

WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Robert C. "Bobby" Scott (D-VA-03) will host U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan for a visit to An Achievable Dream (AAD), a Newport News public school, on Friday, November 20, 2009. Secretary Duncan and Rep. Scott will begin with a tour of AAD's elementary school, where they will observe students and teachers in various classrooms. Following the tour, Secretary Duncan and Rep. Scott will hold a roundtable discussion at AAD's middle and high school, where they will discuss ways to improve No Child Left Behind and promote dropout prevention with educators, students and parents.

"We are honored to have Secretary Duncan visit Newport News and An Achievable Dream," stated Rep. Scott. "An Achievable Dream is an outstanding model of success, and it demonstrates how all children can excel when they are given the tools and opportunities to succeed. It is a model that may be replicated in other school systems across the country."

A quality education for all children has been one of Rep. Scott's top priorities throughout his career in elected office. Currently, he is a member of the House Committee on Education and Labor and is the sponsor of a bill to promote dropout prevention across America called the Every Student Counts Act (H.R. 1569).

"This is also a tremendous opportunity to share ideas on ways to work together to improve No Child Left Behind and reduce the dropout crisis in America. I look forward to hearing from educators, students and parents and to our discussion with the Secretary," Rep. Scott said.

"Congressman Scott has been a tireless advocate for our nation's school children and I applaud his years of leadership on education issues in the Congress. I'm looking forward to visiting with him and learning more about what local schools are doing to boost student achievement," stated Secretary Duncan.

The tour will begin at 12:00 p.m. at AAD's elementary school located at 726 16<sup>th</sup> Street in Newport News. The roundtable discussion will take place at 1:00 pm at AAD's middle and high school located at 5720 Marshall Avenue in Newport News. Press is invited.

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