



Dorchester County
Public Schools
Every Child A Success!

SUPERINTENDENT'S PRESS RELEASE

Henry V. Wagner Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent

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Dorchester County Public School Maintenance Receives Superior Ratings

The Dorchester County Public School system recently received **superior ratings** with respect to school facilities maintenance by inspectors from the **State of Maryland's Public School Construction Program**. Both **Maple and Hurlock Elementary Schools** received the distinction which represents the highest possible rating in the annual state-wide inspection system. The maintenance inspection program involves **all components** of a school facility and adjacent property. This includes the **grounds, parking areas, playscapes and athletic fields, the buildings themselves, and all of the subsystems** that comprise the facility.

School maintenance is provided at the school by **building engineers and custodial staff**. **District maintenance tradespeople** provide routine maintenance services at all facilities. **Contractors** are used for activities that are outside the scope of district personnel. Maintenance is scheduled on a district-wide plan with an emphasis on **preventative maintenance and safety/liability avoidance**.

Maple Elementary School opened in **1976** and **Hurlock Elementary School** opened for instruction in **1982**. Both schools have had their roofs replaced, HVAC equipment upgrades, floor coverings replaced, and other minor improvements. **Hurlock** received the **Silver Hammer Award** for school maintenance last year by **Comptroller Peter Franchot**. Dorchester has previously received superior ratings for facilities maintenance at **Choptank, Warwick and Sandy Hill Elementary Schools and Mace's Lane Middle School**. With an average age of 35 years, the Board of Education of Dorchester County operates **16 different facilities** with just over **1,063,000** square feet of facility. Oversight of our school facilities is the joint responsibility of **Mr. Gelson Brooks, Custodial Operations Manager, and Mr. Pat Murphy, Maintenance Manager**. The entire facilities department is led by **Mr. Chris Hauge, School Facilities Engineer**.