



# MEDIA ADVISORY

Bureau of Administration  
7178 Columbia Gateway Drive  
Columbia, MD 21046

**Media Contact:** Andy Barth  
Director of Communications  
410-313-6314 Office 410-303-2039 Mobile  
abarh@howardcountymd.gov

**(BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!)\***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 16, 2008

## Dental Sealants “Seal Up” Good Health for Many of the County’s Students

Children with dental insurance have access to a host of preventative measures that will keep both their teeth and bodies healthy well into adulthood. However, those children receiving public medical care are not so fortunate. Many dentists do not accept Medicaid. Further, fewer than 16 percent of Maryland's Medicaid children receive restorative services -- such as filling cavities. To prevent cavities to begin with, many dentists use dental sealants. Dental sealants act as a barrier, protecting the teeth against decay-causing bacteria.

In Howard County, the Health Department is making sure that those children who might not have access to these services are getting dental sealants free and right in their own school--ensuring that children are remaining in all over good health!

**WHO:** Dr. Peter L. Beilenson, Health Officer, Howard County

**WHAT:** Dental sealants for children

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 18, 2008 at 10:30 am

**WHERE:** Bollman Bridge Elementary School  
8200 Savage-Guilford Rd (easy access from Rt. 95)  
Jessup, MD 20794  
410-880-5920

**WHY:** To explain the importance of getting dental sealants for all of our County's children.

\* An earlier presentation on dental sealants was postponed when breaking news prevented coverage. Photo opportunities of the application of dental sealant to children's teeth will be available at this news conference.

###