



Mohammed Choudhury
State Superintendent of Schools

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MEDIA CONTACT:
Jena Frick, 410-767-0503
jena.frick@maryland.gov

PROGRAM CONTACT:
Dr. Sylvia Lawson, 410-767-0463
Sylvia.lawson@maryland.gov

MSDE to Host a Convocation for Students in the Achieving Academic Equity and Excellence for Black Boys Initiative

The Pilot Initiative Focuses on Improving Education Experiences and Creating Positive Outcomes for Black Male Students Across Maryland

BALTIMORE (April 13, 2023) – The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and the Achieving Academic Equity and Excellence for Black Boys (AAEEBB) Advisory Council will host an AAEEBB spring convocation, bringing together students from 14 pilot schools across Maryland.

WHAT: A spring convocation for the students in the Achieving Academic Equity and Excellence for Black Boys initiative

WHEN: Thursday, April 20, 2023

WHERE: The Baltimore Marriott Inn at Camden Yards
110 S Eutaw St, Baltimore, MD 21201
From 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

WHO: Hosted by the AAEEBB Advisory Council with sponsorship from the Maryland State Department of Education.

INFO: AAEEBB is an initiative dedicated to developing and implementing a set of evidence-based recommendations and strategies to improve educational experiences and outcomes for Black boys in Maryland schools. Currently based in 14 pilot schools throughout Maryland, the initiative focuses on three key areas: Curricula and Instruction, Social Emotional and Behavioral Supports, and the Recruitment and Training of Skilled Competent Teachers and Administrators.

This month, MSDE and the AAEEBB Advisory Council will host a spring convocation for the students in the initiative. With more than 450 Black male students from 14 pilot schools representing elementary, middle, and high schools across the state, the convocation will celebrate student accomplishments, as well as their plans for future success.

The daylong event will include special presentations and breakout activities that will provide the students with opportunities to recognize their success and growth and further develop their skills. Students will set goals for continued growth, identify effective social emotional learning strategies, understand their role in creating success, and recognize the importance of collective achievement as Black boys.

Pilot schools are committed to transforming the culture of their schools to better understand and serve the needs of Black boys. These schools meet regularly with the AAEEBB Advisory Council for guidance, direction, and implementation of selected strategies detailed in the Maryland State Board of Education's Task Force on Achieving Academic Equity and Excellence for Black Boys [report](#). Pilot schools participate in professional development opportunities, book studies, and presentations from expert speakers designed to support the implementation of best practices within their schools.

For more information, visit the [AAEEBB page](#) on the [MSDE website](#).

###