FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 2, 2009

MEDIA-ONLY CONTACT:
(301) 952-6001
Tanzi West
MosesAlexander Greene

PGCPS INTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS
ATTEND BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER SERVICE

Annual First Baptist Church of Glenarden service
girds PGCPS system with spiritual support

(Upper Marlboro, MD) Last night, hundreds of Prince George's County Public School (PGCPS) system internal stakeholders came to the worship center of the First Baptist Church of Glenarden (FBCG) for the church's annual “Back-to-School Prayer Service.” Prince George's County Board of Education members, the Superintendent of Schools, community leaders, principals, teachers, staff and students received multiple messages of encouragement and promises of support from each other.

Dr. William R. Hite, Jr., Superintendent of Schools, greeted attendees and asked, “How are the children?” He then urged school system internal stakeholders and the community to join together to make the statement “The children are well” the only answer at all times.

Earlier that day a Crossland High School female student was struck by a vehicle. Dr. Hite requested a special prayer for her, her family, the staff and students of Crossland High School.

“Tonight, I have seen Dr. Hite in all new light,” said Ms. Candi Crandall, an employee at Thurgood Marshall Middle School who had spent hours at the hospital with the family given the day’s tragedy. “I have always supported him, but it meant a lot to me as a staff member to see Dr. Hite asking for prayer for us to get through this difficult time.”

Prince George’s County Board of Education Chair Verjeana M. Jacobs, Esq., Board Vice-Chair Dr. Ron L. Watson, Board member Pat J. Fletcher (District 3) and Deputy Superintendent Dr. Bonita Coleman-Potter were also in attendance. Board Chair Jacobs thanked the congregation for its prayers over the past year and for its faith in the school system’s leadership to make quality decisions in the best interests of the students.

According to John K. Jenkins, Sr., pastor of FBCG which is located in Upper Marlboro, MD, “Tonight is one of my favorite services of the entire year because we have gathered to pray over our children.” Throughout the evening Pastor Jenkins talked directly to students and implored them to realize that they could do anything to which they put their minds.

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Prince George's County Board of Education