BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Stephanie Rawlings-Blake Mayor, City of Baltimore

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March 15, 2012

Chair, Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners

The Honorable Bernard C. "Jack" Young President, Baltimore City Council City Hall, Room 400 100 N. Holliday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

RE:

Position Statement

City Council Bill (Resolution) 12-0022R)

Dear Council President Young:

On February 22, 2012 the Baltimore City Council introduced the above-captioned resolution regarding the possible automation of the YouthWorks registration process. According to the resolution, some potential participants of the YouthWorks program are prevented from participating because they do not have the necessary documentation during the registration process; the City Council envisions remedying this problem by linking to already existing databases belonging to Baltimore City Public Schools (City Schools).

City Schools agrees that automating the YouthWorks registration process by linking to information that already exists in City Schools' databases would be valuable for students who may not have ready access to required information. Students who are homeless or emancipated, students in foster care, and parents of students who may not be able to readily locate all required documentation would benefit from this process.

With the appropriate Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and agreements in place to protect students' personal information that is not necessary for the YouthWorks application process, City Schools is in agreement that automating the registration process will encourage more students to apply and allow them to more easily participate in this worthwhile program,

City Schools will be glad to testify regarding this matter in order to clarify what safeguards need to be in place to protect the privacy of our students. Thank you for inviting us to participate in this process.

Sincerely,

Andrés A. Alonso, Ed.D. Chief Executive Officer

C: Dawana Sterrette, Legislative Liaison

Linda Eberhart, Executive Director Toleching and Learning Alice D. Cole, Coordinator

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