BE AN EMPOWERED VOTER!

Our elected officials and leaders in Government offices over the next 4 years will have a big impact on education. Make education a priority when you vote in the Primary on Tuesday, June 26th and in the General Election on November 6th!

Study the candidates’ positions and #VoteEducation2018! On election day, polling places are open continuously from 7am until 8pm. Anyone in line at 8 pm will be allowed to vote. Need to find your polling place? Look it up [here](#).

IMPORTANT NOTE!

If you or anyone you know experiences any issues at the polls, call ACLU of Maryland’s Voter Protection Hotline at 410-889-8555.

ACLU is hosting an Election Protection hotline all day on Tuesday, June 26 (as well as on November 6th) from 7am until 8pm (or whenever polls close if they are ordered to stay open late). Staff will be available to assistant anyone experiencing problems or issues at a polling place. Voter Empowerment and Know Your Rights cards are available in English and Spanish.

You can find ACLU’s voter protection and empowerment resources [here](#).
This Thursday, join us for a full “Kirwan” Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education meeting in Annapolis. While all of the meetings are important to attend, this is one not to miss. In the morning, commissioners and audience attendees will hear from expert panelists on race equity, community-based health, mental health, and social services for school-age children, and more.

Two panelists we would like to highlight are Dr. Ivory Toldson and Bronwyn Mayden, MSW. Dr. Toldson, president and CEO of The Quality Education for Minorities Network and former head of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, is a national expert on educating students of color and building channels for post-secondary success. Dr. Toldson will address issues related to racial equity that the Commission should consider. Bronwyn Mayden, MSW, is an Assistant Dean at University of Maryland’s School of Social Work and Executive Director of Promise Heights, a cradle-to-college-to-career program in the West Baltimore neighborhoods of Upton and Druid Heights. Ms. Mayden will speak to the Commission about school-based social and health services.

Although the morning session (9:30am – noon) of the full Commission will be livestreamed [here](#), the afternoon working group meetings will not. The afternoon Working Groups (12:30pm-4pm) are open to the public. **Audience members have had the opportunity to directly participate in the discussions so your attendance is encouraged.**

Working Groups include:

1. Early Childhood Education
2. High Quality Teachers and Leaders
3. College and Career Readiness Pathways
4. More Resources for At-risk Students

Materials are not yet out but should be posted by Wednesday. You can find materials and meeting schedules for the Kirwan Commission [here](#).