



**MARTIN O'MALLEY**  
GOVERNOR

February 2009

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TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY

Your Confidential Access Code # **123456**

Using your confidential access code, you may complete the survey,  
from any Internet location, from February 18 through March 18, 2009  
at \_\_\_\_\_.

Dear Maryland Educators:

Thanks to your dedication and hard work, Maryland educators and citizens have a lot to be proud of! Last month, Education Week's 2009 Quality Counts report ranked Maryland's public schools as the best in the nation. That same week, the consultant's report on Thornton's Bridge to Excellence Plan found that increased state aid to local school systems has resulted in progress on student achievement. The report also found that "a supportive and positive school environment maintained through effective school leadership" was one of most important criteria for the success of teachers, schools, and students.

Because of the close connection between the school environment and student achievement, we have launched an anonymous, web-based survey for educators, the **TELL Maryland Survey**, to learn more about the teaching and learning conditions across the state and to use that data to improve conditions for teachers and students. The survey is called **TELL Maryland**, not just because we want to hear from you, but because the survey is about **Teaching, Empowering, Leading, and Learning**.

I strongly encourage you to participate in the survey so that we can hear your perspectives on how teaching and learning conditions affect your ability to teach and your students' abilities to learn. In completing the survey, you will be asked questions about the allocation of your time, facilities and resources, student conduct, community engagement, empowerment, school leadership professional development, student learning, new teacher support and mentoring. You should be able to complete the survey in approximately 30 minutes.

The survey is completely confidential and anonymous. The data generated will be provided to each Maryland school for use in their improvement planning processes. All educators who participate in the survey will be able to view the data for their schools online. Individual school results will be available on the web by the end of April 2009. Please encourage all certificated personnel in your school to participate the survey.

Your voice is essential. We want to hear directly from teachers and other educators and appreciate your time to complete this survey. Thank you for your efforts in support of children, families, and communities across this state.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley  
Governor

