



A+ BOARDS FOR SCHOOLS

BECAUSE IT TAKES A WHOLE VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD

Schools benefit from relationships with parents, neighbors and community members who are dedicated to the health of the school. Schools are the center of neighborhoods and community and often serve as a source of governmental and community-benefit services by connecting children and adults to educational, recreational, nutrition, health care, mental health care and career pathways.

The Work of A+ Boards for Schools

A+ Boards are groups of individuals who are willing to lend their unique talents and contributions to support school leadership in better achieving their goals and more effectively serving the students of Baltimore.

The role of an A+ Board is to support School Leaders through service as:

- **Ambassadors.** By advocating for the school and connecting to external stakeholders and opportunities.
- **Advisors.** By offering specialized professional skills and acting as a 'think tank' for school leadership.
- **Action teams.** By fundraising and creating new opportunities for students, faculty and staff

A+ Boards work closely with school leadership on either strategic or programmatic initiatives such as:

Strategic

- Providing budget or financial advice
- Creating connections to resources
- Connecting the school with pro bono HR, technology and marketing services

Programmatic

- Sourcing donations: coats & holiday gifts
- Fundraising for field trip and after-school programming opportunities
- Organizing workshops for parents and families

The Matching Process & Commitment

Business Volunteers will host a series of interest sessions for schools and prospective Board members in April 2016. Selected schools and volunteers will be invited to two Orientation and matching workshops in May 2016. During the workshops, prospective Board members will meet different schools and learn more about what it means to be an A+ Board member. Business Volunteers will match schools and Board members based on interests and skill sets.

Once initial matches have been made, Business Volunteers will provide ongoing support for the Board's quarterly meetings through the year, including the initial goal setting meeting in July 2016. Business Volunteers will host a mid-year meeting in January 2017, bringing all Boards and schools together to share learning, best practices and challenges. At the end of the 2016-17 school year, Board members and schools will be invited to an end-of-year celebration to celebrate service and successes. We ask for at least a 2 year commitment from volunteers and schools.

Please visit the [Business Volunteers Maryland website](#) to learn more about **PENCIL** and our **A+ Boards** initiative.

For more information, contact Geoff Stack, Manager of Business & Community Relations, 410-366-6030 x213 or gstack@businessvolunteersmd.org