



GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA

The Cabinet Office

Department of Communication and Information

Contact:
Magnus Henagulph
rmhenagulph@gov.bm
(441) 294 2780
April 19, 2010

Remarks for the Hon. Elvin James, JP, MP, Minister of Education
Press conference on Blueprint for Education Reform

Good morning and thank you for coming.

I would like to thank the Chairman of the Board of Education, Mr. Darren Johnston and Commissioner of Education, Mrs. Wendy McDonnell, for joining me here today.

By now, members of the community will know that the Ministry of Education has released to the public this document- The Blueprint for Reform in Education which sets out our plan for the Bermuda Public School System for 2010 to 2015.

For those who may not already have the document, it is available on the Ministry of Education website at www.moed.bm and on the Government portal at www.gov.bm

This Blueprint reflects how we envision public education improving over the next five years. It was developed following extensive research, consultation and discussion within the Ministry, the Department and, most importantly, with education stakeholders.

We will meet face to face with various groups over the next few weeks. We also intend to discuss the Blueprint on several local programmes including 'Let's Talk' with Gary Moreno of ZBM on Monday, April 26th.

In order to hear more directly from the public, we will be holding three public meetings on the Blueprint:

- In the east, at Whitney School on Monday, May 3.
- In the central area, at CedarBridge Academy on Tuesday, May 4.
- In the west end, at TN Tatem Middle School on Thursday, May 6.

All of our public meetings will start promptly at 6 p.m. and last approximately an hour and a half. Doors will be open from 5.30 p.m. when light refreshments will be available.

Education is the one area that affects all of us. Therefore, it is vitally important that we hear your views on the Blueprint.



GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA

The Cabinet Office

Department of Communication and Information

In the meantime, I encourage each of you in the community to review the plan and, if you wish to make a submission, please write to the attention of the Commissioner of Education at the Department.

This can be done either through a dedicated e-mail address at blueprint@moed.bm or by mailing to the Department to the attention of the Commissioner of Education

Once all consultation is complete, we will review the Blueprint – make any appropriate changes and then dedicate ourselves to implementing the plan and ensuring that Public Education in Bermuda becomes something that our entire community can be proud of.

In closing, I once again encourage all members of the community to get involved. Tell us what you think.

This is an opportunity for the public to not just talk, but to help chart the way forward for our students so that the entire community may continue to prosper long in to the twenty-first century.

Thank you.