

# MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday  
June 21, 2011

Maryland State Board of Education  
200 W. Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

The Maryland State Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, June 21, 2011 at 9 a.m. at the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. The following members were in attendance: Mr. James H. DeGraffenreidt, Jr., President; Dr. Charlene M. Dukes, Vice President; Dr. Mary Kay Finan; Dr. James Gates, Jr.; Ms. Luisa Montero-Diaz; Mr. Sayed Naved; Mr. Gayon Sampson; Mrs. Madhu Sidhu; Mr. Guffrie M. Smith, Jr.; Donna Hill Staton, Esq.; Dr. Ivan Walks; Ms. Kate Walsh and Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, Secretary/Treasurer and State Superintendent of Schools.

Elizabeth Kameen, Esq., Assistant Attorney General, and the following staff members were also present: Dr. John Smeallie, Deputy State Superintendent for Administration; Mr. Steve Brooks, Deputy State Superintendent for Finance and Mr. Anthony South, Executive Director to the State Board.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

President DeGraffenreidt welcomed Dr. Bernie Sadusky, who was selected by the State Board to serve as Interim State Superintendent of Schools while the Board conducts its search for a replacement for Dr. Grasmick.

Upon motion by Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Smith, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the consent agenda as follows: (In Favor – 11; Ms. Staton had not yet arrived)

- Approval of Minutes of May 24-25, 2011
- Personnel (copy attached to these minutes)
- Budget Adjustments for May, 2011
- National Board Candidates for 2011-12 Assessment Cycle

## **COMAR 13A.03.02.04 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS – ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY (ADOPTION)**

Dr. Grasmick introduced Mary Cary, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Instruction, to discuss the State Superintendent's recommendation for adoption of the proposed amendments to COMAR 13A.03.02,.04 – Graduation Requirements – Environmental Literacy.

Ms. Cary said, "This has been a remarkable collaboration effort." Ms. Cary explained that the Board approved the publication of this revision at its February meeting and that the language has been supported by a wide variety of stakeholders.

Upon motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Sidhu, and with unanimous agreement, the Board adopted the proposed amendments. (In Favor – 11; Ms. Staton had not yet arrived.)

### **GOVERNOR’S PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN IN NATURE**

Mr. DeGraffenreidt recognized and introduced Maryland Congressman John Sarbanes; Will Baker, President of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation who was present to represent the No Child Left Inside Coalition; and Joseph Gill, Deputy Secretary, Department of Natural Resources and representing Governor O’Malley’s Partnership for Children in Nature.

Congressman Sarbanes said, “Thank you for the measure you just approved. It will advance environmental education in Maryland.” He thanked Dr. Grasmick for her leadership in this endeavor.

Mr. Baker applauded the leadership in Maryland and said, “This is an historic moment for Maryland and the nation. It is the first time any environmental education has been passed in the country.”

Mr. Gill said, “We are only just getting started.”

They presented Dr. Grasmick with awards and she recognized those in the audience who were equally as supportive.

### **ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR**

The Superintendent introduced Debbie Drown, Executive Director of the Maryland Association of Elementary School Principals (MAESP), to introduce the individuals who were being recognized as the principal and assistant principal of the year.

Ms. Drown introduced Robert Wagner, Principal of Solley Elementary School in Anne Arundel County, and Lila Walker, Assistant Principal at Beacon Heights Elementary Schools in Prince George’s County. Mr. Wagner was selected by the MAESP to represent Maryland in Washington D.C. at a National Distinguished Principal awards ceremony. Ms. Walker was selected by MAESP as Maryland’s Assistant Principal of the Year.

Mr. Wagner and Ms. Walker thanked their supporters and the MAESP for this honor.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt and Dr. Grasmick presented them with certificates of recognition.

Ms. Drown, on behalf of MAESP, presented Dr. Grasmick with an award for her outstanding leadership in Maryland.

## RACE TO THE TOP (RTTT) UPDATE

The Superintendent asked Dr. Jim Foran, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Academic Reform and Innovation, to provide an update on RTTT grant implementation. She also invited Betty Weller, Maryland State Education Association Vice-President and Co-Chair of the Maryland Council on Educator Effectiveness (MCEE), to brief the Board on the Council's Initial Recommendations for a Statewide Educator Evaluation System.

Dr. Foran reported on the following amendments to the RTTT requirements which were recently approved by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE):

1. One year extension for the piloting of the Educator Evaluation System.
2. Master Plan amendment to allow LEAs to submit their scopes of work with their Master Plans.
3. STEM instructional and career support.
4. Project 40/15 to provide seed money for LEAs to build their evaluation systems.
5. Provision of a vendor to answer teachers' questions about the RTTT grant.

In response to a question by the Board President, Dr. Foran said that in future years there will be an application process to allow for reallocation of RTTT funding.

Dr. Grasmick explained that one of the areas of the RTTT application concerns *Great Teachers and Leaders*. She said that currently all LEAs develop their own evaluation systems for their education employees. She reported that the Governor appointed a Council, representing almost all stakeholders, to develop a protocol for a statewide educator evaluation system noting that Dr. Finan represented the Board on the Council. Dr. Grasmick said that the Council completed a report consisting of an initial set of recommendations. She explained that the evaluation system is to be piloted in seven jurisdictions and that the Council will be involved in its evolution during the mid-year and at the conclusion of the first year to determine if any changes are needed. Dr. Grasmick explained that the acceptance of the Report was not unanimous, noting that this endeavor is just the beginning of the process and that changes will be made in the future based on the pilots. She asked Ms. Weller, Co-Chair of the MCEE, to give a brief update on the work of the Council.

Ms. Weller said, "We do expect changes to come." She distributed a letter from the teachers on the Council outlining their deep concerns with the Council's initial recommendations. She said, "It was an honor to serve in this position."

Dr. Finan said that she was pleased with the work of the Council, both during the meetings and outside of the meetings. She said, "Even though the vote didn't reflect unanimity, everyone was heard. It is a *no fault* pilot for two years."

Dr. Grasmick explained that the principals on the Council did support the report and that the umbrella on this report is high quality professional development for everyone.

In response to a question by Ms. Staton, Ms. Weller said the dissenting votes were from teachers who felt that they were unable to continue the discussion after a motion to adopt the Report was made.

Ms. Sidhu expressed her concern that the parties are still divided saying that she understands their concerns. She said, "This is a living document and you have time going forward." Ms. Weller said that she hopes that, as the pilots proceed, the differences will be addressed.

In response to a concern expressed by Ms. Sidhu, Dr. Grasmick said that with the approval of the amendment to extend the pilot period for a second year, the Board can wait until December of 2012, after feedback from the 24 school systems, to make changes to the regulation. Dr. Foran cautioned that the regulation must be in place in sufficient time prior to the collective bargaining sessions between local school systems and the teacher associations.

In response to a suggestion by Dr. Gates, Ms. Weller said that it is her intention to meet with the teacher leaders in all seven of the piloting counties.

In response to a question by Dr. Walks, Ms. Weller said, "even if the input was not incorporated in the Report, they (the teachers) wanted to be able to speak to it."

Dr. Grasmick said she is asking LEAs to invite collective bargaining unit representatives to meet with the seven piloting school systems to discuss their concerns.

Ms. Walsh extended her appreciation to Ms. Weller's for "displaying courtesy" in her role as Co-Chair of the Council. She said, "Teacher worries about this are legitimate."

In response to a question by Ms. Diaz, Dr. Grasmick said that a communications plan is being developed along with continuous meetings with the seven pilot systems. She said that all seven school systems will be invited to an MCEE meeting in December to discuss the implementation of the evaluation system.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt said, "We need a sustainable working evaluation process that everyone can be proud of and build upon."

### **COMMON CORE CURRICULAR FRAMEWORKS**

Dr. Grasmick asked Mary Cary to provide an overview of the development process for the new Maryland Common Core State Curriculum and, in particular, the first phase of that work, development of the reading/English language arts and mathematics curriculum frameworks. She recommended that the Board accept these Frameworks as draft documents to be refined and finalized during the Summer Educator Academies.

Ms. Cary acknowledged various members of her staff who worked diligently on this project. She said that this is a draft and that, after feedback from stakeholders, the Board will be asked for final approval.



Ms. Cary discussed the gap analysis between the Common Core and state curricula that was conducted and the representation on the writing teams. She explained that the curricula will be built on the frameworks and that since Maryland does not have pre-K standards, those were also developed. She introduced **Judy Jenkins, title**, to further explain the process.

Ms. Jenkins said, "The frameworks are the foundation." She explained that the next step will be the development of resources by educators across the state. Ms. Jenkins explained that Universal Design for Learning (UDL) will guide curriculum resource development and that a curriculum toolkit will be developed in July.

Two staff members explained how the frameworks in English Language Arts and mathematics are organized noting that the math practices match with what colleges want students to be able to do in mathematics.

Dr. Gates asked if teachers teaching out of their training area will be problematic and Ms. Cary said they tried to minimize semantic differences between the math and language arts frameworks. She said that where there was flexibility, they did match the language. She noted that this may be a challenge to be addressed.

In response to a question by Dr. Gates about assessments, Ms. Cary said they are working with the assessment staff to merge timelines so that the process will work for teachers.

In response to a question by Ms. Staton, Ms. Cary explained that resources are being built around the UDL principles.

Ms. Walsh expressed the following concerns to be addressed:

1. There are forty other states in this process. She urged that formal opportunities be provided for training with states that are strong with curriculum.
2. Expressed the need to make sure that institutes of higher education, teachers and content experts are involved in the process.
3. Expressed the need for grammar not to be taught in isolation.

There was brief discussion about the need for students to receive education in subject/verb agreement and the use of fractions.

Upon motion by Dr. Finan, seconded by Dr. Gates, and with unanimous agreement, the Board accepted the Reading/English Language Arts and Mathematics curriculum frameworks as draft documents. (In Favor – 12)

**EDUCATION SERVICES FOR STUDENTS PLACED ON LONG-TERM SUSPENSION AND PERMISSION TO PUBLISH: AMENDMENTS TO THE MARYLAND STUDENT RECORDS MANUAL**

Dr. Grasmick introduced Ann Chafin, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Student, Family and School Support; and Chuck Buckler, Director of Students, Services and Alternative Programs Branch, to provide a status report on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the *Report to the Maryland State Board of Education on the Provision of Educational Services to Long-Term Suspended and Expelled Students in Maryland Public Schools*.

Dr. Grasmick asked for permission to publish the proposed amendments to the *Maryland Student Records System Manual (MSRSM)*.

Mr. Buckler explained that once the Board adopted the four recommendations in the Report, input was collected from LEAs.

In response to a question by the President, Ms. Chafin said that student social security numbers are not required and that the Handbook will address this. In response to another question by the President, Mr. Buckler said that he has received very positive comments on the establishment of a definition of expulsion and that data will be easy to compare from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. Mr. Buckler reported that there was no negative feedback on educational services to be provided to long-term suspended and expelled students other than cost factors. He said he is working with financial representatives to quantify the costs of providing these services.

In response to a question by Ms. Walsh, Mr. Buckler said that suspension in Maryland is an excused absence which requires, by regulation, that make-up work must be provided to the student.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt said that there is an inconsistency across the state in the provision of these services and that the Board needs to set a minimum standard.

There was brief discussion about the provision in the manual of six hours per week of educational services. Board members discussed the need to change the definition of "expulsion" to address the provision of educational services and Ms. Kameen said that the regulation can be amended by adding another category.

After brief discussion about student movement to other schools, Mr. Buckler explained that the unique student identifier will allow for tracking of students who are suspended and/or expelled.

Board members suggested several typographical changes to the document.

Mr. Naved asked that the Board receive a report on how input is received from LEAs on long-term suspensions and expulsions into the longitudinal data system.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt asked that a report be provided to the Board prior to the publication of the changes to the Manual. With that caveat and upon motion by Ms. Staton, seconded by Dr. Gates,

and with unanimous agreement, the Board granted permission to publish the proposed amendments to the MSRSM. (In Favor – 12)

### **PROPOSED GUIDELINES FOR TIMELY DISPOSITION OF LONG-TERM DISCIPLINE CASES**

Dr. Grasmick explained that the proposed guidelines were circulated widely throughout Maryland and that the responses have been provided to the Board.

Ms. Diaz said, “One of the messages is that there isn’t a problem. Is that true?”

Ms. Chafin said that responses were anecdotal and that there is no way to know. She said, “I don’t think organizations that oppose this would say this if they didn’t know.”

Ms. Staton expressed her view that groups were more concerned about inconvenience for the school system than fairness for students.

Board members asked that local superintendents be made aware of the Board’s concerns and report back in more detail on long-term discipline cases.

In response to a question by Ms. Diaz, Mr. Gene Streagle, Executive Director of the Maryland Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP), said that his organization supports the changes noting that these issues are family problems which must be dealt with the utmost respect.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt said the Board needs to continue the conversation on this subject, noting that doesn’t have any data to work with. He said that we need to challenge all parties who have expressed an opinion on the issue to provide data in support their positions. He said that the Board would benefit from hearing directly from and having dialogue with some of the key stakeholders. He asked Ms. Chafin to work with Dr. Sadusky and Mr. South to arrange to schedule panel presentations on this subject at future Board meetings.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Pursuant to §10-503(a)(1)(i) & (iii) and §10-508(a)(1) & (7) of the State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and upon motion by Ms. Diaz seconded by Ms. Sidhu, and with unanimous agreement, the Board met in closed session on Tuesday, June 21, 2011, in Conference Room 1, 8<sup>th</sup> floor of the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. All board members were present. In attendance were Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, State Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Bernard Sadusky, designated Interim State Superintendent of Schools; Dr. John Smeallie, Deputy State Superintendent for Administration; Steve Brooks, Deputy State Superintendent for Finance; and Tony South, Executive Director to the State Board. Assistant Attorneys General, Elizabeth M. Kameen, and Jackie La Fiandra were also present. The Executive Session commenced at 12:30 p.m. (In favor – 12)

The State Board approved two decisions for publication:

- *Theresa P. v. Prince George's County Board of Education* – graduation case – Opinion No. 11-31
- *Tricia Brissett v. Baltimore County Board of Education* – teacher termination – Opinion No. 11-32

The Board deliberated three cases:

- *David & Nino K. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education* – residency
- *Calvin Baker v. Charles County Board of Education* – employee termination
- *Crossway Community, Inc. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – charter school waiver request

The Board will issue written opinions at an upcoming meeting.

The State Board received legal advice concerning test security cases, and the removal process applicable to an elected local school board member.

Steve Brooks and his staff briefed the Board on FY 2013 proposed budget priorities for MSDE. Irene Padilla updated the Board on changes to the County Library Project Grant budget and received approval from the Board to reduce the grants due to legislative budget reductions.

#### Internal Board Management

Board President, James DeGraffenreidt, discussed the results of Candidate Review Committee for the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners. The Board reviewed and commented on the results of the Board Self-Evaluation. They also discussed candidates for State Board offices. At 2:35 p.m. all staff persons left the meeting and the Board discussed the State Superintendent recruitment process. The meeting ended at 2:50 p.m.

#### RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 2:55 p.m.

#### MARYLAND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOOL NETWORK AWARD

President DeGraffenreidt introduced Jean Satterfield, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Certification and Accreditation, to present an award from the Maryland Professional Development School (PDS) Network to Dr. Grasmick to acknowledge her implementation and support of the Professional Development School model for teacher preparation in Maryland.

Ms. Satterfield introduced Dr. Deborah S. Kraft, Interim Dean, School of Education, Stevenson University; Judy Beiter, Manager, College/University Partnerships, Anne Arundel County Public



Schools; and, Jacqueline Alford, Site Coordinator, Northwood Elementary School, Baltimore City Public Schools, to present the Award.

Dr. Kraft said this award is recognizing Dr. Grasmick for her guidance and support of the PDS model. She said the model has changed the focus for those in higher education. She noted that three groups worked collaboratively.

Ms. Beiter reported on the teachers that have benefited from the professional development provided at Morgan State University.

Ms. Alford said that they are preparing the next generation of great teachers and that Maryland has become a national model for teacher preparation.

They presented Dr. Grasmick with awards and Dr. Grasmick thanked and recognized those persons in the Network who were in attendance. Dr. Grasmick said, "I am honored. I really believe in this."

### **ALTERNATIVE GOVERNANCE PROPOSALS: BALTIMORE CITY**

The Superintendent said that Department staff is very pleased with the Alternative Governance Proposals submitted for schools in Baltimore City and recommended the Board's approval of the Alternative Governance Proposals for the following schools:

- City Springs Elementary
- Connexions Academy Middle/High
- Furman Templeton Elementary
- Glenmount Elementary/Middle
- Patterson High
- Samuel Coleridge-Taylor Elementary

She introduced Dr. Andres Alonso, CEO of the Baltimore City Public School System (BCPSS) and Dr. LaWanda Green Burwell, Executive Assistant, Strategic Affairs, BCPSS, to brief the Board on the Alternative Governance Proposals.

Dr. Alonso said that three of the schools are charter schools and that a couple of the schools have made significant progress but started so far behind it's difficult to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) requirements of the *No Child Left Behind Act*. He introduced the principals of the six schools.

Dr. Alonso reported that the three charter schools are undergoing targeted zero basing of staff, two schools will have a new principal and Patterson High School will be zero-based over the summer. He thanked the State Superintendent and Department staff for their endorsement of the proposals.

Ms. Diaz congratulated the presenters for a decrease in the suspension rates in the schools and an increase in the number of years of experience for its teachers.

Dr. Grasmick acknowledged the hard work of Ann Chafin and Teresa Knott in providing guidance and assistance to the BCPSS. She said, "What a joy it has been to work with you Dr. Alonso."

Upon motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Naved, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the Alternative Governance Proposals for six schools in Baltimore City. (In Favor – 11; Dr. Walks was absent)

### **PRIVACY CONSIDERATIONS AND WEBSITE CHANGES**

Dr. Grasmick introduced Dr. Leslie Wilson, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Accountability and Assessment, to discuss the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and its impact on the data that MSDE can report to the public.

Dr. Wilson explained that FERPA prohibits the release of individually identifiable information to the public and provided examples of how unintended disclosures can be made on the Department's website. She noted a variety of changes that will need to be made to our public reporting of data and that the USDE will be monitoring the Department's website and that LEAs may need to change their websites as well. She discussed the complications surrounding this issue including the dilemma surrounding the reporting of Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 2014.

Board members discussed the negative aspects of the changes and expressed concern about security of the data being collected. Dr. Wilson assured them that there are numerous protections in place for the data system.

### **STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

Dr. Grasmick reported that she received a waiver request from Allegany County Public Schools (ACPS) to open schools on a legal holiday following the Easter break. She explained that ACPS had set their school calendar prior to the changing of the date for the primary election.

Ms. Kameen explained that the state statute provides that a waiver can only be granted if there is proof of an emergency.

Dr. Grasmick said that the school system is projecting the end of the school year to be June 1<sup>st</sup> and that she is not recommending approval of the waiver since the final school day is set very early.

Upon motion by Mr. DeGraffenreidt, seconded by Dr. Walks, and with unanimous agreement, the Board denied the waiver request. (In Favor – 12)

The Superintendent noted that she has been working with the State Board of Education for thirty-three years and thanked the Board for their incredible support of the Department's initiatives.

She cautioned, "Take good care of this amazing staff. The talent here is the envy of all local school systems. I have been very privileged."

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. DeGraffenreidt explained procedures by which the Board hears public comments. The following persons presented comments:

- Linda Turner regarding educational accountability for students.
- Wayne Whigham regarding proposed guidelines for discipline cases.
- Debra Monk regarding long term suspension cases.

### **RECOGNITION OF STUDENT MEMBER**

The President recognized student Board member, Gayon Sampson, and noted that this meeting is his last meeting as a member of the State Board. He thanked Mr. Sampson for his contributions as a Board member and wished him well as he enters college in the fall. He then presented him with a gift as an expression of the Board's appreciation.

Mr. Sampson thanked the Board, Mr. South and Dr. Grasmick for providing a comfort level for him and said, "You are awesome."

### **BOARD RECOGNITION OF DR. GRASMICK**

Mr. DeGraffenreidt said to Dr. Grasmick that Maryland's success "is a testament of the consistent steady hand on the tiller that you have provided." He proclaimed his admiration for her work.

Dr. Grasmick said, "Your role is huge, in terms of policy decisions." She said, "I did not do this alone but with remarkable people." She expressed her appreciation for the Board's support. She noted the importance of the students in Maryland and that they have worked hard and received more than \$750 billion in scholarship money over the years. She said, "I will be following, with interest, all of the next steps."

Board members each provided their thanks and best wishes to the Superintendent.

**OPINIONS**

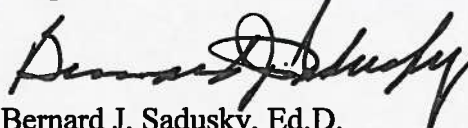
Ms. Kameen announced the following Opinions:

- 11-30 *Theresa P. v. Prince George's County Board of Education* – Section 504 services (reversed the local board's decision)
- 11-31 *Tricia Brissett v. Baltimore County Board of Education* – teacher termination (affirmed the local board's decision)

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Bernard J. Sadusky, Ed.D.  
Interim Secretary, Treasurer

NSG/rms

APPROVED: 7/20/11



# MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## CLOSED SESSION

On this 21st day of June 2011, at the hour of 12:25 pm, the Members of the State Board of Education voted as follows to meet in closed session:

Motion made by: Montano-Diaz

Seconded by: Sidhu

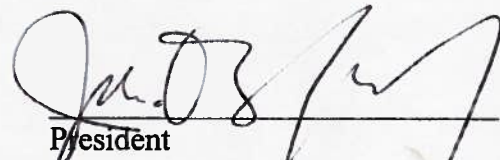
In Favor: 11 Opposed: 0 Member(s) Opposed: \_\_\_\_\_

The meeting was closed under authority of §10-503 (a) (1) (I) and §10-508 (a) of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland for the following reason(s): (check all which apply)

- (1) To discuss: (I) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or (ii) any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.
- (2) To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals with respect to a matter that is not related to public business.
- (3) To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.
- (4) To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State.
- (5) To consider the investment of public funds.
- (6) To consider the marketing of public securities.
- (7) To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.
- (8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.
- (9) To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations.
- (10) To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (I) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans.
- (11) To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination.
- (12) To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct.
- (13) To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.
- (14) Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

The topics to be addressed during this closed session include the following:

1. Discuss 2 legal appeals and a Waiver Request
2. Review 2 draft opinions.
3. Receive legal advice on local board personnel issue.
4. Discuss 1 item that is subject to Executive Privilege.
5. Discuss several internal Board management matters.

  
President

**MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE June 21-22, 2011 BOARD MEETING**

**I. Appointments Grade 19 and above:**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY GRADE</u>	<u>DIVISION/OFFICE</u>	<u>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</u>
von Behren, Valerie L.	Education Program Specialist I, Coordinator, State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care	21	Special Education/Early Intervention Services	TBD

**II. Appointments Grade 18 and below:**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY GRADE</u>	<u>DIVISION/OFFICE</u>	<u>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</u>
Auten, Karen	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist II	13	Rehabilitation Services, Region IV	06/01/2011
Fadeyi, Iyabode	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist II	13	Rehabilitation Services, Region III	06/01/2011
Gerace, Lucas G.	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist II	13	Rehabilitation Services, Region III	06/01/2011
Green, Jessica L.	Child Care Licensing Specialist Trainee	13	Early Childhood Development	05/18/2011
Ritz, Linda S.	Child Care Licensing Specialist Trainee	13	Early Childhood Development	05/18/2011

**III. Other Actions:**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY GRADE</u>	<u>DIVISION/OFFICE</u>	<u>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</u>
None				



**Nancy S. Grasmick**  
State Superintendent of Schools

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June 21-22, 2011

### BOARD LIST

The following professional appointment is submitted for approval by the State Board of Education:

**Name:** Valerie L. von Behren

**Position:** Education Program Specialist I, Coordinator, State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care

**Division:** Special Education/Early Intervention Services

**Salary Grade:** 21 (\$55,419 - \$88,976)

**Effective Date:** TBD

### JOB REQUIREMENTS:

**Education:**

A Masters Degree or equivalent 36 credit hours of post-baccalaureate course work in Early Childhood Education, Special Education, Educational Administration or a related field.

**Experience:**

Four (4) years of professional administrative or teaching experience in or affiliated with early childhood education programs. Professional experience developing, interpreting, implementing and communicating education policies and procedures is desirable.

**NOTE:** Two additional years of experience as defined may substitute for the Master's Degree.

### DESCRIPTION:

This is a professional position serving as the Coordinator responsible for the oversight and coordination of operations for the State Early Childhood Advisory Council on Early Education and Care (ECAC).

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**Qualifications:**

**Education:**

Lock Haven University (Lock Haven, Pennsylvania) 1987 – Bachelor's Degree in Communications

Wright State University (Fairborn, Ohio) – 18 credit hours in Counseling

**Experience:**

Maryland State Department of Education (Baltimore, Maryland)

2007 – Present: Education Program Specialist I, Early Childhood Special Education

2006 – 2007: Parent Liaison, Intensive Management and Improvement Capacity Team (IMCIT), Baltimore City Public Schools

2004 – 2006: Education Program Specialist I, Family Support Services Coordinator

Maryland Committee for Children Network. (Baltimore, Maryland )

1999 – 2004: Special Needs Coordinator/Counselor

Baltimore City Child Care Source Center

2001 –2002: Acting Behavior Guidance Program Coordinator

Athelas Institute, Incorporated (Columbia, Maryland)

1998 –1999: Program Manager of Alternative Opportunities Day Habilitation Program

Family Support Associates (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania)

1995 –1999: Childcare Specialist, Reynolds Lane Program

Department of Welfare, Childline Division (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania)

1994 –1995: Caseworker

United Health and Human Services (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania)

1993 –1995: Therapeutic Support Staff

Bedford County Children and Youth (Bedford, Pennsylvania)

1992 –1993: Child Abuse Investigator

**Employment Status**

Horizontal Transfer