



**Contact:**

**Rachael Romano, Communications Coordinator**

*21<sup>st</sup> Century School Buildings Program*

[rromano@bcps.k12.md.us](mailto:rromano@bcps.k12.md.us) | (443) 900-5773

**Rachelina Bonacci, Public Information Officer**

*Maryland Stadium Authority*

[rbonacci@mdstad.com](mailto:rbonacci@mdstad.com) | (410) 977-0381

## **21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY SCHOOL BUILDINGS PROGRAM MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **Ribbon-Cutting Celebration for Arlington Elementary School & REACH! Partnership High School**

*Two modernized schools set to open in Baltimore*

**INVITED TO**

**SPEAK:** Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor, Maryland; Jill Carter, Senator, Maryland; Adrienne Jones, Speaker, Maryland House of Delegates; Cheryl Glenn, State Delegate, District 45; Bernard "Jack" Young, Mayor, Baltimore City; Brandon Scott, President, Baltimore City Council; Isaac Schleifer, City Council Representative, District 5; Mary Pat Clarke, City Council Representative, District 14; Thomas Kelso, Chariman, Maryland Stadium Authority; Linda Chinna, Board Chair, Baltimore City Schools Board of Commissioners; Sonja Brookins Santelises, CEO, Baltimore City Public Schools; Tina Hike-Hubbard, Chief Communications and Community Engagement Officer, Baltimore City Public Schools; Emily Hunter, Principal, Arlington Elementary School; James Greshman, Principal, The REACH! Partnership High School; Baltimore City Public Schools students

**WHAT:** Official ribbon-cutting for two 21<sup>st</sup> century schools: Arlington Elementary and REACH! Partnership High School

**WHEN:** Arlington Elementary School Wednesday, August 28, 2019, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
REACH! Partnership High School Thursday, August 29, 2019, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** The Arlington Ribbon Cutting will be held at Arlington Elementary School, 3705 W Rogers Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215, and the REACH! Partnership Ribbon Cutting will be held at REACH! Partnership High School, 2555 Harford Road, Baltimore, MD 21218.

**Background:**

Community planning meetings for Arlington Elementary School started in 2016. The community expressed its hope for an updated building that maintained its historic presence, in particular, the original stain glass windows from 1982. The building now features updated modern classroom spaces as well as a community partnership and food pantry space. The stain glass windows have been restored and encased in protective materials and are once again a shining focal point for the school. In partnership with the community, City Schools planned grade reconfigurations, with Arlington set to serve pre-k through fifth-grade students. Middle school students who previously attended Arlington Elementary/Middle will have the opportunity to attend Pimlico Elementary Middle School. Pimlico is also a 21<sup>st</sup> Century School Buildings Program school and is currently open and occupied. Thanks to the generosity of the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Arlington Elementary contains an Early Childhood Developmental Center to offer developmentally appropriate education, health, case management and family support services to children and their families.

The REACH! Partnership High School in the Lake Clifton Park Building renovation and addition began in 2018 and it is set to serve grades 9-12. REACH! Partnership High School prides itself on its CTE (Career Technology Education) programs, and so the renovation and addition focused on serving those programs. The new school now contains a nursing suite, pharmacy lab, dispensary and classrooms for its Academy of Health Professions. It will also offer a homeland security classroom, HVAC & Carpentry lab, Dance Studio, and Life Skills lab. Among the renovated areas includes a 1,058 seat auditorium with an abundance of natural light.

Both school buildings include an addition and complete renovation of the existing school building. As part of the 21<sup>st</sup> century program, both schools feature enhanced technology, including technology labs, short throw projectors and sound enhancement systems in all classrooms, and handheld devices and/or laptops for students. Collaborative learning areas, designed with movable furniture and technology, are featured in both schools. Arlington Elementary and REACH! Partnership School were designed to maximize natural light in instructional areas.

The new REACH! Partnership School and Arlington buildings both feature an outdoor learning area for instructional use, and Arlington feature three new playgrounds for the children to enjoy.

The 21st Century School Buildings Program creates inspiring educational environments for Baltimore City and its public school students and recreational facilities for the community for generations to come. The program is a partnership among the Maryland Stadium Authority (MSA), Baltimore City Public Schools, the City of Baltimore, and the Interagency Commission on Public School Construction (IAC). Two school buildings, Fort Worthington Elementary/Middle School and Frederick Elementary School, opened at the beginning of the 2017-18 school year. Wildwood Elementary/Middle School and Dorothy I. Height Elementary School opened to students in April 2018. The program had six schools open at the beginning of the 2018-19 school year: Forest Park High School, the Academy for College and Career

Exploration and Independence School Local I High (sharing the Robert Poole building), Pimlico Elementary/Middle School, Arundel Elementary, and Cherry Hill Elementary/Middle.

**For more information, visit [www.baltimore21stcenturyschools.org](http://www.baltimore21stcenturyschools.org)**