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

March 28, 2011

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Jerry D. Weast, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Arab American Heritage Month—April 2011

WHEREAS, Since the first Arab immigrants came to these shores, men and women of Arab descent have shared their rich history and the traditions of Arab culture; and

WHEREAS, Arab Americans are a highly diverse people, differing in ancestral origins, religious backgrounds, and historic identities, sharing a heritage through a common language and cultural traditions, which bind their community; and

WHEREAS, In science, medicine, education, business, culture, and government service, Arab Americans have made valuable contributions to every aspect of American life; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County is home to a thriving Arab American community whose valued presence has added to the rich aesthetic mosaic of our county; now therefore be it

<u>Resolved</u>, That the Montgomery County Board of Education and the superintendent of schools hereby declare the month of April 2011 to be observed in Montgomery County Public Schools as Arab American Heritage Month.

JDW:ldd