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

September 26, 2011

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Joshua P. Starr, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: National Disability Awareness Month—October 2011

WHEREAS, October is National Disability Awareness Month in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools is committed to ensuring that every child, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, language proficiency, or disability, learns and succeeds; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools is welcoming to our diverse student and parent communities and is committed to providing a climate of respect for engaging parents as partners in the education of their children; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools promotes the improved academic achievement of students with disabilities by providing professional development opportunities to all staff members in an effort to provide students with disabilities access to the general education environment; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools is working toward increasing career and college opportunities for the 5,177 students with disabilities currently receiving transition services; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools, as part of *National Disability Awareness Month*, recognizes the importance of embracing global attitudes, practices, and policies that promote successful educational and employment outcomes for students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools celebrates the signing of the *Americans with Disabilities Act* 21 years ago, showing America's commitment to ensuring full participation for people with disabilities in all environments; now therefore be it

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

JPS:ser