

EDUCATION ADVOCATE

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What's possible for Baltimore City schools? This!

"I didn't ever think a Baltimore City Public School could ever be so beautiful. I look at it like a new symbol of hope for students and kids in the area."

-Rasheed Sanders, 2017 Forest Park High School Graduate

As we head into winter break, we wanted to take a moment to celebrate the inspiring results we're starting to see from the organized community campaign that got a \$1 billion legislative bill passed to build 28 new schools in Baltimore, the 21st Century Schools Buildings Program.

In August, ACLU of Maryland joined families and community members at a week of school ribbon cutting celebrations in Baltimore City. An unprecedented 5 buildings (and a total of 6 schools) opened after being fully renovated or rebuilt.

"Our students and our parents, they're so excited. They feel like they're sending their kids somewhere safe. When you look in their faces...they know that they deserve a school like this."

-Mr. Sherman Barksdale, Dean of Culture and Climate, Arundel Elementary School

Baltimore has the oldest school buildings in the state. There are 100+ schools that still need to be rebuilt or renovated. Let's fight to make modern school buildings the reality for all children in Baltimore City.

Until then, from all of us here on ACLU of Maryland, we hope you have a Happy New Year!



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