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BLUEPRINT FOR MARYLAND'S FUTURE

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Blueprint for Maryland's Future Accountability and Implementation Board Reaction to NAEP Results Released Today

The first student assessment scores since the COVID-19 pandemic were released today, and unfortunately, the news is not good for most students in Maryland. Scores for Maryland 4th and 8th graders in reading and math are down significantly in 2022 compared to 2019 (pre-pandemic).

"I am very concerned for Maryland's students," said AIB Chair Isiah "Ike" Leggett. "Fortunately, we already have a plan to reverse these outcomes. This is why we need to move forward with urgency to implement the Blueprint as intended and begin to see the results in improved student achievement and reduced achievement gaps."

The pandemic has exacerbated the learning shortfalls and achievement gaps that already existed in Maryland, especially for students from low-income families and students of color. "These scores, which reflect the impact of COVID-19 before the Blueprint was launched, reinforce the importance of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future," said Vice Chair William "Brit" Kirwan.

The Blueprint for Maryland's Future was enacted in March 2021 and over \$3 billion will be invested to implement the Blueprint over the next 10 years to transform Maryland's early childhood, primary, and secondary education systems to the levels of high-performing systems around the world. The AIB was created to oversee the successful implementation of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future by State and local entities and achieve the Blueprint's goals and expected outcomes. The AIB members were appointed in November 2021, and immediately began work to guide implementation of the Blueprint.

The AIB is developing a Comprehensive Implementation Plan to guide Blueprint implementation over the 10-year implementation period and to hold State and local entities accountable for successful implementation. Following a series of Blueprint Implementation Planning working sessions held by the AIB over the summer and early fall, portions of the draft Blueprint Comprehensive Implementation Plan will be released this week for public review and comment at aib.maryland.gov. A virtual public hearing will be held on Thursday, November 10, 2022. More information on the public hearing will be released soon. Following the public hearing, the AIB will adopt the Blueprint Comprehensive Implementation Plan by December 1, 2022.

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