

NATIONAL AWARD FOR EFFORTS TO INCREASE EQUITY, ACCELERATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Accomplishment related to Value #1, Indicator #11

AACPS EARNS SECOND CONSECUTIVE NATIONAL AWARD FOR EFFORTS TO INCREASE EQUITY, ACCELERATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

For the second consecutive year, Anne Arundel County Public Schools has been recognized with a national award for its efforts to increase equity in the quest to elevate all students and eliminate all gaps.

The school system is one of five across the nation with student populations of 20,000 or more to earn a first place Magna Award from the National School Boards Association and its flagship magazine, *American School Board Journal*. The awards recognize innovative programs that “are working to remove barriers to achievement for underserved and vulnerable students,” according to the NSBA.



There are more than 13,500 public school systems in the United States. Of those, AACPS is one of just two with enrollments of 20,000 or more students to earn back-to-back Magna Awards in the last decade and the only one to be recognized in each of the last two years.

“A year ago we were honored for our intentional focus on increasing our ninth-grade promotion rate, an initiative that has a direct result on our graduation rate,” Superintendent George Arlotto said. “I could not be more pleased that this year, the work of our Office of Equity and Accelerated Student Achievement has been highlighted on the national stage. The work that Dr. Maisha Gillins and her team do with schools is largely done behind the scenes, but it is critical to propelling our students every day. We are not only creating more equitable climates, we are continuing to accelerate student achievement. That is the ultimate goal of any school system.” [Read more of the Press Release](#)

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