

Howard County Public School System NEWS RELEASE

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Humanim Partnership Provides Work-Training Program for Students

Ellicott City, Maryland—The Howard County Public School System is partnering with Humanim to provide work-training support for students transitioning from high school to adult life. The partnership will be formalized with an official partnership signing Wednesday, July 8 at the Sheraton Columbia Waterside Restaurant in Columbia, Maryland.

Humanim will collaborate with HCPSS Special Education staff to provide a wide variety of programs for students in need of comprehensive career development and support services including job readiness training, job development and coaching services, support in learning appropriate work behaviors, and services to meet the needs of youth as they transition to adulthood.

HCPSS will assist with the administration of the transition programs and will provide transportation from school locations to various worksites. In line with the HCPSS strategic plan, Vision 2018, this partnership supports equitable access to instructional programs and incorporates inclusive practices for students with disabilities.

Howard County Board of Education Vice Chairman Ann De Lacy, HCPSS Executive Director of School Improvement and Administration Frank Eastham, Jr., Executive Director of Special Education and Student Services Nancy Fitzgerald, Special Education Coordinator Judy Pattik, and Homewood Center Principal Tina Maddox will join Humanim Vice President of Workforce Development Mary Manzoni and Director of Behavioral Health Services Jesse Guercio to sign the formal partnership agreement at the July 8 event.

<u>Humanim</u> is a Maryland nonprofit with more than four decades of experience in workforce development, human services and social enterprise. Humanim's programs create opportunities for individuals with disabilities or other barriers to employment and for young people in school.

The Howard County Public School System's <u>Partnerships Office</u> unites businesses and community organizations with schools to enhance the educational experience. Partnerships benefit schools, businesses and the entire community by leveraging the resources of all participants. Partners may commit human or financial resources or other support.

For more information, contact Partnerships Office Manager Mary Schiller at 410-313-6655 or mary schiller@hcpss.org.

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