“LEARNING is a TREASURE...
...that will follow its owner EVERYWHERE.”
~Chinese Proverb
Dear Families and Community Stakeholders,

On behalf of the Wicomico County Board of Education, it is my honor to Present to you the Annual Report for Wicomico County Public Schools, a reflection on the 2016-2017 school year. This report not only provides demographic and other district profile data, it demonstrates our commitment to transparency, fiscal responsibility, and our progress towards our Vision Points.

The Vision Points for Wicomico County Public Schools were created during the 2016-2017 school year, my first year as Superintendent, through community collaboration. This Annual Report reflects on our progress toward those Vision Points. It specifically highlights our accomplishments in meeting the major initiatives outlined in Achieve! 1.0, the first set of strategic priorities and major initiatives in building trust, safeguarding positive school climate, creating innovative and engaging instructional programs, and ensuring community support and commitment.

As you read through this report, please note how the collective efforts of our teachers, staff, families, and community have set our school system on a steady course to accomplishing our Vision Points. There is so much to be proud of with students’ accomplishments, award-winning teachers, a staff that truly cares about each child, and the success of our school system. Yes, we have much of which to be proud, yet we continue to aspire for more. We recognize that we must continue to evaluate ourselves in all areas, and to work each day to make improvements in helping all students be their very best. My hope is that as you read this Annual Report, and reflect upon the past year, you will find yourself asking, “What’s next? What can we expect in Achieve! 2.0?”

Thank you for your continued support. Our students deserve the best, and collectively we have the power to turn our Vision Points into reality, preparing our students for the colleges and/or careers that await them.

Sincerely,

Donna C. Hanlin, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Wicomico County Public Schools

Vision Points

We Aspire To Be:

► A public school system rooted in a culture of respect, transparency, and collegiality; where trust, the quality of relationships, and empowerment are clearly understood to be the foundation for success.

► A public school system dedicated to meeting the needs of each student from the most gifted to the most challenged; focusing on early literacy, student engagement in authentic problem solving, innovative instruction that encourages creativity, and preparing students with 21st century skills necessary to successfully enter college or the world of work.

► A public school system committed to safe schools; created through a careful balance of clearly communicated and enforced expectations and an atmosphere where students know that teachers and administrators believe in them.

► A public school system our community believes in - where teachers compete for jobs, employers compete for well-prepared graduates, families choose to live, and businesses aspire to relocate because of its reputation built upon the pursuit of excellence in providing an outstanding education for our community’s students.
Welcome to Wicomico County Public Schools

Total Elementary Schools 16
Prekindergarten Enrollment 599 (3 & 4-year olds)
Total Elementary/Middle Schools 1
Total Enrollment 14,889
Total Middle Schools 3
As of 9/30/2016
Total Middle/High Schools 1
Total High Schools 3
Total Schools 24

Other Centers and Programs
Birth to Five
Wicomico Early Learning Center
Career & Technology Education Center
Choices Academy
Evening High School

District Demographic Profile

- Caucasian 35.95%
- Hispanic/Latino 9.33%
- Two Races 6.99%
- African American 44.16%
- Asian 2.97%
- American Indian 0.55%
- Two Races 0.05%
- Hawaiian
Food Service Tidbits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Daily Average</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breakfasts Served</td>
<td>5,102</td>
<td>918,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunches Served</td>
<td>7,376</td>
<td>1,327,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After-School Supper</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>40,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals Served</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Meals Served</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,286,608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Targeted Student Populations

- English Language Learners
- Students with Special Education Services
- Students Receiving Free and Reduced Meals
- Remaining Students

Transportation Stats

- 156 Number of School Buses
- 12,752 Students Transported Daily
- 10,170 Number of Miles Driven Daily
- 278 Number of Routes
WCPS Staff

- Number of Full-time Staff Members: 2,255
- Staff with Bachelor’s Degree: 70.8%
- Staff with Master’s Degree: 39.7%
- Staff with Doctoral Degree: 1.0%
- National Board-Certified Teachers: 30
- Average Teacher Salary: $59,870
NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

WCPS was named a Best Community for Music Education by the NAMM Foundation for the 6th consecutive year.

Mr. Doug Miles, Band Director at JMB, was awarded the 2017 Outstanding Career Music Teacher Award of Excellence by the MMEA.

Dr. Chad Pavlekovich, Jenny Bernardi, and Jeremiah Mowen were recognized for their leadership in STEM education at STEMCON 2017.

WCPS became a leader on the Eastern Shore in technology with the completion of the Wireless Everywhere Project.

WCPS has been recognized for excellence in financial reporting by the GFOA and ASBO.

WCPS increased its transparency in the community with the live streaming of Board of Education meetings.

Coach Butch Waller set the Career Wins record in Maryland Boys Basketball with 773 career wins over 51 seasons. His team continues to add to that record.

Joe Showacre, CTE Collision Repair teacher, received the Maryland CTE Award of Excellence: Outstanding Change Agent.

Mardela Science Teacher Catie Krygeris received the 2017 NSTA Maitland P. Simmons Award Winner for New Teachers.

Wanda Dawson, Media Associate at Westside Primary, was named the Educator Luminary by the Friends of the Library AND celebrated 50 years of service with WCPS!
Christen Tacka will tell you that she “loves her job,” and she really means it!

“I know it sounds corny, but I love getting up every day and going into my school and positively interacting with students,” Ms Tacka said. “I love all of the students who are at our school and I do everything I can to help students believe in themselves.”

In June 2017, Tacka just finished her 22nd year in public education, and 8th in Wicomico County schools, where she is a reading intervention teacher at Prince Street Elementary School.

“Each student Christen comes in contact with feels important,” says Prince Street Principal Jason Miller. “She lets them know we care about them and helps them believe in themselves.”

The 2016-17 school year was extra special for Ms. Tacka. She says one student in particular gained the confidence to read in front of the class, and she said excitedly, “I can read, Ms. Tacka, I can read!”
According to the Maryland Kindergarten Readiness Assessment, 33% of the county’s children entered Kindergarten classrooms demonstrating the knowledge, skills, and behaviors needed to fully participate in the Kindergarten curriculum – within 10 points of the statewide average.
Assessments

In the Spring of 2017, the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) was administered to students in Maryland. Students in grades 3 through 8 in Reading and Mathematics, and students enrolled in the high school courses Algebra I and II, as well as English 10 and 11 participated in these assessments.

Wicomico County continues to make gains in meeting and exceeding expectations in Math, Algebra, and English (ELA).
## Advanced Placement (AP)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>966</td>
<td>Number of Advanced Placement (AP) Exams Taken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>584</td>
<td>Number of Students Taking Exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51%</td>
<td>Exams Scored at 3 or Higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>National AP Scholars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>AP Scholars with Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>AP Scholars with Honors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Number of AP Courses</td>
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## Mean SAT Score

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>961</td>
<td>Wicomico County Public Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>951</td>
<td>Maryland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>954</td>
<td>National</td>
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</table>

## Mean ACT Score

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>Wicomico County Public Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.4</td>
<td>Maryland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>National</td>
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</table>
Graduation Rate

Documented Decisions

Scholarship Spotlight

Graduating Class of 2017 earned $16,498,854 in scholarship money!
Bennett Middle School student **Marvin Li** earned a prestigious science award and recognition from NASA, the American Quality Society, the U.S. Army, the National Science Academy, the U.S. Air Force, and won 1st place at the Baltimore Science Fair.

Parkside High CTE student **Joshua McKelvey** took home the Gold in Electronics Technology at the National Skills USA competition.

James M. Bennett High School’s **Nicholas Selser** earned the outstanding distinction of National Merit Scholar Finalist.

Parkside CTE students Frank Renshaw and Will Bratten won over $50,000 in scholarships and prizes at the National Automotive Technology Competition.

Six Destination Imagination Teams advanced to the Global Finals.

James M. Bennett, Parkside, Willards, and Fruitland Primary were named Maryland Green Schools.

Seven high-achieving WCPS students were recognized as Carson Scholars.

Middle school students David Choi and Simon Lewis scored in the top 5% and Marvin Li scored in the top 1% in the nation on the AMC 8 Math Competition.

The Parkside CTE Horticulture Program was recognized by the National Wildlife Federation as a Certified Schoolyard Habitat.

North Salisbury Elementary student, Bella Thompsen, won 1st place in the Eastern Shore Young Authors Contest, and placed 2nd in the state contest.
Money Matters

FY17 Operating Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditures by Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructional Programs</td>
<td>61.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>12.07%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation of Plant</td>
<td>8.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>4.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>3.38%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintenance of Plant</td>
<td>2.81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Health &amp; Pupil Services</td>
<td>2.75%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food Services</td>
<td>0.36%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3.51%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources of 2016-2017 Funding

- Federal Sources: 6.7%
- Wicomico County: 21.3%
- State Sources: 71.4%
- Other Local Sources: 0.5%
- Other Sources: 0.1%
The Wicomico County Board of Education and Wicomico County Public Schools are committed to providing the best education possible for all students and to establishing the means by which each and every student can learn. The Wicomico County Board of Education believes that education is the backbone for a successful and well-rounded life, and strives to ensure that students grow intellectually, personally, and socially.

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Wicomico County Public School System is to provide all students an educational foundation and a set of skills which will enable them to become responsible and productive citizens in our society.

**Vision Statement**

Our vision is to educate each student to his or her full potential.