More technology/resources
BAHS	More uniformed career planning (for students) (better college recruiting, career choices)
BAHS	More updated computers
BAHS	Multi-cultural
BAHS	Music services – more choices instrumentally for younger students also as an actual class instead of a special.....
BAHS	Must forward fund schools
BAHS	Must have highly qualified staff – if you attract the best – you'll get the best
BAHS	Need more teacher development/training/mentoring
BAHS	Need to ensure basics are met – more mastery

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Meeting Held	Comments
BAHS	Need to have the same student to teacher ratios
BAHS	New books
BAHS	New computer equipment
BAHS	New textbooks/supplies
BAHS	No 8 period block schedule
BAHS	No need to go beyond trig or no need for four credits in math
BAHS	No overcrowding, no trailers, more schools
BAHS	No overcrowding/redistricting necessary – (PROBLEM: people don't want to move to another district) (ANSWER: Make all schools equally appealing to all)
BAHS	No portables
BAHS	No temporary building
BAHS	No trailers - updated or new schools
BAHS	Nutrition – healthier food and lunches
BAHS	Nutritional lunches
BAHS	Offer more programs for all levels of learning
BAHS	Options in 12 <sup>th</sup> grade year (more coordination with Community College, work study, mentoring)
BAHS	Partnership between schools/business/government
BAHS	Pension for State of Maryland
BAHS	Planning for new housing developments and growth/impact on schools
BAHS	Prepare students better for real life situations within the curriculum

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Meeting Held	Comments
BAHS	Prepare students: strong curriculum, adequate facilities, and decrease student to teacher ratio! Keyboarding, computer labs; upkeep – paint, weeds, A/C; Gifted and Talented enrichment programs
BAHS	Proficiency in math facts so we keep up with the world
BAHS	Programs – a) reinforce basics “R’s”; b) physical fitness/personal health programs; c) credential all students with basic technology skills; and d) support for school-based career path programs (like HTHS)
BAHS	Programs for special education (No Child Left Behind) need to fund more – more early intervention
BAHS	Programs gifted/talented – enrichments increase
BAHS	Programs started younger – foreign language only started in junior high, music and art in 4 <sup>th</sup> grade – start them as young as kindergarten
BAHS	Programs, services, improvements – 5-10 years
BAHS	Programs: 1) mandatory tutoring for students not performing at grade level; 2) a gifted and talented program starting at the elementary level for identified students; and 3) offering of I.T. computer programs
BAHS	Provide alternate theory of evolution (creationism)
BAHS	Provide resources and be open to services for IEP children such as vision therapy (things that aren’t in the school, but are proven to help); provide these services within not so much red tape
BAHS	Provide safe environments for students in all schools – elementary, middle and high schools
BAHS	Provide students with higher ability with higher expectations, more challenges
BAHS	Qualified teachers

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Meeting Held	Comments
BAHS	Real life educations: debt education, credit card usage, parenting, college choosing; add requirements, such as balancing checkbook, typing for college, domestic jobs, read a map
BAHS	Recreation facilities
BAHS	Reduce student to teacher ratio
BAHS	Reverse planning that looks at high school, but starts at elementary school
BAHS	SAT prep available to all students for no cost
BAHS	School renovations
BAHS	School safety/security (physical, emergency plans, etc.)
BAHS	Schools must keep up “look-wise” with the marketing strategies of retail developments – more “Avenue” type setting; portables are horrible
BAHS	Second language
BAHS	Services – a) school-based tutoring; b) career recruitment/internships – i.e., law enforcement; and c) improved support staff – guidance, etc.
BAHS	Services: state of the art technology (equipment)
BAHS	Shift hours more conducive to the age of kids
BAHS	Small class sizes
BAHS	Smaller class size
BAHS	Smaller class size
BAHS	Smaller class size so teachers can engage with the children/students on a personal level
BAHS	Smaller class sizes

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Meeting Held	Comments
BAHS	Smaller class sizes – are there studies for optimum class size?
BAHS	Smaller classroom sizes (Student: Teacher)
BAHS	Smaller classrooms to allow for meeting individual needs
BAHS	SRO's in every H.S. for safety/law related education
BAHS	Staff development programs, including training, better Sabre and recruiting (get best talent available); staff ownership of policies
BAHS	Standardization of curriculum
BAHS	Start SAT prep programs earlier – make it a requirement
BAHS	State funds regarding capacity
BAHS	State of the art technology
BAHS	Stop teaching to the test scores and the MSA and the state tests, teach the curriculum progressive and they will learn better
BAHS	Strategies in place for all students
BAHS	Strong “arts” programs or magnet something like Carver Technical Program
BAHS	Strong and consistent “Gifted and Talented” program – course guidelines; teacher in every school
BAHS	Strong emphasis on reading and math in early education; focus on grouping at child’s “level” – “special needs,” “excel” – keep this stratification from elementary to high school
BAHS	Strong facilities
BAHS	Stronger focus on block scheduling (increase time for teachers to teach specified courses)
BAHS	Students need to learn basics – reading, writing, arithmetic



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Meeting Held	Comments
BAHS	Supplies for all students (parents not having to supply paper towels, etc.)
BAHS	Teach foreign language in elementary school rather than start in high school
BAHS	Teacher/student ratio – today!!!
BAHS	Teachers need to be technically inclined
BAHS	Teachers to have training to communicate with parents and students
BAHS	Tech/Voc students – provide level of instruction and current/advanced technology to make the student readily marketable in their field
BAHS	Technology – computer literacy; computer labs; more computers per classroom
BAHS	Technology – computer skills and computer in every classroom
BAHS	Technology – computers and materials
BAHS	Technology advancements
BAHS	Technology while improving is still antiquated as soon as it’s installed; we are dealing with Atari in an X-box society
BAHS	Transitioning services for students in special ed from high school to community
BAHS	Uniforms in school!!!!
BAHS	Update schools – make them more state of the art
BAHS	Usage of technology in the classroom/homework
BAHS	Various learning styles
BAHS	Well paid and educated teachers
BAHS	When a student is having trouble passing a grade, place more emphasis on the “best plan for the child”

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Meeting Held	Comments
	– not how it looks for the school to fail a student
BAHS	Why is physical education a requirement when students could be taking academic classes instead – for athletes
BAHS	Year round schooling rather than large blocks off
BAHS	Year round schooling to promote decrease in “kids getting in trouble”
FMS	Aberdeen as a teaching resource (technical skills)
FMS	Across the board: good nutrition habits; technology for classrooms – more of it, more screens per student - web support personnel staff position for each school
FMS	Adequate access to computer labs/computer training on a regular basis beginning in elementary
FMS	Age appropriate expectations; no room for error along the learning curve; more positive – less negative
FMS	Alternative ways to use time for reading services or enrichment so kids aren’t pulled out of instruction
FMS	Another technical high school – broaden programs
FMS	Appropriate amount of homework – not too much
FMS	AR – renovation (re-evaluate these types of programs)
FMS	Attract and retain new teachers
FMS	Back to basics – need to be able to write a letter, grammar, spelling and punctuation; work on writing, cursive writing; no more “crazy math”
FMS	Basic criteria for all students to have technology skills; all students equipped with lap tops
FMS	Better facilities
FMS	Better preparation for SAT’s

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Meeting Held	Comments
FMS	Better prepared “new” teachers
FMS	BRAC population increases scare us; are we planning for the growth of students? Year round school – very popular idea at our table
FMS	Build better parent discussion/education
FMS	Bullying issues elementary and middle
FMS	Calendar for school – revisit the scheduling of days off/in service; year round school?
FMS	Capacity
FMS	Career training/vocational choice – community networking – internship
FMS	Consistency in high school schedules and core classes
FMS	Consistent administrative leadership
FMS	Continue to maintain cultural arts! Don’t lose them if budget cuts come; don’t lose music and art! Don’t put them on table as expendable
FMS	Curriculum – lack of books; have books available online in lieu of worksheets Xeroxed
FMS	Curriculum in elementary grades – social science is poor
FMS	Develop community; don’t ignore it – “If I don’t see it, it isn’t happening.”
FMS	Differentiated learning “multiple intelligences” learning styles
FMS	Differentiation – breaking out a classroom into varying learning tools and styles according to individuals/groups
FMS	Divide calendar year into four quarters with the breaks between quarters
FMS	Don’t pay people to write curriculum

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Meeting Held	Comments
FMS	Ed-line – a wonderful tool – bring to elementary level; should this be a “standardized” element for all schools?
FMS	Ed-line is great – needs to be updated more frequently
FMS	Elementary: community based connections for students – more “Ag-lab” experiences – watershed; anger management and life skills; website improvement
FMS	Eliminate ability grouping from K through second grade
FMS	Emphasis on problem solving skills
FMS	Enrichment and life application of education
FMS	Envision: quality teachers; training and staff development; small class sizes; community center concept; getting business partnerships; spread the wealth around; more volunteers and parent involvement for courses; what is used to determine the quality of schools – a lot of times parents determine the quality of the schools
FMS	Everyone is important – how can teachers empower those underachievers less popular
FMS	Extend ed-line to elementary
FMS	Focus on technology curriculum
FMS	Foreign language at early age – elementary school
FMS	Foreign language elementary and middle
FMS	Get real world resources/partnerships
FMS	Greater emphasis on grouping children according to ability
FMS	High School: business partnership – direct connections to students; web improvement

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Meeting Held	Comments
FMS	High tech classrooms – TV in every room; large computer labs in all schools; there seems to be inequalities between schools; all county schools should have equality among assets
FMS	Hold students accountable for necessary skills; do not pass them until they master skills
FMS	Improve the counseling system – no trust from students
FMS	Incentive for parents to come to the classrooms – advance notice to parents
FMS	Introduce foreign languages at elementary schools
FMS	Introduce tech issues at middle school as introductory
FMS	Junior ROTC offered
FMS	Leadership/team buildings for the students
FMS	Lunch – more emphasis on nutrition and socialization
FMS	Magnet high schools with career-oriented electives
FMS	Magnet program for gifted and talented
FMS	Maintain grouping in separate sections
FMS	Maintain the quality of teachers
FMS	Make parents clear about what is expected at each grade level
FMS	Math and Science - rigorous programs for those who need it; more modernized tools, curriculum
FMS	Math specialists
FMS	Middle: building respect, accountability – sports/academic consequences; students need to respect faculty; getting students to be more self-directed; web improvement
FMS	More challenge in elementary school grades

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Meeting Held	Comments
FMS	More challenging classes
FMS	More consistent grading policies
FMS	More information about magnet schools need to be given to parents/public
FMS	More involvement with the parents – encourage it
FMS	More lap tops for kids to use daily
FMS	More magnet schools
FMS	More math, science education
FMS	More outdoor play/access – encourages focus in classrooms
FMS	More schools, smaller class sizes
FMS	More tailoring to unique students
FMS	More teachers
FMS	More tech type (trades training) – may be a better future for students there as need continues for technician types; Tech is not just for the less-academic child
FMS	More technology at a younger age
FMS	More technology in the classrooms
FMS	More vocational programs at high school level
FMS	Need more schools – overcrowded – physical plant inadequate
FMS	Need more teachers/mentors
FMS	Needier schools in terms of test scores – how to assist them; maybe salary incentive to teachers
FMS	No Child Left Behind leaves behind the gifted and talented programs

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Meeting Held	Comments
FMS	No Child Left Behind vs. no child left unchallenged
FMS	No overcrowding
FMS	One school design and use it over and over
FMS	Parents make biggest difference
FMS	Partnerships with scientists
FMS	Physical classrooms – elementary – smaller classes and provide four walls
FMS	Portables make kids feel not as safe
FMS	Prepare: meet all learning styles – address achievement gaps, technology skills, basic reading and basic mathematics, preparatory tests for college taken into consideration for curriculum, writing is a lack of focus noted in business community, more systematic approach to inform students about college scholarships, provide more opportunities than just Harford Tech
FMS	Primary elementary – A/C
FMS	Principals need more input into their school’s curriculum and school’s “environment”
FMS	Professional development (teacher, administrators)
FMS	Program – Ed-line a plus – keep progressing
FMS	Programs for enrichment – kids at risk are being pushed too hard
FMS	Programs: enrichment programs, intervention programs, math courses, reading courses, science courses, summer reading program, history/geography enrichment courses; during summer/YMCA partnerships with Parks & Recreation; vocational skills programs; apprentice programs; Harford Tech is not enough to provide for needs of kids who do not want to go to college; but not year round schools;

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Meeting Held	Comments
	but some like it
FMS	Quality teacher recruitment!
FMS	Reading specialists at all levels
FMS	Reasonable education so they will be ready to go to college in the future
FMS	Reduce or eliminate professional development days throughout the year so there aren't so many days off
FMS	Re-evaluate enrichment programs – too limited (math); ability grouping: not addressed properly – rethink the mainstreaming – losing the higher performing students as well as the lower
FMS	Regrouping according to ability especially in Middle/High School (Destination Imagination)
FMS	Reinforce all the Basic “R’s,” including good handwriting skills and grammar of English language (phonics, spelling)
FMS	Reorient PE program to emphasize physical fitness and personal health; improve and add intramural sports – outlets for non-super athlete
FMS	School improvements: physical structure problems must be addressed; physical structure must be conducive to a proper learning environment
FMS	School’s Out.com – alert the cell phone for school dismissals
FMS	Schools should be smaller – know kids as they move from grade to grade; they end up not knowing each other
FMS	Service Learning Projects – more seriously; getting involved in the community; more individual
FMS	Sixth grade back in elementary



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Meeting Held	Comments
FMS	Smaller class sizes
FMS	Smaller class sizes
FMS	Smaller class sizes
FMS	Smaller class sizes; more teachers
FMS	Smaller schools/classes
FMS	Snacks, water, exercise – improves concentration?
FMS	Staff/Student ratios – reduce the number of students to provide more specific instruction; address different learning styles, abilities
FMS	Stress research skills at earlier age
FMS	Study skills and organization - make it a class in middle school for students and parents
FMS	Teacher credentials – incentives for teachers to continue education – Master’s; not mandates; is it enough? Number of post-grad teachers with advanced degrees is lessening
FMS	Teacher recommendations for “honors” and other advanced classes
FMS	Teachers must be technologically savvy
FMS	Teachers teaching to a test - stop
FMS	Team teaching – (2) per classroom to accommodate over a certain number of students
FMS	Technical support for technology
FMS	Technology – more, keep up
FMS	Technology at all levels K-12
FMS	Technology education

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Meeting Held	Comments
FMS	Time of school year and school days – more individualized educational periods
FMS	Too many time restraints
FMS	Too many resources to inclusion and IEP kids
FMS	Use resources of APG
FMS	World class education: foreign languages in elementary school levels; quality A.P. classes at higher levels; keep emphasis on basics of reading, grammar, math; don't lose the fundamentals at the hand of special programs
JHS	100% capacity - period
JHS	15/16 students to a class ideal
JHS	Absolutely established uniform minimum standard for facilities, technology, comfort, safety and health
JHS	Address needs of aging school facilities
JHS	Adequate facilities to meet the needs from growth
JHS	After school transportation to accommodate the after school programs
JHS	Begin with basics in elementary schools
JHS	Better college preparation so that students do not need to take remedial courses at the college level
JHS	Better/increased funding for school system/currently last in state
JHS	Buildings: 1) schools need to be open to the community – community center; 2) more after school programs for students (especially elementary and middle) or what is the job market, etc. and 3) need the technology (computer labs)
JHS	Clean, upkeep, renovation (computer, online seminar, groups, technology) i.e., new schools – repair air

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Meeting Held	Comments
	conditioning at Magnolia
JHS	Community involvement internships
JHS	Competitive salaries for teachers (ranked 21 <sup>st</sup> , possibly moving up to 12 <sup>th</sup> )
JHS	Dependent upon funding on state and local levels
JHS	Design benefit and salary package to attract the best of the best
JHS	Develop an inclusive curriculum that prepares students to function in a global environment
JHS	Diversity – preparing students to work with individuals from different backgrounds
JHS	Encourage teamwork communication
JHS	Gym more than once per week – 3X/week ideally
JHS	High school – resume, credit card knowledge, etc.
JHS	Implement a gifted and talented model
JHS	Improve percentage of students going on to post secondary education (2 yr. and 4 yr. institutions)
JHS	Improve vocational-technical opportunities for non-college bound students
JHS	Improved relations with PTA’s, especially regarding fundraising to supplement school budgets
JHS	Improvements: 1) air condition all schools; 2) don’t use North Harford model for expansion projects; and 3) equalize resources to eliminate stigma on Route 40 schools
JHS	Improving pass rates on HSA and MSA – especially HSA because beginning with class of 2009, students will not receive a high school diploma unless pass HSA – how will we deal with these students – current pass rates (60-65%), would potentially impact 30-35% of high school students
JHS	In lieu of passing tests, alternatives to demonstrating proficiency

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Meeting Held	Comments
JHS	Keep up with technology
JHS	Middle school – go back to 6 classes from 8 classes
JHS	More career development inform and training (i.e., what is the job market, etc.)
JHS	No magnet schools! It's important for all levels of educated students to be together
JHS	Offer more challenging AP courses; provide some motivation! Involve parents/family
JHS	Outreach programs for at-risk families
JHS	Parents need to be better educated on new learning strategies in order to provide support at home
JHS	Perhaps smaller class sizes
JHS	Programs: “Parental Academy” – parent support programs and Tutorial Programs – free – vs. Sylvan, etc.
JHS	Programs: 1) expand Ed-Line program to improve teacher/student communication; 2) improved communication system between parents, teachers, students (i.e., Greater Edgewood Education Association); and 3) explore year round schools
JHS	Services: 1) driver's ed back in schools – affordability big issue for low income families and 2) alternate energy sources for school transportation
JHS	Smaller classes = more teachers
JHS	Stop teaching to the test
JHS	Strict uniform policy
JHS	Teach life skills, construction trades, study habits, communication skills; better teacher review process
JHS	Timely maintenance and modernization of school facilities to improve the learning environment

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Meeting Held	Comments
JHS	Too many
JHS	What students need: more real life experiences in school setting; social and coping skills; life skills (finance/work ethics/etiquette); from middle to and through high – redesigned curriculum for students to prepare for college (and SAT Prep); and curriculum/program for vocational students not college bound and not able to meet criteria for “Harford Tech”
JHS	Also need support structures (transportation, flexible hours, funding) for above programs and services
JHS	Incentives for quality teachers in needed schools
JHS	Need better communication about what present programs are available for students, families, parents
JHS	Schools partnering with community (religious, business, schools and college, civic clubs and other unexplored assets)