Baltimore City Council
Informational Hearing on
School-Based Health
Centers

School Health Landscape at City Schools

Alison Perkins-Cohen, Chief of Staff June 20, 2024





## **School Health Background**

- Historically, City Schools has had an MOU with the Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) under which BCHD has served as the provider of health suite services in schools.
- BCHD's staffing model has traditionally assigned one RN to a cluster of schools, each staffed by nursing assistants and/or LPNs.



# The Impact of The Blueprint for Maryland's Future

- The Blueprint for Maryland's Future Act requires schools in Maryland to staff school-based health suites with a RN.
- Since passage of the Blueprint, City Schools has increasingly taken on health suite operations.





#### **City Schools-Operated Suites**

- In SY 21-22, City Schools provided nursing coverage for 3 health suites where BCHD was unable to provide staffing.
- In SY22-23, BCHD turned over 12 health suites to City Schools to manage;
   this number increased to 19 by the end of the same school year.
- In SY23-24, 35 traditional school health suites are currently operated by the district, utilizing nurses contracted through nursing agencies to provide care, with intent to phase in direct hire RNs as City Schools employees.



### **Engaging University Partners**

City Schools issued an RFP to explore partnerships with schools of nursing in local universities to provide innovative health suite services in some of our schools, including:

- New CTE Opportunities for Students
- Developing a Pipeline of Nurses and Exposure to School Health
- Leveraging University Resources for Ideal School Health Suites

15 of the District's 35 school health suites are operated by one of three University Partners (Coppin, Morgan, Hopkins), and staff have been hired and/or contracted directly by the respective University.



## **Coppin State**

- Harlem Park
- **James McHenry**
- Hilton
- Windsor Hills
- **Coppin Academy**

# **University Partner Assignments**



## **Morgan State**

- Hampden
- **Garrett Heights**
- **Roland Park**
- **Glenmount**
- **Northwood**



## **Hopkins**

- **Commodore John Rodgers**
- **Mount Royal**
- William Paca
- **Fort Worthington**
- John Rurah





#### **Current Landscape of BCHD-Operated Suites**

The Blueprint's requirements posed a hard shift, exacerbating preexisting staffing challenges.

- 101 traditional school health suites in the district
   Health Aide/RN model (1 RN delegating to up to 3 health aides)
- 1 health suite with multiple RNs (Baer School)
- 4 school-based health centers operated by BCHD (Augusta Fells, City Springs, REACH, Digital Harbor)
- 1 school-based health center operated by Hopkins Rales Center (KIPP)
- 9 school-based health centers at 8 sites operated by Baltimore Medical Systems
  (Furley/Vangard, Harford Heights, Tench Tilghman, Collington Square, Dunbar, Forrest Park,
  Patterson Park High, and Mervo)
- City Schools does not operate any SBHC, nor do we have the structure needed to operate clinics.





#### Plans for the Future

- Hire 20 Full-Time Nurses
- Develop a School Health Services Training Program
- In partnership with BCHD and University Partners, revamp the School Health Services Manual
- Utilize Infinite Campus to record and document school health visits
- Collaborate with School-Based Health Center providers

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