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# ANNUAL REPORT 2013 2014

[www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org)

102 S. Hickory Avenue • Bel Air, Maryland 21014



# Board of Education of Harford County 2013-14

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Appointed Member-at-Large

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**Barbara P. Canavan**  
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Education!

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view action items and  
presentations from  
past meetings.



## Board of Education Public Meetings

Regular meetings of the Board of Education are typically held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month (except July and August) at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are announced on the HCPS website and in other media, including the Harford Cable Network (HCN). Meetings are open to the public, unless otherwise noted, and attendance is encouraged for those with an interest in business operations of the school system. If you are unable to attend the meetings, watch them live via streaming video on the school system's website, [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org).

Each regular, public business meeting of the Board includes a public comment period. Any citizen, group representative, parent or student may make a statement regarding an item on a past, present or future Board open-session agenda item, or a matter of general policy over which the Board has jurisdiction.

## Core Values

### VISION:

Harford County Public Schools will be a community of learners in which our public schools, families, public officials, businesses, community organizations, and other citizens collaborate to prepare all of our students to succeed academically and socially in a diverse, democratic, change-oriented, and global society.

### MISSION:

The mission of the Harford County Public Schools is to promote excellence in instructional leadership and teaching and to provide facilities and instructional materials that support teaching and learning for the 21st century. The Harford County Board of Education will support this mission by fostering a climate for deliberate change and monitoring progress through measurable indicators.



# Contact Us

## Employment Opportunities

Human Resources - Staff Management	410-588-5238
Substitute Teaching	410-809-6341

## General Information and Inquiries

Communications Office	410-588-5203
TTY	7-1-1
Website/Emergency Notifications	www.hcps.org
Fraud Hotline	410-809-6056

## HCPS Central Office Switchboard

Local Number	410-838-7300
Toll Free	1-866-588-4963

## Psychological Services, Student Services

Maryland Youth Crisis Hotline	1-800-422-0009
Office of Student Services	410-588-5334
Aberdeen Office	410-273-5514
Bel Air Office	410-638-4143
Edgewood Office	410-612-1521
Fallston Office	410-638-4124
Havre de Grace Office	410-939-6612
Magnolia Office	410-612-1531
North Harford Office	410-638-3662
Patterson Mill Office	410-638-4215
Southampton Office	410-638-4153
Hickory Elementary (Child Find)	410-638-4386
Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment	410-588-5298
Elementary School Performance	410-588-5207
Middle and High School Performance	410-638-4061
Grants and Business and Community Partnerships	410-809-6065
Special Education	410-588-5246
Transportation	410-638-4092
Use of School Facilities - www.hcps.org/UOFonline	410-588-5256
Volunteer Work - www.hcps.org/partnership	Your local school



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[www.youtube.com/HCPSchools](http://www.youtube.com/HCPSchools)



# Strategic Plan

Board of Education members, with consideration of community input, established four goals:

- GOAL 1:** To prepare every student for success in post-secondary education and a career.
- GOAL 2:** To encourage and monitor engagement between the school system and the community to support student achievement.
- GOAL 3:** To hire and support skilled staff who are committed to increasing student achievement.
- GOAL 4:** To provide safe, secure, and healthy learning environments that are conducive to effective teaching and learning.

## Two years at Harford saved you How Much?

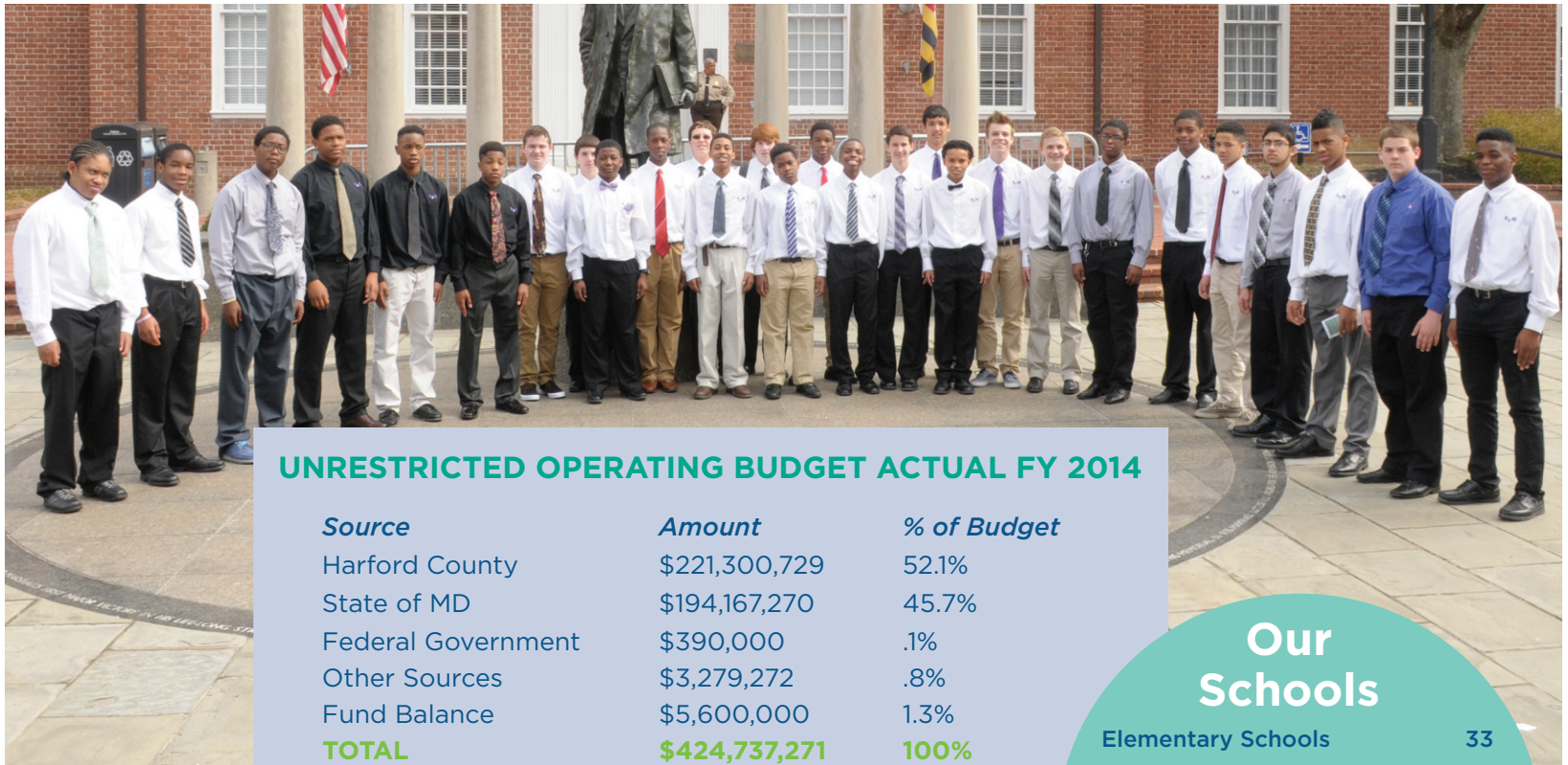
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### UNRESTRICTED OPERATING BUDGET ACTUAL FY 2014

Source	Amount	% of Budget
Harford County	\$221,300,729	52.1%
State of MD	\$194,167,270	45.7%
Federal Government	\$390,000	.1%
Other Sources	\$3,279,272	.8%
Fund Balance	\$5,600,000	1.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$424,737,271</b>	<b>100%</b>

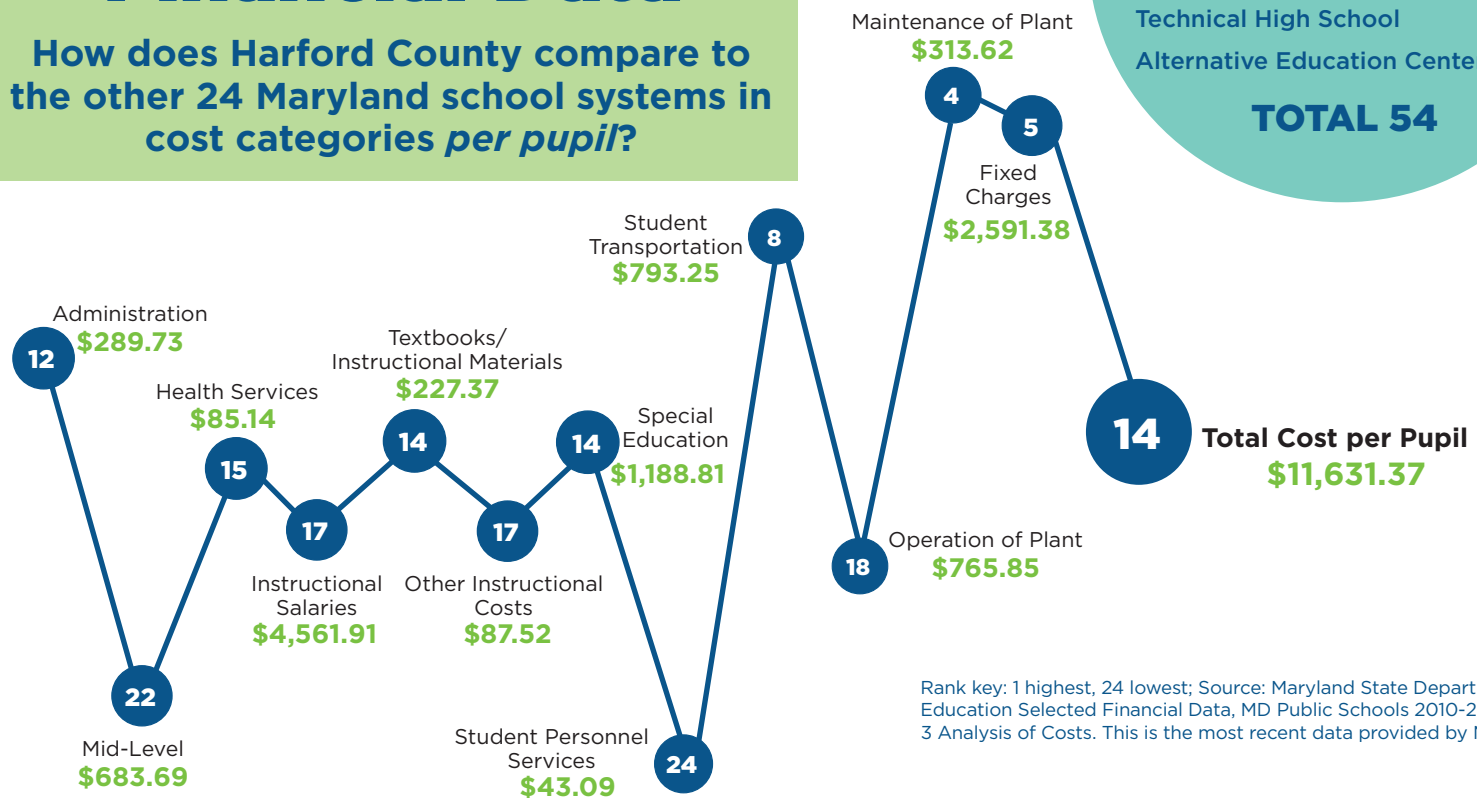
### Our Schools

Elementary Schools	33
Middle Schools	9
High Schools	9
Special	1
Technical High School	1
Alternative Education Center	1

**TOTAL 54**

## Financial Data

How does Harford County compare to the other 24 Maryland school systems in cost categories *per pupil*?



Rank key: 1 highest, 24 lowest; Source: Maryland State Department of Education Selected Financial Data, MD Public Schools 2010-2011, Part 3 Analysis of Costs. This is the most recent data provided by MSDE.



## HCPS COMPENSATION STUDY

At the direction of the Board of Education of Harford County, HCPS contracted The Fox Lawson Group (FLG) to conduct a review of the market competitiveness of its compensation structures and produce a compensation study, which was presented publicly at the October 13, 2014, Board of Education meeting. This study evaluated the 2013-14 compensation structures for positions within the following groups:

- Harford County Education Association (HCEA)
- Harford County Education Services Council (HCECSC)
- American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
- Association of Public School Administrators and Supervisors of Harford County (APSASHC)
- HCPS Executive Leadership Team
- Evaluated in a previous study were positions within Association of Harford County Administrative, Technical, and Supervisory Professionals (AHCATSP)

The study compared the pay structure minimum and maximum values to compensation provided by HCPS' competition for quality staff. The results indicated HCPS compensation was below the competitive market as of June 30, 2014, ranging from -6.8% to -19.9%, with an overall average of -10.2% below market. The information will be considered as future operating budgets are developed.



## 2013-14 STAFF PROFILE

**5,256**

total number of STAFF

**93%**

of staff provide direct services to students

**2,982**

number of teachers

**1,727**

number of support services staff

**66.5%**

of teachers have their Master's, Master's +30 or Ph.D.



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**Office of Drug Control Policy**  
Harford County Department of Community Services  
[www.harfordcountymd.gov/services/drugcontrol](http://www.harfordcountymd.gov/services/drugcontrol)  
410-638-3333

Barry Glassman  
Harford County Executive  
Amber Shrodes  
Director, Dept. of Community Services

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# Sustainable Schools

Sustainable schools are healthy, energy-efficient schools that minimize resource consumption and maximize student learning potential. Harford County Public Schools utilizes a Resource Conservation Manager to oversee sustainability initiatives and ensure school buildings serve as educational resources for teachers and students.

Several programs and projects have been implemented to support sustainability in our school system, many of which promote environmental stewardship while reducing operational costs for the school system:

**Alternative Energy Program:** Six large-scale solar PV sites have generated more than 4,847,802 kWh to help provide clean energy for those schools. These solar sites have avoided over \$95,366 in operational costs since activation on June 30, 2011. In addition, the teachers and students can log on to a website to see the actual energy production of their schools.

**Demand Response Program:** Seventeen sites participated in a voluntary electricity usage reduction during high usage periods to offset grid demand. Participation in this program resulted in cost savings of over \$160,492 this year. The program has produced a total of \$468,875 in cost savings for the school system since its inception in 2009.

**Single Stream Recycling Program:** Through restructuring of an existing program contract, HCPS has reduced operational costs by \$100,000 and yielded an expected annual savings of \$45,000.

**Organic Recycling Program:** Twelve school sites participate in a commercial composting program that diverts cafeteria food scraps to a composting facility. Recently, several truckloads of the nutrient-rich compost were used to amend the soil on sports fields.



HCPS students saw over **\$60 million** in scholarship awards for the 2013-2014 academic year!

This is an increase of almost \$10 million from last year.

## HCPS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

2012	\$40,997,772
2013	\$50,988,578
2014	\$60,598,553



Multiple gymnasiums were retrofitted with new energy efficient lighting with occupancy sensors.



Twenty new bike racks were installed at multiple school sites to encourage healthy habits in students.

**BGE Smart Energy Savers Program:** To date, HCPS has been on track to receive more than \$1.6 million from the BGE Smart Energy Savers Program to help cover the costs of extensive energy efficiency upgrades.

**Performance Contracting Program:** By working with Energy Service Companies, we have installed energy efficiency upgrades to our schools at no additional cost to the school system. These improvements are funded by utilizing the utility cost savings they create. Phase 3 has an average annual cost avoidance of \$331,321.

**Furniture Refurbish Program:** This program has resulted in cost avoidance of \$65,000 by reusing renovated student desks and chairs.

**Pharmaceutical Recovery Program:** Over 650 pounds of unclaimed student prescriptions and expired medication was collected for processing through a medical disposal company.

**Sustainable School Construction Program:** HCPS focuses on designing and constructing our new schools utilizing the latest sustainable materials, processes, and concepts to maximize student success.





## Transportation & Facilities

An essential component of the education process is the safe and efficient transportation of students to and from school. The successful completion of this task relies on the shared responsibility of drivers, students, parents, schools, and our Transportation Department. To ensure safe and reliable service, Harford County Public Schools Transportation takes great pride in our driver training program and fleet maintenance.

### 2013-14 School Year

Number of Students Transported	32,760
Total Number of Buses	448
Miles Traveled Annually	7,911,142
Total Hours Driven Annually	456,990
<b>TOTAL TRANS. COST</b>	<b>\$30,298,515</b>



**PARKING LOTS**  
90.07 acres

**DRIVEWAYS**  
25.65 miles

**TOTAL CLASSROOMS**  
2,419

**TOTAL BUILDINGS**  
160\*

**PROPERTY VALUE**  
(as of 10/1/13)  
\$1,088,460,007

**TOTAL CUSTODIANS**  
350

*\*This figure includes relocatables.*

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# Food & Nutrition



Menus for Harford County Public Schools are reviewed annually by the state and constantly by two registered dietitians on staff. Each day, the lunch menu features a romaine lettuce-based garden salad, a variety of fresh fruit, and fat-free, white and flavored milk. Over the course of a week, students are able to choose from red-orange, dark green, green leafy vegetables

and legumes. Much of the fresh fruit offered is locally grown, including apples, watermelon, cantaloupe, pears and peaches. Vegetables also come from local farms, providing a healthy alternative for students while supporting local agriculture. Spices used in the program are purchased locally, in Forest Hill.

Other items on the menu are also more nutritious than they may appear. Pizza is made with low-fat cheese and whole grain crust. The fish sandwich is baked, not fried, as there are no fryers in any school kitchen in Harford County, nor has there been for over ten years. Each day a variety of healthy options are available in forms familiar to most children. All grains served at lunch are whole grain-rich — at least 50% whole grains — including the breading on baked chicken nuggets.

The school food service program is staffed by people who are proud of what they have to offer and are genuinely concerned about the nutritional needs of the students. Growing children need a strong nutritional foundation to succeed in the classroom and in their other endeavors. The staff works hard to fulfill that need and maintain a program that is attractive to students.

The HCPS Food & Nutrition Department was recognized as a District of Excellence by the School Nutrition Association in 2009 (one of 30 in the nation) and we continue to maintain that level of service. Seven members of the central office are credentialed School Nutrition Specialists and most managers are certified Level I by the School Nutrition Association. Professional development is critical to the advancement of our program and achievement of expected standards.



**450**  
staff members

**1,346,713** breakfasts served

**3,338,641** lunches served

**\$15,654,058**  
sales & revenue

**\$2,905,588**  
a-la-carte sales

The Food & Nutrition Department is involved in several initiatives to support Harford County students and the community.

**FARM-TO-SCHOOL** involves the purchase of produce directly from local farmers and orchards so that money spent goes back to the local community. It provides fresh products for students and connects them to the heritage of the local agricultural community.

**NUTRITION OUTREACH** is primarily directed by our food and nutrition dietitian, and features direct interaction with more than 2,000 students per year via classroom presentations, school health fairs, and student council meetings. HCPS also supports an Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics approved Internship Program to provide means for aspiring dietitians to meet their Food Management and/or Community Health requirement.

**THE SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM** operated in 14 locations over the summer with 12 of them supported by community organizations. These programs operated while school was out and served more than 1,000 meals per day.

**HARFORD COUNTY SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION (HCSNA)** is an organization of local school food workers. Every year, a food drive is organized to support the Food Pantry. A family is also adopted for Christmas and gifts are collected to bring them the joy of the season. For more information, visit [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org).

## Food & Nutrition Awards

*These awards acknowledge innovation and commitment to students.*

**VIRGINIA VOGT**

Heart of the Program Award

**BARBARA GOSTOMSKI**

Mid-East Regional Award, Louise Sublette Award\*

**GARY CHILDRESS**

Mid-East Regional Award, Outstanding Director

\*This is the third consecutive year that HCPS has received this award.





# Student Facts

- 35.4%** of elementary students receive free/reduced meals
- 12.3%** of elementary students receive special education services
- 94.4%** of high school students attend school regularly
- 72.1** instructional staff per 1,000 students
- 11.1** professional staff per 1,000 students
- 20.1** instructional assistants per 1,000 students
- 6.6** hours average length of school day for students

Information above can be found on [www.mdreportcard.org](http://www.mdreportcard.org).



## ENROLLMENT\*

**37,842**

Asian	1,226
African American	6,836
Hispanic	2,263
HI/Pac. Islander	69
American Indian/ Alaska Native	121
White	25,228
Two or more races	2,099
<hr/>	
Male	18,402
Female	19,440

## GRADUATION RATE\*\*

**89.5%**

\*as of 9/30/13

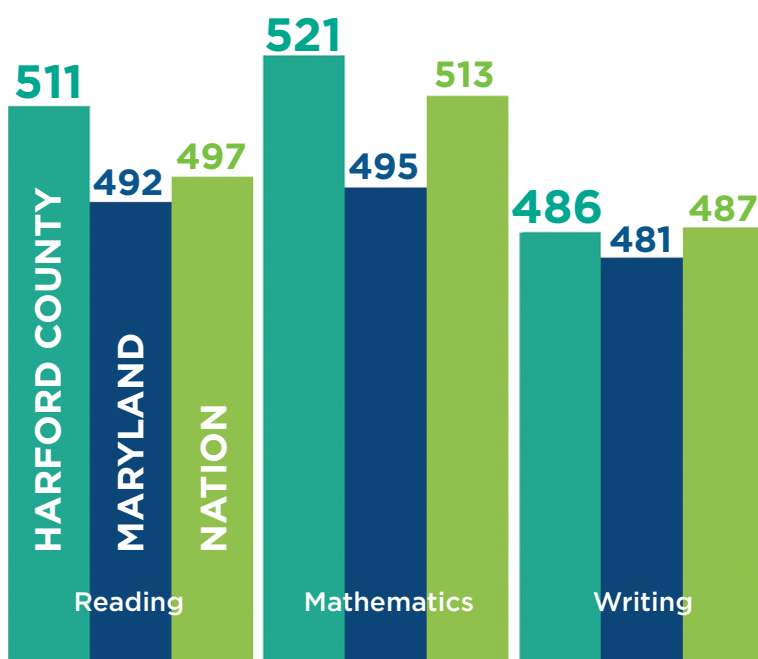
\*\*For class of 2013. Official data lags one school year.

## AP/SAT PARTICIPATION

- 5,956** total enrollment in AP courses, with many students taking multiple AP courses
- 63.3%** senior AP student test-taker pass rate
- 64.1%** of graduates participated in taking the SAT exam in 2014

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## Class of 2014 SAT Mean Scores



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# Teacher of the Year



**LARRY JEHNERT**  
3rd Grade Teacher  
Edgewood Elementary School  
2014-2015 Teacher of the Year

The highest personal honor of my life was receiving the nomination for the Teacher of the Year recognition from my colleague and buddy Erika Jones, backed by several other close friends. As they encouraged me to accept, each told me the most kind and meaningful words that I have ever heard spoken about me. Earning the title of Harford County Public Schools 2014-15 Teacher of the Year is second to none for me regarding personal accomplishments. It has given validation to the purpose of my professional life.

The evening of March 26, 2014, will forever be a vivid memory for me. The night was magical because my immediate family members were able to be there in support of me. I will never forget the look on my son Colby's face as he realized I was named Teacher of the Year. The words my daughter spoke just before the announcement saying, "Even if you don't win, you are the best daddy," gave a steady boost to my emotions. My mother's sobbing cry was a result of sheer joy. My wife's embrace as my name was called was just where I wanted to be in that special moment. It was as surreal of a moment that I will ever experience.



My takeaway from this year through all of my experiences is quite simply the general public honestly values educators. The night of March 26, 2014, I received more gifts than I ever could imagine. From jewelry, a laptop, a television, use of a car, mounds of gift cards, and numerous political citations, each gift has represented an offer of gratitude. Although the gifts are thoughtful and appreciated, it is the words spoken to me that I have cherished and held the closest. I have heard some of the kindest and most meaningful words that I would never have imagined been spoken about me. Political figures, superiors, colleagues, family members, friends, and folks that I do not even know have enabled me to feel unimaginable pride. I recall a special moment in the Mars parking lot. An elderly lady approached me after seeing me loading groceries into my trunk. She asked, "Are you the teacher of the year?" I responded, "Yes, ma'am." She told me a handshake would not do and proceeded to give me a hug, thanking me for the very important job that I do each day.



I am not the best teacher in this county. I am not the most talented teacher in this county. I am not the most important teacher in this county. There are thousands of other teachers that are EXCELLENT at what they do. I value them in the highest regard, as everyone else should as well. Here is the thing about teachers — teachers bring intensity, focus, desire, passion, and motivation to the classroom on a daily basis. It is a most noble profession because of the desired compensation. Educators are selfless.

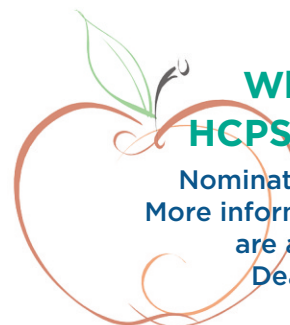
The true compensatory reward is student success. That is it, bottom line.

I have been given the excellent opportunity over the past year to engage in conversations with stakeholders of education from all levels, ranging from the state and county superintendents, state and county school board members, curriculum planners, community members, business leaders, parents, fellow local and state educators, and union members. Each and every individual, regardless of the affiliation, has made one very important idea crystal clear: it has always been, and always will be, about the students. Every single daily decision made is decided upon with student's best interests in mind.

I have been honored more this year than any other year in my life. The true honor being a part of a quality school system and a quality school. I would be remiss in not mentioning my school Edgewood Elementary School. The educator I have become is a true reflection of my environment. The teachers and staff of Edgewood Elementary School are some of the most talented and dedicated educators in this county. Each Edgewood Elementary School employee works so hard every single day for the common good of the students. Every decision, every notion, every plan all comes back to what benefits the students. I am proud that I have the opportunity to represent all of them and shed light on the greatness of the people in that building. I appreciate and value all of their work more than they will ever know.

### My favorite celebratory moment...

*Want to know what moment Larry shares?  
Check out the Teacher of the Year blog on [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org) to find out,  
and learn more about Larry's Teacher of the Year Journey!  
Look for the Teacher of the Year BLOG link under the  
Communications banner on the homepage.*



## Who will be the next HCPS Teacher of the Year?

**Nominate an outstanding teacher now!**  
More information and the online application  
are available at [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org).  
Deadline is January 11, 2015.



# Nurse of the Year



**DAWN HIGINBOTHOM**  
Fallston High School

Ms. Higinbothom has been an integral part of the school nursing team since 2002. In addition to providing a high quality of care, she has distinguished herself in numerous ways in her school, her community and the field of health care.

Ms. Higinbothom is skilled in assessment and has developed a systematic process for following up on students. She is also committed to staff wellness and has created a weight loss group and seeks out information on healthy habits to share with her staff through bulletin boards and newsletters. Her interest in mental health concerns demonstrates her ability to prioritize care and strive to care for students in a compassionate and non-judgmental manner. She is data-driven, a problem solver and a lifelong learner. Ms. Higinbothom consistently models a positive and professional approach. She is optimistic about school nursing and the progress she can continue to make in her field through data collection and evidence-based research.

For over 20 years, the Harford School Health Services Association (HSLSA) has been honoring one Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) Nurse as Nurse of the Year. The Association chooses a school nurse who has demonstrated outstanding service to the school, the school system, and her profession. The prospective Nurse of the Year is nominated by one of her peers and her identity is revealed in a surprise announcement during the annual banquet held this year at The Bayou Restaurant in Havre de Grace. This year, the HSLSA held its banquet May 14, 2014.



Harford County Public Schools utilizes Blackboard Connect 5 to communicate important messages with the school system and community. We encourage parents to use the system's Parent Portal by visiting [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org) and clicking on the link located in the top right-hand corner of the homepage. Through the Parent Portal you will be able to customize your message delivery preferences, update information, and review any messages you may have missed. Blackboard Connect 5 utilizes phone voice messaging, text messaging, email and social media as means of message delivery. Please call the Communications Office with any questions regarding this system at 410-588-5203.

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**DO RESEARCH!**  
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The portal to everything you want or need to know about history, language, science, social studies, literature, biographies, and more!

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**GET QUESTIONS ANSWERED!**  
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# Safety & Security

## CRISIS & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

HCPS maintains a proactive approach to preparing for a crisis situation in a school setting. A systemwide critical incident plan enables us to effectively and efficiently manage various emergencies. The plan is constantly reviewed and updated. All school administrators and staff members participate in tabletop drills and complete regular crisis training through the HCPS Safety and Security Office. In addition, countywide drills are conducted in conjunction with various county agencies, including the county government, the Emergency Operations Center and the Harford County Sheriff's Office.

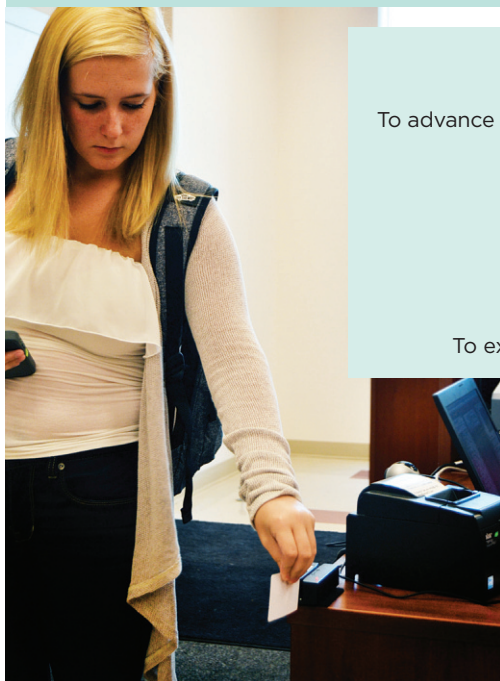
## SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

Every HCPS high school, and four middle schools, are assigned a School Resource Officer (SRO), an officer from the local police department or sheriff's office, who provides additional security and support to maintain a safe atmosphere for students to learn. The SRO also provides counseling, problem-solving, and education to the school community on law enforcement topics. Many officers are involved in the G.R.E.A.T. (Gang Related Education and Training) program for elementary and middle schools. SROs also assist neighboring elementary schools in the event of an emergency.

Visit [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org), click "Parents" from the top menu, then click "Safety and Security" for more information and safety tips!

## DRUG DOG SCAN PROGRAM

As part of the school system's commitment to keeping illicit drugs out of schools, routine and random drug dog scans are conducted at each HCPS middle and high school throughout the school year. School administration may request an additional scan if there is a specific concern. The scans are accomplished in partnership with the Harford County Sheriff's Office or local police department.



## HCPS SAFETY & SECURITY MISSION

To advance security with HCPS by integrating safety into the fabric of the school system through evaluation, education and training. The following objectives have been established to accomplish this mission:

- To establish clear expectations for positive school climates and maximize student learning
- To provide safe and secure schools during daytime and evening hours of building use
- To provide safe and secure schools during those hours when the buildings are not occupied
- To maximize school building safety and security through student, staff and parent training
- To expand interagency cooperation and partnerships among youth serving professionals and agencies



**2,251** surveillance cameras in 42 schools

**51** schools with remote door access

**9** schools with vestibules directing all visitors to main office

**34** buses with surveillance cameras

**306** hand-held radios distributed to schools during the 2013-14 school year

**1** computer visitor management system in place at ALL 54 schools

**54** Critical Incident Plans specifically designed for each individual school, reviewed and revised annually



# 2013-14 In the News



## Barbara P. Canavan Named Superintendent of Harford County Public Schools

The Board of Education of Harford County (Board) appointed Barbara P. Canavan to a four-year term as Superintendent of Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) on February 24, 2014, to begin on July 1, 2014. Mrs. Canavan had been serving as Interim Superintendent of Schools since July 1, 2013, when former Superintendent Robert Tomback's contract expired.

"Mrs. Canavan has proven her commitment to the students, staff and community of Harford County Public Schools," said Board of Education President Nancy Reynolds. "She has dedicated more than 40 years of exemplary service to our school system and the Board and I are completely confident in her ability to move our school system forward. We look forward to continuing to work with her as our Superintendent of Schools."

"I am deeply honored to be presented with the privilege of serving the students and the Harford County Public School community," said Mrs. Canavan. "I will work diligently to foster a culture of mutual trust and respect among all constituents and community leaders. I vow never to lose sight of the fact that each and every decision, no matter how small, is integral to creating a legacy of opportunity for our children."

Mrs. Canavan's career began in 1970 as an elementary school teacher at the Sacred Heart School in Brooklyn, New York. In 1973, she made the move to the Harford County Public School System, serving as a teacher at Aberdeen Middle School before accepting a position as assistant principal at Edgewood Middle School in 1978. She was promoted to assistant principal at Magnolia Middle School in 1983. After serving six years at Magnolia Middle, Mrs. Canavan accepted an assistant principal position at Southampton Middle School where she became principal in 1991 and remained there for the next 19 years.

Upon being named the executive director of middle school performance in 2010, Mrs. Canavan assumed the responsibility of the direction of curriculum development and instructional programming. Mrs. Canavan has served on and chaired many committees and task forces in Harford County that have been instrumental in determining policy and procedure as well as the vision and mission of HCPS. She has presented key education topics at the local, state and national levels.

Mrs. Canavan is a graduate of Mount Saint Mary's College with a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature and a minor in secondary education and French. She received her Master of Arts in Middle School Education from Columbia University Teachers College and a Master of Arts Equivalency in Administration and Supervision from Loyola College in Baltimore, Maryland.

## Harford Technical High School Students Send-Off New Habitat for Humanity House

The Harford Technical High School Habitat for Humanity house was moved from the Tech classrooms to its final site in Aberdeen in May. The students could not contain their excitement as the trailers pulled out of the school and onto the main road. HCPS is proud of the students involved in this community project and was happy to see the house relocated successfully onto its new foundation.



The **TOWN OF BEL AIR** is proud to provide quality educational opportunities in a safe environment.



To promote a safe environment through presence and education, the Bel Air Police Department, in partnership with the Board of Education, assigns a full-time police officer to the School Resource Officer Program.



For more information about Town of Bel Air events and opportunities, please visit  
[www.BelAirMD.org](http://www.BelAirMD.org)

Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners

### Aberdeen High School Awarded National Math and Science Initiative “School of the Year”

The National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) announced that Aberdeen High School (ABHS) was selected as the “School of the Year” for its outstanding gains in student achievement. NMSI and Boeing, the local program sponsor, presented the award to Aberdeen students and faculty at a special celebration featuring the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and the leadership of Aberdeen Proving Ground, a local U.S. Army installation.

Aberdeen High School received “School of the Year” recognition after students and teachers achieved unprecedented gains in scores on Advanced Placement (AP) math, science and English exams in 2012-2013. That school year marked the first that Aberdeen participated in NMSI’s Comprehensive AP program, which provides teacher training and support, more time on task for students, incentives for students and teachers and other tools for improving teacher effectiveness and student success in rigorous AP and pre-AP coursework. The average first year increase in the number of passing AP math, science and English scores at ABHS was 137 percent—19 times the national average. For minority students at ABHS, the average increase in the number of passing math, science and English scores was 233 percent—16 times the national average. To achieve a passing score, students must earn a three or higher on a five-point scale, making them eligible for college credit at most colleges and universities. With the generous support of Boeing, the NMSI Comprehensive AP program was implemented at ABHS.

Nearby Havre De Grace High School was also recognized by NMSI for its exceptional AP results. The program sponsor at that school was the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA). The average first year increase in the number of passing AP math, science and English scores was 70 percent, nearly 10 times the national average. Together, Havre De Grace and Aberdeen High schools accounted for 11 percent of the entire state’s math, science and English increase in AP passing scores and also accounted for 31 percent of the increase in AP passing scores in math and science for females.



### Edgewood High School’s Academy of Finance Program Earns National Recognition

Edgewood High School (EDHS) was one of 100 National Academy Foundations (NAF) to be recognized as Model Academies for the 2013-14 school year. EDHS received this honor at the National Academy Foundation annual conference in July, in Washington, DC. To receive this honor, EDHS was required to score a 25 or better out of 30 on the NAF academy assessment tool, and to develop model practices to ensure college and career readiness for students.

### Magnolia Elementary School Students Garden with The First Lady

Five fifth grade students had the opportunity of a lifetime when they visited the White House on October 30, 2013. Students Antonio Negron, Jessica Dewhirst, Kylah Cain-Ward, Kimonna Henderson and Donyell Lyons joined First Lady Michelle Obama for the annual fall harvest of the White House Kitchen Garden. They were also joined by Elmo and Rosita from Sesame Street, as well as 20 other students from schools in Virginia, Washington D.C., and West Virginia.

Magnolia Elementary School is the recipient of a Bronze Award from the Healthier U.S. Schools Challenge. The school cafeteria works to ensure that all foods sold in the cafeteria meet the requirements for the Healthier Schools U.S. Challenge. Magnolia also promotes healthy snack options by participating in the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program through the USDA. This program introduces the school children to a variety of produce that they otherwise might not have the opportunity to sample. Additionally, the school participates in the Maryland Meals for Achievement Universal Breakfast Program in which all students and teachers are provided a free healthy breakfast each morning. Lastly, Magnolia Elementary maintains a harvestable vegetable garden throughout the year. Students in grades 2-5 receive monthly nutrition lessons through the University of Maryland Extension Program. Students work to take care of the garden, and the vegetables that they harvest are incorporated into the meals in the school cafeteria. As a result of these initiatives, Magnolia has seen an increase in student readiness for school and the rigorous work in which they engage their students.







### HCPS Launches Partnership Website

Harford County Public Schools recently launched a Partnership Network website in efforts to maximize opportunities for relationships between HCPS and local businesses and community agencies. The site is designed to streamline the process of identifying mutually beneficial matches, establishing official partnerships and addressing any questions about organizational matters.

By naming official school system partners, many benefits to HCPS students and schools are realized, including:

- A greater understanding and appreciation of the community and business experience;
- A demonstrated connection between the relevancy of academics and responsibilities of work outside the classroom; and
- An increase in resources and services to educators and staff to enhance educational programs.

These relationships are also valuable to outside partners, who become part of creating a stronger workforce for the future by offering a better understanding of the global economy, providing meaningful experiences for students and developing positive community relations. Business, civic and non-profit organizations are invited to partner with HCPS in three ways: human resources, by way of donating time to a school or program; in-kind donations, by way of goods or services; or financial resources, by way of a donation to a school or the district.

Visit the HCPS Partnership Network website at [www.hcps.org/partnership](http://www.hcps.org/partnership) to learn more about partnering with the school system, to become a new partner or to log in as an existing partner.

## 2013-2014 Inductees



Mary Ellen Kennedy  
Thomas Macklin Trafton  
Lynne Evans Owen  
George D. Clark  
David J. Simmons

Harford County Public Schools, in cooperation with the Harford County Retired School Personnel Association (HCRSPA), honors those who have given their professional lives building a school system that consistently ranks in the top 25 percent in student achievement among Maryland school districts. Retired educators are chosen by HCRSPA in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the system to be enshrined in the "Hall of Fame." Visit our website at [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org) to read more about our "Hall of Fame" members!



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tomorrow's communities

Imagine the feeling knowing you made a child's future not a dream but a reality. It takes parents, students, teachers and the community working toward a common goal. Together, let's invest in our schools. Let's inspire our students. **Let's build a future.**



## GREATER EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Investing in the Youth of Harford County Public Schools

Greater Excellence in Education Foundation is a 501(C)(3) charitable organization that supports academic achievement for students of Harford County Public Schools.

Learn more at [www.geefinc.com](http://www.geefinc.com) United Way #65752

# HAR-CO CREDIT UNION

ESTABLISHED 1955

Scholarships to Harford County High School Seniors

~ 29 years

Harford Community College Scholarships

~ 28 years

Harford County Public Schools Teacher of the Year Sponsor

~ 20 years

Bel Air 4th of July Parade Sponsor

~ 19 years

Harford Business Roundtable for Education Member

~ 18 years

Harford County Farm Fair Kids Day Sponsor

~ 17 years

Southampton Middle School Award Winning Business Partnership

~ 17 years

National Academy of Finance Sponsor

~ 16 years

Looney Tunes Savings Club

~ 14 years

Harford County Public Library Summer Reading Program Sponsor

~ 12 years

The John Carroll School Student Debit Card

~ 9 years

**Bel Air Abingdon Aberdeen**  
 410-838-9099 • 410-879-3762 • [harcocu.org](http://harcocu.org)



2014 Scholarship Winners



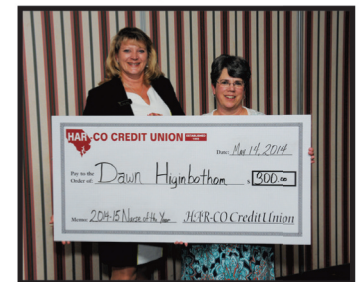
Southampton Middle School, Team 7D, Marathon of Achievement Winners



Harford County Public Schools Teacher of the Year Premier Sponsors, TOY Finalist



Edgewood High School, Academy of Finance-NAF National Model Status



2014-15 Nurse of the Year from Fallston High School Dawn Higinbotham



HCPL Summer Reading Program Sponsor 2014

Diane Moore - Public Relations Specialist representing HAR-CO Credit Union.