



## Harford County Public Schools

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Harford County Public Schools appoints two leaders to fill top positions**

*William Lawrence named Assoc. Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment;  
Barbara Canavan named Executive Director of Middle School Performance*

A 41-year veteran of education has been named to be the new associate superintendent for curriculum, instruction and assessment for Harford County Public Schools (HCPS). William A. Lawrence was appointed by the Board of Education of Harford County at its public business meeting on June 14th.

Mr. Lawrence, a former headmaster in Boston public schools, began his career teaching high school social studies in Indianapolis, Ind. He has also served as assistant superintendent for community, planning and alternative programs, as well as high school director, secondary director and executive director for Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) before being named an area superintendent for BCPS. In February of this year, he was selected as a BCPS human resources officer, an assignment he left to take over the leadership position with HCPS, which is responsible for reviewing and administering all curriculum and instructional programs in the school system.

“Mr. Lawrence brings to this position a wealth of experience in system-level administration,” said Harford Superintendent Robert M. Tomback, who recommended his hiring to the Board. “His experience with curriculum development, professional development, and assessment and program implementation will ground him in his new position here in Harford County, and we are thrilled to have him join our staff.”

Mr. Lawrence earned his bachelor’s degree from Central State University in 1969 in History & Political Science/Sociology before receiving his master’s in Education Administration from The Ohio State University in 1973. He has also completed post master’s work in Education Administration at the University of Massachusetts and Boston State College.

In addition, Barbara P. Canavan, a 40-year veteran of education with 36 of those years dedicated to Harford County Public Schools, has been named to be the Executive Director of Middle School Performance for HCPS. Mrs. Canavan was also appointed by the Board of Education on June 14th.

Mrs. Canavan served as assistant principal of Edgewood Middle, Magnolia Middle and Southampton Middle before being promoted to principal of Southampton Middle, where she has served for the past 19 years. Prior to her administrative experience, Mrs. Canavan taught seventh grade language arts at Aberdeen Middle School and summer school at Havre de Grace and Bel Air High schools.

“Mrs. Canavan has rich experience at the middle school level, having served in administrative positions at this level for 33 years,” said Dr. Tomback. “She will bring the knowledge and experience necessary to be successful in this position.”

Mrs. Canavan earned her bachelor’s degree from Mount Saint Mary College in 1970 in English/French. In 1973, she received her master’s in Middle School Education from Columbia University. She also earned her master’s plus 30 in 1991 in Administration and Supervision from Loyola College.

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