



## Fourth Annual Conference

*Engaging Secondary School Students and Their Communities*

## Forum Breakout Session

---

### **High School Academies: Creating a Culture of Success**

#### **Facilitator:**

Diane Wilder, *Instructional Specialist, Division of Career and Technology Education*  
*Montgomery County Public Schools*

#### **Presenters:**

Carroll McGillin, *National Initiatives Manager, CISCO Academy*  
Erin P. Marshall, *Academy of Information Technology Teacher, Gaithersburg High School, Montgomery County Public Schools*  
Lee Ann Turner, *Internship Coordinator, Gaithersburg High School, Montgomery County Public Schools*  
Tabitha Asante, *Academy of Information Technology Student, Gaithersburg High School,*  
*Montgomery County Public Schools*

Data indicates that academies create a culture that help students succeed academically and more easily transition to college and careers. This panel presentation will demonstrate the critical elements of a successful academy structure that personalizes education for students: rigorous academics, relevant experiential learning, and relationships with key stakeholders. The session presenters will stress the importance of educational partnerships and provide strategies for partnering with business and postsecondary education.