



# In the Loop



*Harford County Public Schools*

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**The Board of Education of Harford County met in an open business meeting on Monday, November 14, 2011, in the Board Room of the HCPS/A.A. Roberty Building and took the following the actions or received the following presentations:**

- Approved the Consent Agenda, with the exception of Consent Agenda item number three (Decision on School/Organization Sponsored Project – Aberdeen High School Electronic Scoreboard):
  - [Affirmation of Monthly Contract Awards](#)
  - Minutes of Previous Meetings:
    - October 24, 2011
- After being removed from the Consent Agenda to allow for discussion of the school system’s advertising policy, rejected the request to approve the electronic scoreboard installation/naming rights of the Aberdeen High School athletic facility. [Decision on School/Organization Sponsored Project](#) – Aberdeen High School Electronic Scoreboard.
- Approved the [Superintendent’s recommendation](#) to redefine the status of the course entitled “Living in a Contemporary World (LICW)” from a required course for ninth graders to an elective course for all high school students. The Superintendent’s recommendation came after an extensive review process which included seeking input from various constituencies.
- Tabled the motion to vote on the [2012 Legislative Platform](#) until the next Board meeting on Monday, November 21. The Legislative Platform for 2012 is an integral component of an overall strategy on issues significant to public education in Harford County. The perspective in the Legislative Platform reflects this focus and is intended to assist our elected representatives during the 2012 Maryland General Assembly Session.
- Received a [presentation](#) regarding the work of the Office of Community Engagement, Equity and Cultural Proficiency.
- Received a [presentation](#) regarding an update to the Board policy (NO. 24-0006-000) entitled “Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment or Intimidation of Students.” The Board’s policy prohibiting bullying, harassment or intimidation was reviewed and revised to conform to the model policy developed by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). Our current policy prohibits harassment, intimidation, and bullying using electronic devices; insertion of the term “cyberbullying” provides additional clarity. This proposed policy change will be posted to the school system website under “Hot Topics” and will be held over for 30-days to allow for public input.
- Received the Superintendent’s Report which announced the following:
  - Project Lead the Way, which is a non-profit organization and the nation’s leading provider of innovative Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics curriculum for schools, recently named Bel Air High School one of just 16 schools in the nation as a “Model School” for their leadership in STEM education. Bel Air High School’s Biomedical Sciences Program provides a rigorous, hands-on STEM curriculum that engages students and inspires them to reach their potential. As with all HCPS magnet programs, Biomedical Sciences is focused on preparing our high school students for the competitive, 21st Century global marketplace. Dr. Tomback extended his congratulations to Bel Air High and the students and teachers involved in this program.
  - Five young women from the Bel Air High School Biomedical Sciences Program - Nicole Lentz, Lauren Muir, Rebecca Rochowiak, Kim Harrell and Amie Stephens - were accepted and will be participating in the Perry Outreach Program which will be held at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on November 19th, 2012, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The event will feature faculty and volunteers from the University of Pennsylvania’s Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Department of Bioengineering as well as Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. The Perry Initiative is

committed to inspiring young women to be leaders in the exciting fields of Orthopaedic Surgery and Engineering. The Perry Initiative partners with medical centers, universities, and high schools to host Perry Outreach Programs for high school women. These day-long programs are held at different locations nationwide throughout the year.

If you missed an issue of the *In the Loop*, please visit the archive on our website. All meetings for the current academic year are posted. [In the Loop Archive 2011-12](#). All meetings are live streaming via the school system website ([www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org)). Also, an [archive](#) of all meeting videos lives on the website as well.