

**BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**DATE:** August 23, 2011

**TO:** **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**FROM:** Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** **REPORT ON RACE CODES AND ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP) GRADUATION COHORT**

**ORIGINATOR:** Dr. Renee A. Foose, Deputy Superintendent

**RESOURCE PERSON(S):** Michele Prumo, Chief of Staff

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Education is updated on the full implementation in the way school systems collect and report data on ethnicity and race for students and the change in the formula that calculates the graduation rate and its impact on Baltimore County Public Schools.

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Attachment I – Executive Summaries  
Attachment II – Federal and State Guidelines for Race Reporting  
Attachment III – PowerPoint

# **REPORT ON RACE CODES**

## **Executive Summary**

**August 23, 2011**

In 2007, the U.S. Department of Education issued guidelines requiring state education departments to implement the new racial and ethnic categories for public school students and staff. In 2009 Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) notified all parents of the change and updated all student information.

Beginning with school year 2010-2011, BCPS began to report data using the new race codes to comply with federal and corresponding state requirements. Based on the change in race codes, our business rules and reporting conventions will need to be adjusted. In reporting trend data, two sets of race codes will need to be used.

# **Report on Graduation Rates**

## **Executive Summary**

**August 23, 2011**

Historically, graduation rates were calculated using the Leaver formula. This formula was an inaccurate means of calculating the graduation rate. The purpose of the new requirement for calculating the graduation rate, Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates, is to address the need for a graduation rate that is accurate, allows for comparisons across states, and gives credit for students who take longer than four years to graduate.

The U.S. Department of Education explained that “Establishing a uniform and accurate measure of the high school graduation rate that is comparable across states is a critical step toward improving high school accountability. An adjusted cohort graduation rate will improve our understanding of the characteristics of the population of students who do not earn regular high school diplomas or who take longer to graduate.”

An adjusted cohort rate is an accurate way of keeping track of all students in the school who entered ninth grade the same year and following through high school. It ensures that each student is assigned to a single cohort which is a more accurate measure and prevents students from being counted more than once.



# Baltimore County Public Schools

## Federal and State Guidelines for Race Reporting

This is an update explaining changes mandated by the federal government in the way that public school systems collect and report data on ethnicity and race for students and staff.

### *Background*

In 2007, following a comprehensive review, the U.S. Department of Education issued guidelines requiring state education departments to implement the new racial and ethnic categories for public school students and staff.

Beginning with the 2010–2011 school year, Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) will begin reporting data using the new race codes to comply with the federal and corresponding state requirements. When the race code cannot be spelled out in its entirety due to space restrictions, abbreviations will be used. The state of Maryland has formulated two letter abbreviations for each race code—BCPS will use the same abbreviations to ensure consistency in reporting data for 2010–2011 and subsequent years. The abbreviations are indicated in the table below:

New Race Codes	Abbreviation
American Indian or Alaskan Native	AM
Asian	AS
Black or African American	BL
Hispanic/Latino	HI
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	PI
White	WH
Two or More Races	MU*

\*MSDE uses the abbreviation “MU” to denote multiple races

### ***Can a student be reported in more than one category?***

No, each student is reported only once regardless of how many races or ethnicities he/she chooses. Students selecting Hispanic for ethnicity will be reported as Hispanic regardless of any race selections chosen. Non-Hispanic student who select two or more racial categories will only be included in the *Two or More (Multiple) Race* category.

### ***What is the impact on Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)?***

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) recalculated 2010 AYP using the new race codes to set a baseline for 2011 safe harbor.

These calculations did not result in a change of 2010 AYP determinations or school improvement status. There are very few actual changes to the data when the new race codes were used.

### ***Can a student or staff member’s ethnic/racial designation be changed?***

Yes, a parent may change a child’s ethnic/racial designation by contacting the child’s school. BCPS staff may change their ethnic/racial designation by contacting the Department of Human Resources at 410-887-4191.

### ***Where can I find more information?***

Office of Communications at 410-887-5908.

# REPORT ON RACE CODES

Board of Education Meeting  
August 23, 2011





# Update on the Federal and State Guidelines for Race Reporting

# New Race Codes: Abbreviations

AM	American Indian or Alaskan Native
AS	Asian
BL	Black or African American
HI	Hispanic/Latino
PI	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
WH	White
MU	Two or More Races



# Race Codes

## Race Code 2010

American Indian	523
Asian	6,555
Af. Am.	42,734
White	51,133
Hispanic	5,420

**Total** 106,365

## Race Code 2011

Am. Indian/Alaskan Native	414
Asian	6,190
Black or Af. Am.	40,914
White	50,074
Hispanic/Latino	5,996
Native Hawaiian or Other Pac. Islander	36
Multiracial	2,714

**Total** 106,365

# Where Can I Find Additional Information?

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



# Information on the Adjusted Cohort Graduation



Baltimore County Board of Education Meeting 8/23/11



**50%** of all BCPS high schools named among the top seven percent of high schools in the nation by *The Washington Post* – June 2011

**Fourth** highest graduation rate among the nation's largest school districts – *Education Week*, June 2011

**Third** highest graduation rate for African American males among the nation's largest school districts – Schott Foundation, August 2010



Where is BCPS Now?

# Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates



2010  
Graduates

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2010 Graduates  
+  
2010 Grade 12 Dropouts  
+  
2009 Grade 11 Dropouts  
+  
2008 Grade 10 Dropouts  
+  
2007 Grade 9 Dropouts

=

2010  
Graduation  
Rate

Leaver Formula for  
Calculating Graduation Rates



# Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates





# Three Ways to Meet 2011 AYP Graduation Rate





# Three Ways to Meet 2011 AYP Graduation Rate

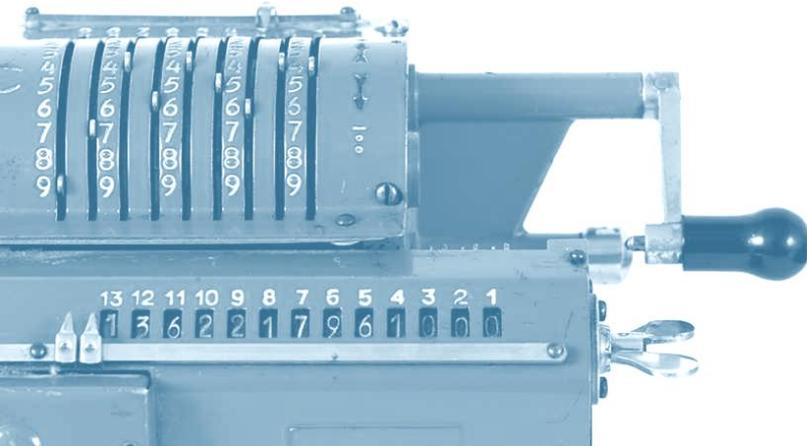
Did the school meet the  
**Four Year Cohort Grad Rate**  
**AMO: 81.5%.**

Did the school meet the  
**Five Year Cohort Grad Rate**  
**AMO: 84.4%.**

Did the school meet target for  
**One Year Improvement in Four Year Cohort?**

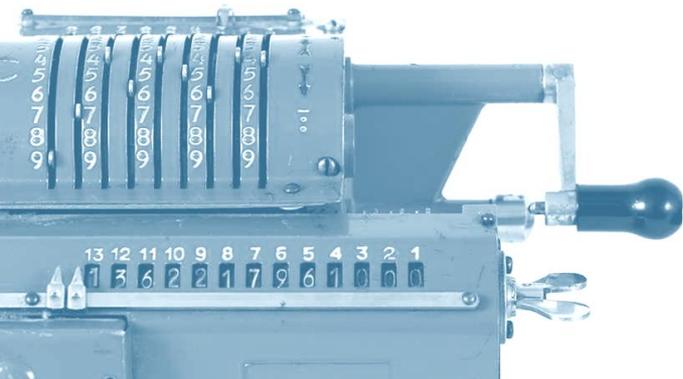
# Difference between Leaver Rate and Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Rate

	Leaver Rate	Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Rate
Maryland	86.53%	80.66%
Baltimore County	86.08%	80.03%



# 2010 Disaggregated System-Level Graduation Rates

Student Groups	Leaver Rate	Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Rate
All Students	86.08%	80.03%
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	75.00%	59.52%
African American	84.43%	75.28%
Asian/Pacific Islander	93.51%	91.02%
White	86.97%	83.47%
Hispanic	81.66%	69.83%
FARMS	88.66%	72.29%
Special Education	72.01%	50.71%
LEP	81.72%	53.13%



# System-Level Four-Year Cohort Rate

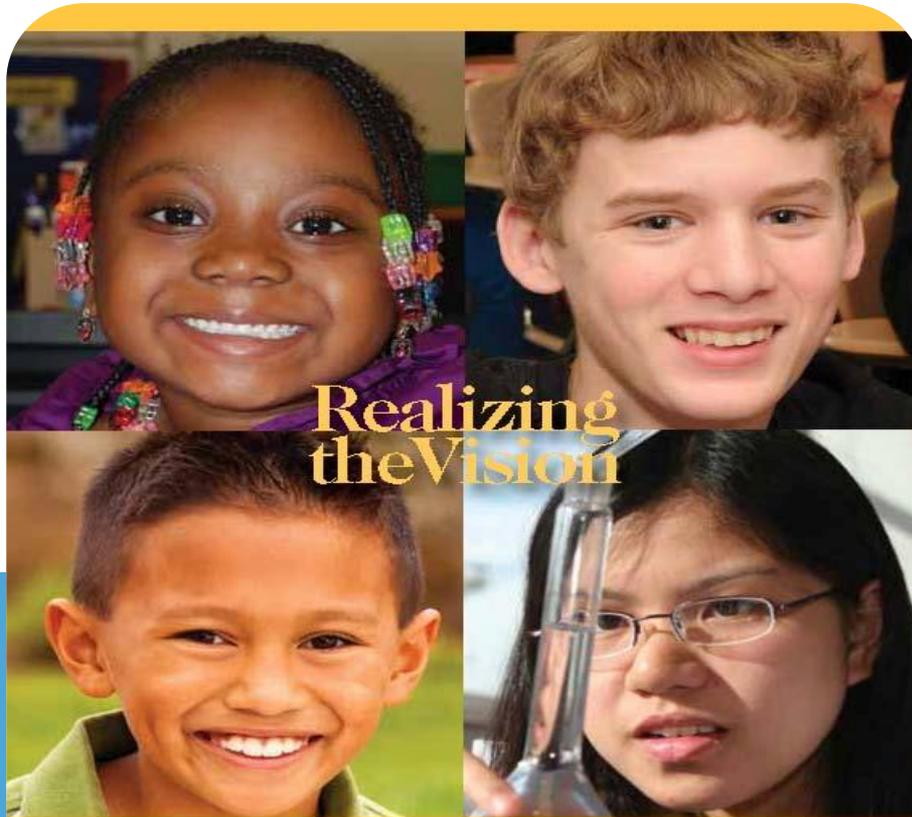
## Graduation Rate: 4-Year Adjusted Cohort

The 4-Year Adjusted Graduation Rate is calculated by dividing total Diplomas Earned by the 4-Year Adjusted Cohort. Students who dropout of high school remain in the adjusted cohort—that is, the denominator of the graduation rate calculation.

### All Students

▶ Hide Cohort Calculation

	1 <sup>st</sup> Year ('06-'07)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year ('07-'08)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Year ('08-'09)	4 <sup>th</sup> Year ('09-'10)	4-Year Totals
Class of 2010					80.03
1 <sup>st</sup> time freshmen, Fall '06					6918
Graduation Rate (%)	0	1	155	6762	8644
Diplomas Earned					8644
4-Yr Adjusted Cohort					8272
<b>4-Yr Cohort Calculation</b>					
Starting Cohort	8272	→ 8384	→ 8511	→ 8574	8272
+ Transfers In	+ 895	+ 834	+ 590	+ 317	+ 2636
- Transfers Out	- 783	- 701	- 524	- 246	- 2254
- Deaths	- 0	- 6	- 3	- 1	- 10
= Adjusted Cohort	= 8384	= 8511	= 8574	= 8644	= 8644



Realizing  
the Vision



## Blueprint for Progress 2011-2012

**FOCUSED ON QUALITY:  
COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE**

Board of Education Resolution November 21, 2000/Adopted January 14, 2003/Last Revised August 9, 2011

BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION NOVEMBER 21, 2000/ADOPTED JANUARY 14, 2003/LAST REVISED AUGUST 9, 2011

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE  
FOCUSED ON QUALITY



2011-2012