



COMMITTED TO

Educational Excellence

CHALLENGE: Operational inefficiencies in Baltimore City Public Schools

VISION: Position our youth for academic success

OUR APPROACH: Audit existing financial system to clarify sources and uses of funds

As a product of Baltimore City Public Schools, I know that education is the foundation on which we build strong, resilient communities. The teachers I had at Poly helped me see and follow a path that I had never imagined for myself, and they provided me with the strong educational foundation I needed to succeed in college, grad school and business. That's what I want for all of Baltimore's children and that's why I'm committed to investing in our youth and positioning them for academic success.

Our city schools have historically been severely underfunded. As mayor, I will work closely with the state's elected officials to ensure that our public schools get the funding our youth deserve and that these funding dollars are used strategically and thoughtfully to achieve the best results for our young people and our city.

Baltimore City Public Schools must improve. I will enact a new holistic approach to educating Baltimore's young people that prior administrations have neglected to put in place or even envision. We will work with regional and national resources to create a first class, accountable, fully funded system that will help our young people achieve higher test scores, attendance and graduation rates and will open the door for more students to go on to higher educational and skill training opportunities.

This starts by working with the governor and others to appoint influential, effective leaders to the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners. I will appoint city leaders from all walks of life, people who understand the challenges that impact the ability of many of our young people to learn and succeed. These leaders will demand performance and better guide the superintendent on ways to deliver results.

Expanding youth initiatives to provide more opportunities for young people will be a top priority under my leadership. This includes investing in our recreation centers, expanding mentorship opportunities, like the Police Athletic League (PAL) Program and Big Brothers and

Big Sisters, and creating better access to jobs and resources for young people. With better access to these resources, graduation rates will go up and college and trade and technical school attendance will increase. Through increased funding and expansion of youth initiatives, my goal is to increase high school graduation rates by 10 percent in my first year as mayor.

The ongoing struggles of Baltimore's education system are a long-term issue that will require thoughtfulness, determination and innovation. Our policy platform must be fluid and develop over time to truly meet the changing educational needs of our young people. My experiences as a student, educator and businessperson make me the best person to bring a new dynamic to the city's education system and make the much-needed changes that have been sorely missing under prior administrations.