



Prince George's County

COUNTY COUNCIL Legislative Branch

County Executive Baker and County Council Announce Appointees to Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Board of Education

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Upper Marlboro, MD – Today, Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III and Prince George's County Council Chair Andrea C. Harrison announced the final three appointees to the Prince George's County Board of Education. Two of the new appointments were made by County Executive Baker. The Council appointed one new member. The joint announcement and subsequent swearing-in was held in the Council Hearing Room following a Council vote and transmittal of a letter to County Executive Baker and Board of Education Chair Dr. Segun Eubanks naming the new Council appointee.

The application process for appointment was open to all County residents and a total of 160 applications were submitted from citizens seeking to serve on the Board of Education. The Executive review process was conducted by a Board of Education Appointment Committee chaired by former Prince George's County Council Chair M.H. Jim Estep. The County Executive transmitted 90 applications to the Council for consideration as the parent representative on the School Board. These applications were preliminarily vetted by a Legislative Branch staff review panel before finalists were interviewed by Council Members, and a final selection determined.

Former Provost and Vice President of the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), Dr. Beverly Anderson of Fort Washington, and Dr. Daniel Kaufman of Bowie, Executive Vice President and head of Widmeyer Communications' PreK-12 education practice in Washington, D.C. and New York City, were appointed to the Board by County Executive Baker representing higher education and business experience respectively. Mr. Curtis Valentine of Fort Washington was appointed by the Prince George's County Council, representing a parent with a child currently enrolled in the Prince George's County Public Schools. Previously, County Executive Baker appointed Dr. Segun Eubanks on June 1, 2013 to serve as Chair of the Board as the first of his three appointments.

"I am pleased to announce and welcome the additions of Beverly Anderson and Dan Kaufman to the Prince George's County Board of Education," said Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "Both are extremely knowledgeable professionals whose expertise and energy will complement the existing board membership. I was overwhelmed by the response from residents who applied for these appointments and their desired engagement in our children's future. Furthermore, the number of amazingly qualified and experienced applicants we received was greater than I ever imagined and demonstrated the amount of talent and resources we have in the County. From a very competitive field, I believe we have appointed individuals who will be wonderful advocates for our students, teachers, parents, employees, and stakeholders."

On June 1, 2013, HB 1107 went into effect and authorized the addition of four appointed members to Prince George's County Board of Education. The four new members will work with the current nine elected members—bringing total voting members to fourteen (including the student member). The law also stipulates that the County Executive's three appointees must be as such: one with education experience, one with business, finance or higher education experience, and one with management experience. The Council appointee must be a parent with a child currently enrolled in the Prince George's County Public School System.

"This has been a collaborative process. My colleagues and I are confident that Curtis Valentine, the parent representative appointed by the Council, will be a strong advocate for our children, an asset to the Board of Education, and work well with all education stakeholders, said Prince George's County Council Chair Andrea C. Harrison. (D-District 5) "We look forward to the continued cooperative working relationship as the Board of Education transitions to its new form and purpose under State law, with a unified goal of enhancing our educational system and meeting the needs of our students."

BIO OF DR. BEVERLY ANDERSON

Dr. Beverly Anderson was a Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor and Instructor of Mathematics at the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) from 1969 to 2009. She also served as the former Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs from 1997 to 2000 and prior to that Dr. Anderson was Founding Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Director of Institutional Self Study, Chair of the Mathematics Department during her tenure at UDC.

A widely published and sought after author and scholar, Dr. Anderson has also served as Facilitator for the Association of Community College Trustees and as a Senior Research Fellow for the Office of the Chancellor for Education and Professional Development in the United States Department of Defense. She was also previously Director of Making Mathematics Work for Minorities for the National Research Council's Mathematical Sciences Education Board.

Dr. Anderson received her Ph.D. in Educational Psychology and Evaluation from The Catholic University of America, her Master's in Pure Mathematics from Howard University, and her Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics and Mathematics Education from Dillard University in New Orleans, Louisiana. She currently resides in Fort Washington with her husband Dr. Ronald Anderson, M.D.

BIO OF DR. DANIEL KAUFMAN

Dr. Daniel Kaufman serves as Executive Vice President and head of Widmeyer Communications' PreK-12 education practice in its Washington, D.C. and New York City offices. Since arriving at Widmeyer four years ago, Dan has provided strategic communications experience to a wide range of clients, including schools and school districts, state and federal education agencies, educator associations, nonprofit organizations, foundations and corporations.

A Fulbright scholar with a Ph.D. in Political Science, Dr. Kaufman spent the previous seven years working on behalf of students, teachers, administrators and school staff. He was communications director at the Maryland State Education Association, where he led successful integrated campaigns to protect school funding and improve teacher pensions. Kaufman also worked for the National Education Association (NEA), where he was its key spokesperson on the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), state and local budget issues, higher education access and affordability and Hispanic education issues, and served on its national ESEA advisory committee.

Dr. Kaufman earned his Ph.D. and Master's degrees in Political Science from the University of California, San Diego, and a Bachelor's of Arts in Political Science from Swarthmore College. He lives in Bowie, and at home speaks in Spanish with his wife Thamar (a native of Chile).

BIO OF CURTIS VALENTINE

Newly-appointed Board of Education member, Curtis C. Valentine and his wife Daria, are parents of two students currently enrolled in the Prince George's County Public Schools system. An active member of his community, Mr. Valentine is member of the John Hanson PTA, and former Prince George's County school teacher. He is also an Oxon Hill Boys and Girls Club soccer coach; Fort Washington YMCA board member; and an advisor to the Mount Ennon Baptist Church's Education Ministry.

Mr. Valentine was recently awarded an International Affairs Fellowship with the Council of Foreign Relations, where he will promote American economic competitiveness by examining the education reform efforts of four developed countries while helping to create a national strategy to reform America's public education system. He is also former Executive Director of Maryland Campaign for Achievement Now (Maryland/CAN), an education policy organization that uses research, community mobilization, and advocacy to pass statewide policies that close the educational achievement gap. Mr. Valentine recently served with World Vision United States to grow education, youth advocacy, and child protection programs in over twenty-five countries throughout Africa, Central America, and Eastern Europe.

Curtis Valentine is a graduate of Morehouse College and Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

