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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CCPS GRADUATION RATE REACHES ALL TIME HIGH;
SURPASSES STATE AVERAGE ONCE AGAIN

ELKTON, MD (February 27, 2020)- The data for the Class of 2019 presented to the Maryland State Board of Education at their February business meeting showed that CCPS achieved an all-time high graduation rate of 93.3%, an increase of over two percentage points from 2018 and over nine percentage points since 2012. The CCPS rate exceeds the state average of 86.9% by 6.4 points.

In addition, CCPS reached an all-time low dropout rate of 4.71%, a drop of almost nine percentage points since 2011. The CCPS rate is almost half that of the state dropout rate of 8.4%. In addition to the overall rates, CCPS saw impressive results at the school level. Four out of five high schools increased their graduation rates with Perryville High showing the greatest increase of 7.1%. Similarly, four out of five high schools saw decreased dropout rates with Perryville High also showing the greatest decrease of 5.2% from 2018 dropout rates.

Subgroup data reflected similar successes. Students receiving free and reduced meals (FARMS) saw a 3.8% increase in graduation rate to an all-time-high rate of 85.5%. Elkton High School achieved the highest graduation rate in this subgroup with 89.4% which also surpasses the county FARMS average. In the Special Education subgroup, the county graduation rate of 75.8% also reflects an all-time-high for this subgroup, with a 21.4% increase since 2012. Perryville High School had the highest graduation rate in this subgroup with 85%, also showing the greatest year-to-year growth of 18.3% from 2018. In other successes, African American students outpaced the county graduation rate at 93.6% and also boasted an 8.7% increase from 2018 data.

“The hard work of our students and staff continue to be reflected in this data report each year,” stated Dr. Jeffrey Lawson, Superintendent of Schools. “Graduation data is indicative of the success of Cecil County Public Schools, but it is also an indicator of the future success of our county. Our high school staffs are relentless in their striving to help students succeed; that is a culture in CCPS and we will continue to work with the same passion.”