



## PRESS RELEASE

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### EDUCATION IS A CIVIL RIGHT PARTICIPATION DAY

#### *Prince George's County Board of Education Joins National Initiative*

The Prince George's County Board of Education joined with the National Alliance of Black School Educators (NABSE) to declare February 12, 2009 to be "**Education is a Civil Right Participation Day.**" The announcement came as an emergency resolution in today's Board System Oversight meeting.

"We believe that all students are entitled to a quality public education. We are continuing to pursue our goal to ensure that all classrooms are staffed with fully certified and highly-qualified teachers," said Board Chair Verjeana M. Jacobs, Esq. "We happily join together with NABSE to acknowledge that education is truly the civil right of every child."

On November 22, 2007, NABSE launched its "Education is a Civil Right" initiative and declared that education is not just a privilege, but also a birthright, as well as an entitlement. **Education is a Civil Right** targets K-12 African-American students and their families, and addresses the distinct educational and social challenges faced by this community. The project includes a public outreach campaign and customized resources for both educators and African-American families.

NABSE is the nation's leading organization of African-American educators devoted to the academic success of children of African descent. The NABSE was founded in 1970 and is an organization devoted to furthering the academic success for the children of our Nation – particularly children of African descent, and is dedicated to improving both the educational experiences and accomplishments of African-American youth.

The NABSE is membership organization of more than 5,000 African-American, Caucasian, and Hispanic Educators whose mission is to promote the education of African-American and underachieving students of other cultures.