PRESS RELEASE

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BOARD BEGINS SEARCH FOR PERMANENT CEO

The Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners (Board) has launched a national search for a permanent Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to lead its 83,000-student school district.

At its December 12, 2006 public business meeting, the Board selected PROACT Search, Inc. (PROACT), a full-service executive search and management-consulting firm headquartered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to lead the search. PROACT’s specialty in school executive search targets small to large urban school districts with diverse populations and enrollments ranging from 3,000 – 727,000 students. The Board anticipates that its permanent CEO will be in place by July 1, 2007.

“We made a commitment to the citizens of Baltimore that we would conduct a national search for qualified candidates,” said Brian D. Morris, Board Chair. “PROACT’s vast experience and knowledge assures us that we will be provided the services required to identify the most qualified candidate to lead the Baltimore City Public School System (BCPSS) and to continue the wonderful progress being made under the dynamic leadership of our interim CEO Dr. Charlene C. Boston.”

Throughout the CEO search process the Board will use public voice to inform its decision making. The Board will solicit the assistance of BCPSS stakeholders in completing the most critical aspect of the selection process—identifying the most desirable and important attributes of the permanent CEO. “As part of the community engagement process, stakeholders will have several opportunities to provide the Board with guidance by defining the profile that the search firm will use to recruit highly qualified candidates for CEO,” Chairman Morris said.

Stakeholder input and guidance will be gathered through surveys, open hearings, focus group meetings, individual interviews, and moderated message boards. The combined stakeholder input will not only assist PROACT in recruiting qualified candidates, it will also provide guidance to the Board with

- developing a pool of interview questions for the candidates
- providing the newly hired CEO with meaningful input and feedback regarding
- building a consensus among all stakeholders, thereby creating a team effort in achieving the mission of the BCPSS

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PROACT has been engaged in executive placement work and management consulting for over twenty years, conducting between 20-30 searches or consulting assignments per year for the private sector, governmental agencies, not-for profit organizations, and school districts nationwide.

For up-to-date information on the community engagement process and the search for a permanent CEO, log on to www.baltimorecityschools.org, or call 410.396-8709.

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