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Office of the Superintendent

# The Salem Public Schools City of Salem

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Dr. William J. Cameron, Jr. of the Salem Public Schools announces an upcoming Department of Education Coordinated Program Review. As part of this review, Department staff will visit the district during the week of February 25, 2008. Such visits are routinely conducted by the Department to satisfy federal and state requirements for the periodic review of specific education programs and services in schools throughout the Commonwealth.

The review will address the following programs: Civil Rights and other General Requirements, Special Education, Career and Technical Education, Chapter 71A-English Learner Education and Safe and Drug Free Schools. After reviewing documentation related to school district procedures for these programs, a Department of Education team will make its onsite visit, during which it will review individual student records, interview administrators, teachers and parents, and observe instructional sites. After the visit it will prepare a report for the Superintendent and School Committee, with detailed findings for each program.

Where requirements are found less than substantially implemented, the district must propose corrective action to bring those areas into compliance with statutes and regulations. The district may request technical assistance from the Department of Education in developing a corrective action plan. Both the Department's report and the corrective action plan are public information and will be available to the public upon request. Final Reports are also available on the Department's website at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/reports/>.

Members of the public may request to be interviewed by telephone by a member of the Department's visiting team. Those wishing to be interviewed should call the Assistant Superintendent's office at (978) 740-1214 no later than February 8th to leave their name and phone number or they may call the Department of Education at (781) 338-3729. A member of the visiting team will contact each person desiring an interview within two weeks after the completion of the onsite visit. If an individual is not comfortable communicating in English or requires some other accommodation, the Department will make arrangements to communicate appropriately with the individual.

Dr. Cameron indicated that he is confident that the Program Review will be a useful and positive experience for staff members and that the report will be useful in planning for the continued improvement of educational services for all students.