CITY SCHOOLS AT A GLANCE

2009-10 Student Enrollment: 82,866
- 42,170 students in grades pre-k-5 (includes 4,712 pre-k students)
- 16,544 students in grades 6-8
- 24,152 students in grades 9-12

Student Demographics
- 87.8 percent African American; 7.8 percent White; 3.1 percent Latino; 0.9 percent Asian or Pacific Islander; 0.3 percent American Indian or Alaska Native
- 83.6 percent low-income (based on Free or Reduced Price Meal eligibility)

 Schools and Programs in 2009-10: 201
- 56 elementary schools
- 69 elementary/middle schools
- 16 middle schools
- 12 middle/high schools
- 32 high schools
- 6 special education schools
- 10 programs (not schools)
- These include 27 charter schools and 11 Transformation Schools

Employees: 11,716
- 10,485 school-based, 1,231 non school-based

FY 2010 Budget: $1.265 Billion

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Kindergarteners Come Ready to Learn
- According to the 2009 Maryland Model for School Readiness report, 64.9 percent of kindergarteners arrived at school “fully ready” to learn in 2008-09, up from 57.1 percent in 2007-08. Statewide, 73 percent of kindergarteners were fully ready for school in 2009.
- City Schools attributes this progress to an aggressive pre-k expansion: In 2008-09, it served 4,200 students; with federal stimulus money, it created another 600 seats in 2009-10.

1st- and 2nd-Grade Students Exceed National Average
- Students exceeded the national average in math on the Stanford Achievement Test 10 and for the first time reached the national average in reading.
- In 1st-grade reading, 2nd-grade reading and 2nd-grade math, the historic achievement gap between special education and general education students has shrunk by nearly half since 2007, and in 1st-grade math, it has shrunk by nearly one-third.

3rd- to 8th-Grade Students: Two Years of Gains
- Maryland School Assessment (MSA) scores were up across all grades and groups in 2008-09, building on record gains of 2007-08.
- The number of students exceeding the state reading standard increased 92 percent in two years; the number of students exceeding the state math standard increased 107 percent in two years.
- Special education students are advancing at an even greater rate than general education students.
- All racial and ethnic subgroups with achievement gaps also posted gains and narrowed gaps.

Dropouts Down, Diplomas Up
- City Schools’ 2008-09 dropout rate, 6.2 percent, is down 36 percent since 2006-07, a record low.
- In 2008-09, the first year Maryland students had to pass the High School Assessments (HSAs) to graduate, 253 more students received diplomas and 475 fewer students dropped out of school; nearly 1,000 fewer students have dropped out in the last two years.

More HSA Tests Passed
- Students passed 5 percent more tests in 2008-09 than in 2007-08.

Among students with disabilities the increase was greater: Students passed 120 percent more tests in 2008-09 than in 2007-08. African American and low-income students also posted gains.

College Prep Expanding
- The number of Advanced Placement (AP) courses offered was up nearly 28 percent in 2008-09.
- Enrollment in AP courses was up 21 percent.
- The number of students who took AP placement exams was up 16 percent.
- SAT participation was up 7 percent for City Schools, less than 1 percent nationally and down nearly 1 percent at the state level.
- City Schools’ 79 percent SAT participation rate exceeds the state (69 percent) and national (46 percent) averages.

MARYLAND SCHOOL ASSESSMENT, GRADES 3-8
Number of Students Scoring Advanced

GRADUATION/DROPOUT RATE
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

First-Ever Ranking of City Schools and Big-City Peers

According to the Nation’s Report Card Mathematics 2009 Trial Urban District Assessment (TUDA), City Schools has the highest concentration of low-income, African American students among 18 participating districts, and their average scale scores exceeded, met or were within just a couple points of the national and “large city” averages for low-income African American students.

BUDGET & FINANCE

FY 2010 Budget

♦ FY 2010 operating budget: $1.265 billion
  — 66 percent from the state; 17 percent from Baltimore City; 12 percent from the federal government, plus another 3 percent in federal stimulus funds; and 2 percent from investment income, tuition, etc.
  — 53 percent covers salaries and wages; 15 percent covers employee fringe benefits; 14 percent covers contracted services; the balance covers utilities, equipment, materials, debt service and other expenses and charges.

Fair Student Funding

In FY 2009, principals went from controlling 3 percent of their budgets to 70 percent; in FY 2010, that budget control increased to 81 percent. In exchange for this flexibility, schools are held responsible for student achievement.

Average Per-Pupil Cost

All school-based dollars divided by all eligible students results in an average per-pupil amount of $9,452 for FY 2010. When all General and Special Funds that go to schools are tallied and divided by all eligible students, that average per-pupil amount increases to $13,646.

A Leaner, More Responsive Central Office

City Schools has cut its central office by 489 positions since FY 2009, moved talent and resources to schools and shifted the central office’s role to focus on guiding and supporting schools, and holding them accountable for student achievement.

EXPANDING SCHOOL OPTIONS

♦ In 2008-09, 97 percent of all 8th graders chose their high school for 2009-10.
♦ In 2009-10, City Schools opened six new Transformation Schools (combined middle-high schools), two new charter schools and one contract school.
♦ City Schools launched Expanding Great Options to expand and relocate school programs that are working for students and close those that aren’t. With approval of the Board it closed and relocated nine schools for 2009-10.

BUILDING HUMAN CAPITAL

♦ City Schools has 42 new principals in 2009-10.
♦ It is expanding its Teach for America corps, from 163 members in 2008-09 to 318 in 2009-10.
♦ It has 784 Baltimore City Teaching Residency members this year, with plans to add more next year.

STRENGTHENING SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

♦ City Schools’ Education Channel 77 broadcasts 13 original hours of programming each week.
♦ More than 1,250 people formally expressed interest in volunteering in 2008-09.

GREAT KIDS

Great Schools

Five City Schools high schools made U.S. News & World Report’s annual America’s Best High Schools list in 2009: Baltimore City College and Baltimore Polytechnic Institute both won silver medals, and Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, Western High School and Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School won bronze.