

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 08-0064R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: President Rawlings-Blake, Councilmembers Clarke, Middleton, Young, Henry, Branch, Cole, Curran, Kraft, D'Adamo, Welch, Reisinger, Spector

Introduced and read first time: September 15, 2008

Assigned to: Education Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Baltimore City Public School System, Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners, Police Commissioner, Health Department, Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Informational Hearing – Baltimore City Public School System – Transitional Years**
3 **Intervention Program**

4 FOR the purpose of inviting the CEO and other representatives of the Baltimore City Public
5 School System to brief the City Council on the feasibility of creating a proactive intervention
6 program for transitional year students.

7 **Recitals**

8 By creating the Alternative Options model, the Baltimore City Public School System has
9 overhauled alternative programming for at-risk students and insured that those students receive
10 the services that they need. These services are specifically tailored to segments of the student
11 population, whether they are over-aged, dropouts, students with children, or have been given
12 extended suspensions or expulsions.

13 The City Council is encouraged by all of these efforts and new alternative forms of
14 programming. In addition to these efforts and programs, the Council believes that there should
15 also be a strong emphasis on two specific groups of students. Historically, the transitional years
16 of 6th and 9th grade have been where the school system begins to lose our most at-risk students.
17 Because of what can be a dramatic change of culture, certain students going from elementary to
18 middle school and middle to high school often become disengaged.

19 The Council requests that the Baltimore City Public School System tailor programs for
20 incoming students to both middle school and high school. The first step would be for
21 administrators in 5th grade and 8th grade to identify their most at-risk students. This would be
22 judged by factors such as attendance, suspensions, behavior issues, etc. The administrators
23 would then communicate the identified at-risk students to administrators at the new school.

24 In the summer of the student's transitional year, administrators, teachers, and counselors
25 would meet with these students and their families in order to administer services that could help
26 the student with underlying issues, thus allowing a better adjustment to their new environment.
27 The school system could also build upon the partnerships that it already employs, such as with

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

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1 the Health Department, Baltimore Substance Abuse Systems, and the Police Department's Youth
2 Services Division to assist in providing services and proactively engaging these students.

3 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the CEO
4 and other representatives of the Baltimore City Public School System are invited to brief the City
5 Council on the feasibility of creating a proactive intervention program for transitional year
6 students.

7 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
8 CEO of the Baltimore City Public School System, the Interim President and CEO of Baltimore
9 Substance Abuse Systems, the Baltimore Police Commissioner, and the Mayor's Legislative
10 Liaison to the City Council.