



Board-to-Board

October, 2016

A monthly report from the Albemarle County School Board to the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors

Graduation Rate: The on-time graduation rate for Albemarle County Public Schools' 2015-16 senior class was 95 percent, again exceeding state and national averages, which were 91 and 82 percent, respectively. Albemarle County students continued to graduate at a higher on-time rate than the statewide average for every one of the nation's 50 states.

Of the 1,044 diplomas earned by graduating seniors in the school division, 703, or 70 percent, were Advanced Studies Diplomas, which require a more rigorous course of study during the four high school years. This percentage for all students across the commonwealth was 51.7. The school division's drop-out rate slightly increased from 2.3 to 2.9 percent, but was nearly half the statewide average of 5.3 percent and less than half the national average of 6.5 percent.

Regional College Fair: Students of all ages from throughout the Central Virginia area had the unique opportunity to visit more than 70 top colleges and universities during this year's regional college fair, which was held at Monticello High School. Representatives from the admission offices of colleges and universities both in and out of state were present to discuss their schools, answer questions from students and parents, and provide informational materials.

John E. Baker Legacy Dinner: The sixth annual John E. Baker Legacy Dinner took place Friday, October 21, at Farmington County Club. The dinner is the signature event for the African American Teaching Fellows (AATF), a local organization that provides scholarship and professional development program opportunities to young men and women of color who commit to becoming teachers in local public schools.

The AATF is a 501(c)(3) organization that recruits teaching candidates from throughout the Commonwealth. Fellows receive up to a \$5,000 scholarship per year for each year they agree to teach in either the Charlottesville City or Albemarle County school divisions, up to a maximum of three years.

Currently, AATF says that in Charlottesville City and Albemarle County, there are 10 students for every teacher, but only one of ten teachers is an African-American. The ratio of students to teachers of color is 122:1 according to AATF. Over the 11-year period of its existence, the organization has sought to address this gap by making it possible for 38 college students to become teachers.

School Board website: <http://www2.k12albemarle.org/Pages/default.aspx>