

# EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN GIRL SCOUTS OF CENTRAL MARYLAND AND HARFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### **VISION STATEMENT**

A quality education is one of the most important factors in determining an individual's chance at success in life. Through building broad-based partnerships, the Girl Scouts of Central Maryland and Harford County Public Schools aim to invigorate the principle of equal educational opportunities for girls ages 5 to 17 in grades K – 12.

# MISSION STATEMENT

To promote student success and achievement for all, through an increase of community input and involvement. Girl Scouts of Central Maryland and Harford County Public Schools have a joint mission to help prepare today's youth to be responsible citizens and leaders within their community.

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Traci A. Barnett, M.B.A. Chief Executive Officer

Girl Scouts of Central Maryland

Robert M. Tomback, Ph.D.

Superintendent

Harford County Public Schools

# Girl Scouts of Central Maryland will:

- Offer the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, which is girl-driven, reflecting the ever-changing needs and interest of
  participating girls in Harford County as they develop strong leadership and decision-making skills.
  - The Girl Scout Leadership Experience engages girls in discovering self, connecting with others, and taking action to make the world a better place. All Girl Scout experiences are intentionally designed to tie to one or more of the 15 national leadership outcomes, or benefits, categorized under three keys to leadership. Girl Scout journeys have been correlated (by grade level) to the national Common Core Standards and the 21st Century Skills Standards, as well as to the Health and PE, Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies learning objectives.

The Three Keys to Leadership: The Girl Scout Leadership Experience provides three processes for adults partnering with girls to incorporate: Girl Led, Cooperative Learning, and Learning by Doing.

**Discover:** Girls understand themselves and their values and use their knowledge and skills to explore the world.

- Girls develop a strong sense of self.
- o Girls develop positive values.
- o Girls gain practical life skills.
- o Girls seek challenges in the world
- o Girls develop critical thinking.

**Connect:** Girls care about, inspire, and team with others locally and globally.

- Girls develop healthy relationships.
- Girls promote cooperation and team building.
- o Girls can resolve conflicts.
- Girls advance diversity in a multicultural world.
- Girls feel connected to their communities, locally and globally.

**Take Action:** Girls act to make the world a better place.

- o Girls can identify community needs.
- Girls are resourceful problem solvers.
- o Girls advocate for themselves and others, locally and globally.
- o Girls educate and inspire others to act.
- Girls feel empowered to make a difference in the world.
- Provide program options that are geared toward girls in K- 12 grades with a wide variety of leadership opportunities
  including Girl Scout journeys, books, awards and other resources.
- Offer financial assistance opportunities to girls/families with need.

- Offer Girl Scout program opportunities that are professionally developed for school-aged students where appropriate, including but not limited to:
  - o Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs and initiatives
  - o Healthy Living Programs
  - Project Anti-Violence Education (PAVE) Program
    - Bullying/Cyber bullying and Internet Safety
    - Gangs and Violence
    - Healthy and Positive Behaviors/Relationships
  - o Families for Prevention Program
- Offer facility usage and/or meeting options to Harford County Public Schools, including use at Camp Conowingo or any other Girl Scouts of Central Maryland property.
- Follow all applicable Board of Education of Harford County policies and procedures.

# **Harford County Public Schools will:**

- Assist in coordinating the partnership between Harford County Public Schools and Girl Scouts of Central Maryland.
- Communicate with Principals to ensure an understanding of the partnership between Girl Scouts of Central Maryland and Harford County Public Schools.
- When requested, provide an information table at "Back to School/Open House" nights (whereby materials can be distributed).
- Collaborate with Girl Scouts about the ideas and/or new programs to promote joint goals.
- Provide space for Girl Scout meetings in Harford County Public School facilities in accordance with HCPS Use of Public School Facilities procedure.
- Support Girl Scouts of Central Maryland in engagement strategies to recruit adult role models to support establishment of troops and/or program efforts.
- Extend opportunities to Girl Scouts of Central Maryland that will engage girls in grades 9 to 12 in Service Learning opportunities in Harford County.