

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

September 21, 2021

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Monifa B. McKnight, Interim Superintendent of Schools

Subject: National Disability Employment Awareness Month

WHEREAS, October is *National Disability Employment Awareness Month* in the United States. The official theme for the observance, *America's Recovery: Powered by Inclusion* reflects the importance of ensuring that people with disabilities have full access to employment and community involvement during the national recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools, as part of *National Disability Employment Awareness Month*, recognizes the importance of embracing inclusive practices and policies that promote the benefits of a diverse workforce that includes individuals with disabilities, who represent a highly motivated and talented workforce pool; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools is committed to promoting academic achievement for all students with disabilities by increasing opportunities for students to learn in inclusive environments; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools holds the core values that each and every student matters; outcomes should not be predictable by race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status; equity demands the elimination of all gaps; and creating and maximizing future opportunities for students and staff is necessary; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools provides high-quality professional development opportunities to all staff members in an effort to narrow the achievement gap between students with disabilities and their nondisabled peers; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools is committed to partnering with families to support student academic success and social and emotional well-being; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools is committed to enhancing students' social awareness and value for diversity and differences; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education and the interim superintendent of schools declare the month of October as *National Disability Employment Awareness Month* in Montgomery County Public Schools and encourage staff members in schools to sponsor and participate in activities in honor of its recognition.

MBM:RR:GJM:lcr