

# MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday  
January 24, 2012

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

The Maryland State Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, January 24, 2012, 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. S. James Gates, Jr.; Ms. Nina Marks; Ms. Luisa Montero-Diaz; Mr. Sayed Naved; Mrs. Madhu Sidhu; Mr. Guffrie M. Smith, Jr.; Donna Hill Staton, Esq.; Dr. Ivan Walks; Ms. Kate Walsh and Dr. Bernard Sadusky, Interim 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 called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

- Approval of Minutes of December 6, 2011
- Personnel (copy attached to these minutes)
- Budget Adjustments for December, 2011
- Approval
  - COMAR 13A.12.02.27 Specialized Professional Areas
  - COMAR 13A.12.01.03D Personnel Not Eligible
  - COMAR 13A.12.05.02B Suspension Only
  - COMAR 13A.12.05.03A Reporting Procedures

## **RACE TO THE TOP UPDATE**

Superintendent Sadusky introduced Dr. Jim Foran, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Academic Reform and Innovation, to update the Board on the Race to the Top (RTTT) initiative.

Dr. Foran said that a group of staff met with personnel at the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) and reported that the USDE will be holding Maryland to its commitments stated in the

RTTT Application and that the USDE believes that not all twelve states participating in the RTTT will complete the program. Dr. Foran discussed a report from the USDE on Maryland's progress for year one noting that it contained Maryland's biggest challenges, accomplishments and performance indicators and that Department staff is very happy with Maryland's report. Dr. Foran said that the next onsite visit by the USDE will be held on March 12 and that a comprehensive schedule has been set up with visits to Baltimore City, Prince George's County and St. Mary's County.

Dr. Sadusky said that the meeting with USDE was extremely helpful and stressed the need to talk about the political ramifications of the Department's work. He said the issues of common core and international standards are paramount and that the USDE stressed the immediacy of these issues.

Dr. Gates said that international benchmarking is going to be our metric and commended Dr. Sadusky for bringing up this important issue.

### **RACE TO THE TOP FOCUS AREA: EARLY LEARNING CHALLENGE GRANT**

The Superintendent reported that Maryland received one of nine RTTT Early Learning Challenge Grant awards for a total of \$50 million over four years. He said that this was only possible due to the work of Dr. Rolf Grafwallner, Assistant State Superintendent, and Division of Early Childhood Development.

Dr. Grafwallner thanked Dr. Sadusky and MSDE staff who worked on the proposal noting that "this was a team effort." He reported that thirty-seven applications were submitted to the USDE and Maryland's application was the number six grant awarded. He explained that the Department will be collaborating with the USDE and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in this endeavor. Dr. Grafwallner reported that the Governor's State Advisory Council on Early Care and Education functioned as the lead team on this project. He stressed the need to narrow the readiness gap of children entering kindergarten noting that early childhood education is a developing area. Dr. Grafwallner said the challenge is to level the playing field for children with disabilities, English language learners and economically disadvantaged children.

Dr. Grafwallner discussed the Vision and Mission of Maryland's State Plan and discussed ten projects to enhance the current Early Childhood Education System.

The President congratulated Dr. Grafwallner noting that the USDE is moving toward a more competitive funding model. He said, "Your plan for delivering results is commendable."

In response to a question by Ms. Staton about how programs are selected for the Breakthrough Center component of the grant, Dr. Grafwallner said the coaching model will be relied on to bring them into the programs and that the Breakthrough Center will broker existing resources.

In response to Ms. Walsh's request for a rubric depicting the EXCELS program for rating child care centers and providers, Dr. Grafwallner said it is in draft form at this time. In response to a question by Ms. Walsh about the validation piece, Dr. Grafwallner explained that there is a scientifically based evaluation procedure in place.

In response to Ms. Walsh's question about the changes required in the Maryland Model for School Readiness (MMSR), Dr. Grafwallner said they will be developing a new System containing seven domains and a component of a performance test. He explained it will be a technology platform which can provide immediate feedback.

In response to a comment by Dr. Walks, Dr. Grafwallner said that the Early Childhood Program will be promoting social foundation skills for children prior to entering kindergarten.

Dr. Dukes said she would like to discuss, at another time, the implications of the grant for higher education, especially as it pertains to preparation programs for child care providers.

In response to a concern expressed by Ms. Sidhu about children from birth to three years old who do not go to day care, Dr. Grafwallner said this is troublesome and that the Coalition is working on this challenge.

In response to a question by Mr. Smith about networking, Dr. Grafwallner said that the Council, consisting of thirty-four organizations, will disseminate information. He also said that all child care programs in Maryland will be informed of the new programs.

Ms. Marks suggested that Maryland Blue Ribbon Schools and Title I schools should provide best practices for dissemination to all Maryland child care facilities and schools.

In response to a question by Mr. Naved about a breakdown of funding year by year, Dr. Grafwallner said there is a breakdown by project and by year that will be provided to the Board and that MSDE has oversight of the entire project funding. In response to another question by Mr. Naved, Dr. Grafwallner said that the goal is to have 92 percent of children ready to enter kindergarten. He said he will provide a further update in March to the Board when he discusses this year's School Readiness Report.

### **TRANSITION TO THE MARYLAND COMMON CORE STATE CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENTS**

The Superintendent introduced Mary Cary, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Instruction, to inform the Board about matters related to the implementation of the new Maryland Common Core Standards (CCS) State Curriculum and the new assessment system for English language arts and mathematics.

Ms. Cary provided a timeline of Maryland's third wave of reform and brought the group's attention to the 2012-2013 school year which will include the first pilot of the new assessments created by the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC).

She reported that the 2013-14 school year will be the target for the new curriculum in math and English language arts to be in place. She noted that other curricula will be phased in over time and that there are a lot of unanswered questions at this point.

Ms. Cary explained that a convergence will occur during the 2014-2015 school year when the Common Core Standards and the PARCC Assessments will be fully implemented.

She discussed the PARCC testing timeline and the refinements that have been made to the PARCC Assessment Design in English language arts/literacy and mathematics for grades three to eleven noting that all tests will be administered online and can be completed with paper and pencil for grades three to five. Ms. Cary said that there will be reviewers looking for test bias and that a technology survey will be conducted to identify the technology gaps to be filled.

There was concern expressed about the numerous tests in the PARCC assessments and Ms. Kameen reported that she perused the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed with PARCC and noted that it is quite specific about the requirements for testing since Maryland is a governing state. Ms. Cary provided information on decisions that are required by the Board to administer and fund the assessments. Ms. Cary reported that Dr. Sadusky and Dr. Wood, the newly appointed Assistant State Superintendent for Accountability and Assessment, are on the PARCC Board and will be the conduit for information on the PARCC assessments.

In response to a concern expressed by Ms. Staton about the online provision of the assessments, Ms. Cary said that other states have expressed concern as well and that school districts will have choices in electronic devices to conduct the assessments.

Dr. Sadusky reported that he has only attended one meeting and that he was told there would be a paper and pencil test available and that there are a lot of unresolved issues. He noted that superintendents are complaining about the lack of communications on the assessments.

Ms. Staton said, "I don't want to see us boxed in. We need a range of options available."

Dr. Sadusky offered to gather a team to make recommendations to the PARCC Board based on the State Board's concerns.

In response to a question from Dr. Dukes about the phasing out of the Maryland State Assessments (MSA), Ms. Cary said that depends on the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

In response to another question by Dr. Dukes, Ms. Cary said that the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) has assured her that the college entrance exams are aligned to the CCS. She noted that the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) test is not aligned with the CCS.

Dr. Sadusky said that further discussion of these issues can occur at the February Board meeting and that decisions will need to be made at the March Board meeting. He reported that representatives from PARCC have been asked to participate in the next meeting of Maryland superintendents of schools.

Dr. Walks and Dr. Gates expressed their extreme concern and asked Dr. Sadusky to communicate their concerns to the PARCC Board. Dr. Sadusky assured them that he would communicate their concerns. Mr. DeGraffenreidt said, "We need to harmonize the conflict and lead as an RTTT state."

Ms. Cary said, "We are working 24-7 on new curricula. We are moving forward."

### **MARYLAND COUNCIL ON EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS (MCEE) REPORT**

The President asked Dr. Sadusky, serving as Co-Chair of the MCEE, to brief the Board on the December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCEE.

Dr. Sadusky introduced Betty Weller, Co-Chair of the MCEE and Vice President of the Maryland State Educators Association (MSEA), and explained that the meeting in December included progress reports from the seven districts piloting the new Teacher Evaluation System.

Ms. Weller said that the evaluation program has been highly collaborative and includes multiple measures and high quality professional development. She explained that representatives of each pilot school district reported to the MCEE on their challenges and recommendations regarding the new evaluation program noting that all local education agencies (LEAs) are using some form of the Charlotte Danielson Framework for Teaching. Ms. Weller said that the main challenges included the non-tested areas and determining a "teacher of record" for classes with multiple teachers and for new students who enter school during the year.

Dr. Sadusky said that the pilot presenters expressed the need for evaluations to be based on more than one year of student growth. He also said that they urged that the Framework allow for more than three rating categories and expressed support and further exploration on the use of Student Learning Objectives (SLOs).

Ms. Weller explained that the presenters asked that any state mandates be clearly defined and some suggested that school aggregate data be included in teacher evaluation scores.

The Interim Superintendent reported that the MCEE would be meeting in February and June noting that the other seventeen school districts are looking at their options as well. He said, "We are miles from where we started. People are focused on the goal of improving teacher and student growth."

Ms. Weller reported that the MCEE has had very little discussion about principal evaluations and needs to discuss and agree upon who would evaluate principals.

Dr. Sadusky said that the LEAs will develop unique and individualized evaluation models that are workable.

Ms. Weller suggested that the State Board appoint an Advisory Board, following the expiration of the Council's charter in June, to continue to monitor these efforts for several years. The President said, "We agree with you. That is an easy sell."

## **REPORT OF THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND TEACHER EDUCATION BOARD (PSTEB)**

Dr. Sadusky introduced Jean Satterfield, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Certification and Accreditation, and Dr. Joann Ericson, Chief of the Certification Branch, to present an overview of the Final Report of the Reconfiguration of the Current Certification Structure.

Ms. Satterfield introduced Dr. Margaret Trader, Chair of the PSTEB, to summarize the deliberations of the PSTEB regarding the recommendations.

Ms. Satterfield explained that a work group was created to review and make recommendations regarding what changes are required in the existing certification structure to support the Department's RTTT submission and recent legislative action directing the Department to adopt regulations which align the evaluation of teacher performance, in part, with student growth. She said that the work group submitted its report to the PSTEB in June, 2011, and, since then, the PSTEB has engaged in extensive discussion regarding the six proposed recommendations.

Dr. Ericson discussed the following five major points addressed by the work group:

1. Administering regulations differently – finding ways to do this more equitably
2. Determining differences between certification and licensure
3. Education Reform Act of 2010 raised the stakes – need to ensure those people would continue to have a certificate. Need to come up with a license for people who are not required to hold a certificate
4. Requiring satisfactory experience and removal of professional development should be a continuing part of certificate renewal
5. Outputs or performance should receive more prominence than input

She said the group developed six recommendations.

Dr. Trader explained that the collective view of the PSTEB is to move forward with four of the recommendations. She discussed the following six recommendations made by the work group and the PSTEB's response:

Recommendation 1: Revise the current certification system to include a license for those individuals who are not required by regulation to hold a certification. She said the PSTEB favors the recommendation.

Recommendation 2: Eliminate the requirement for obtaining a master's degree for teachers. The master's degree remains a requirement for those seeking certification as an Administrator or Supervisor and/or Specialist. She said the PSTEB does not favor this recommendation.

Recommendation 3: Differentiate the credential for those required to hold certification and those who are not required to hold certification. She said the PSTEB favors the recommendation.

Recommendation 4: Recommit to the importance of rigorous and relevant professional development as a continued requirement for certification and certificate renewal. She said the PSTEB favors the recommendation.

Recommendation 5: Facilitate the novice teacher's entry into the profession and the world of practice; eliminate the need for additional renewal credits while on the Initial Professional Certificate. She said the PSTEB favors the recommendation.

Recommendation 6: Require 135 units for renewal. Renewal units may be college/university credits and/or continuing Professional Development Credits or other approved experiences determined by the local school system. She said the PSTEB took no position on this recommendation.

In response to a question by Dr. Dukes, Dr. Ericson said teachers can use professional development courses to meet renewal credits and that the process to evaluate the courses is being tightened up.

Ms. Walsh expressed concern with professional development courses being tied to salary increases rather than professional growth. Ms. Satterfield said that the regulations will be provided to the Board with time to revisit these issues.

The President asked the presenters to "tease out the big picture policy issues." Ms. Satterfield said they will prioritize the Board's issues. He expressed the Board's desire to have a response on this matter as soon as possible, hopefully by the Board meeting in February.

Dr. Trader said the PSTEB would be in a position to provide material for public comment in March and the entire package should be ready by June. Mr. DeGraffenreidt asked that every effort be made to expedite action by the PSTEB.

### **MARYLAND ESEA WAIVER REQUEST**

Dr. Sadusky invited Mary Gable, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Academic Policy, and Ann Chafin, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Student, Family and School Support Services, to update the Board on Maryland's ESEA Waiver request.

Ms. Gable explained that the deadline for the waiver request is February 21 and, when approved, the waiver will remain in effect for two years. She said this will set the stage for future work until the 2013-14 school year and can be extended. She noted that thirty-three meetings/communication sessions were held with stakeholders. Ms. Gable discussed the following four principles for improving student academic achievement and increasing the quality of instruction:

1. Transitioning to college- and career-ready standards and assessments
2. Developing systems of differentiated recognition, accountability, and support
3. Evaluating and supporting teacher and principal effectiveness
4. Reducing duplication and unnecessary burden.

Ms. Gable explained that for Principle #1, Maryland has adopted the Common Core Standards, developed a transition plan and is part of PARCC.

Ms. Chafin discussed the identification of priority, focus and reward schools and establishing Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs) to reduce by one-half the number of students not proficient in six years which addresses Priority #2. She discussed drafts of a Maryland Accountability Index for grades 3-8 and 9-12.

Ms. Gable stated that the Department is developing a draft accountability system for all schools that includes achievement, gap closing, growth, and college and career readiness.

Ms. Gable explained that Principle #3 reflects Maryland's work on the new teacher and principal evaluation program. Ms. Walsh suggested adding teacher and student attendance in the Maryland Accountability Index. Ms. Gable said that they plan to use the current proficiency rates based on assessments administered in the 2010-2011 school year as the starting point for setting its AMOs.

Mr. Naved asked for a comparison of the option of using 1-5 or 1-50 as the measurement. Ms. Gable said they are still working on this and that the numbers can change at any time.

In response to a suggestion by Dr. Gates that biology should not be designated as science proficiency, Ms. Gable said that when the State moves to the PARCC assessments it will be changed.

Dr. Sadusky asked Board members to provide any further feedback prior to the submission date of February 21<sup>st</sup>. He stated that the Board will be provided with an executive summary and given time to review the proposal in more depth prior to the submission date.

Dr. Finan expressed concern about the draft model teacher evaluation provided, asking if the Maryland Council on Educator Effectiveness or the State will be creating a teacher/principal evaluation model. Ms. Gable assured Dr. Finan that the Council will make recommendations to the Board for approval.

Dr. Sadusky thanked the presenters for all of their hard work.

### **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 Mr. Smith seconded by Dr. Dukes, and with unanimous agreement, the Board met in closed session on Tuesday, January 24, 2012, 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. Bernard Sadusky, Interim State Superintendent; 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 1:15 p.m.



The Board deliberated one case. It will be published at a later date.

- *Casnell Jackson v. Howard County Board of Education* – employee termination (custodian)

The State Board approved seven Opinions and three Orders for publication.

- *Marcia B. v. Prince George's County Board of Education* – expungement of student record – Opinion No. 12-01
- *Richard C. and Kathy C. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education* – complaint – Opinion No. 12-02
- *Trina C. v. Prince George's County Board of Education* – student discipline – Opinion No. 12-03
- *Sara Belin v. Washington County Board of Education* – teacher termination – Opinion No. 12-04
- *Paul and Ety E. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – student transfer – Opinion No. 12-05
- *David and Kimberly H. v. Harford County Board of Education* – student transfer – Opinion No. 12-06
- *Mr. and Mrs. Rashad M. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – student transfer – Opinion No. 12-07
- *Rock Creek Hills Citizens Association, et al. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – feasibility study – Order No. OR12-01
- *Leah Antonas v. Howard County Board of Education* – residency – Order No. OR12-02
- *Krista Kurth, et al. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – lease of land – Order No. OR12-03

President DeGraffenreidt updated the Board on the Superintendent search process.

The Board established a process and schedule for Maintenance of Effort Non-Compliance appeals.

The Board reviewed the draft Report on student discipline and suggested technical changes. All substantive change recommendations were deferred for discussion in public session.

The meeting ended at 2:30 p.m.

### **RECONVENE**

The meeting reconvened at 2:37 p.m.

## **PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION IN PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY EDUCATION**

The Superintendent called on Kathy Oliver, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Career and College Readiness, and Dr. Lynne Gilli, Program Manager, Career and Technology Instruction Branch, to provide an update on the program of instruction in personal financial literacy education.

Ms. Oliver acknowledged the work of an advisory group appointed to provide guidance and advice to develop, implement, monitor and sustain personal financial literacy. She reported that since 2008, five professional development sessions have been held for more than 250 middle and high school teachers and that more than \$148,000 in grant funds were received for this project. She explained that the MSDE partnered with the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) and that all 24 LEAs embraced this requirement. She recommended a one-year waiver of the requirement for a program of instruction for all students in grades 3-12 in Charles, Garrett and Montgomery Counties while they work to ensure full implementation of the COMAR requirement. She outlined the ongoing state and local needs, the next steps in this program and provided a video clip promoting financial literacy.

In response to a request by Ms. Diaz for a profile of students who are doing well in financial literacy education, Ms. Oliver explained that the State is targeting disadvantaged students.

In response to a question by Dr. Gates, Ms. Oliver said that another benefit of this program is to enhance the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program.

In response to a question by Ms. Marks, Dr. Gilli said there are many products online that are being used by LEAs to teach financial literacy.

Dr. Walks encouraged school counselors to use this program to assist students in getting financial aid for college. Dr. Gilli said that counselors are receiving training to provide such assistance.

In response to a question by Dr. Gates, Ms. Oliver said that discussions are taking place with students about the decisions they make and what their earning power would be based on those decisions.

Dr. Dukes said, "We are really proud of how far we have come."

Upon motion by Mr. DeGraffenreidt, seconded by Dr. Gates, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved a one-year waiver of the requirement for a program of instruction for all students in grades 3-12 in Charles, Garrett and Montgomery counties. (In Favor – 11; Mr. Naved was absent)

## **REPORT: A SAFE SCHOOL, SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS, AND A FAIR AND EQUITABLE DISCIPLINARY PROCESS GO HAND IN HAND**

The President summarized the work of the Board over the two years in looking at the effects of long-term and frequent student suspensions noting the consequences fall mostly on minority students. Mr. DeGraffenreidt said that the MSDE is going to analyze and track the impact on minority students and what makes schools safer. He noted that the use of suspensions does not necessarily create safer schools. Mr. DeGraffenreidt said that the Board is asking local school systems to review their discipline policies and use appropriate measures dealing with school safety and report regularly to the MSDE. He noted that the Board's Report addresses the length and requirements for suspensions and the identification of participants in a suspension hearing.

The President said the Board will be looking at data regarding the "school to prison" pipeline. He said that the Report states that expulsion is not appropriate for anything but the most violent and dangerous acts. He noted that the Report stipulates that education services such as homework must be provided to suspended students and that a liaison from the school must be assigned to work with a suspended student. He said the Board will be releasing a draft of the report, once it is completed, for public comment and then plans to adopt a final version.

Ms. Staton discussed the disincentives for using long-term suspensions, the provision of teacher training in classroom management, the use of suspension as a last resort, the use of alternative programs by local school systems for providing educational services during suspensions, and the streamlining of the appeal process.

Ms. Walsh expressed concerns about terms used by local school systems such as "other weapons" citing a case where a student was suspended for possessing a plastic gun. She suggested that attacks on teachers and administrators should be separate from attacks on students. Ms. Walsh suggested the use of technology for providing educational services to students in remote locations.

Mr. Smith said, "Sharing effective practices is the key." Ms. Diaz suggested the formulation of a statewide organization to compile and disseminate best practices.

Dr. Gates expressed concern that suspended students are being provided much fewer services than students in the Juvenile Justice System.

Ms. Walsh said that school districts should convene their experts to develop clear definitions and provide opportunities to review options and costs of alternative educational programs.

President DeGraffenreidt said that the local school systems should include school discipline in their Master Plans. Dr. Gates expressed his support for this proposal.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt concluded by saying that the Board will reassess the issues in two years and become more prescriptive if necessary. He asked Ms. Kameen to redraft the report with the Board's suggestions so that the report can be released at the Board meeting in February.

## **FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Dr. Sadusky asked Debra Lichter, National Legislative Liaison; Renee Spence, Executive Director, Governmental Relations; and, Steve Brooks, Deputy State Superintendent for Finance, to provide the federal and state legislative updates.

Mr. Brooks gave a brief report on the Governor's Budget Proposal. He said the General Assembly recommended to the Governor that he reduce the structural deficit by at least fifty percent and he proposed a budget that does that. He said there is a lot of discussion about the proposed shift of retirement funding to local government. Mr. Brooks noted the loss of twenty-four unfilled positions at Headquarters noting that those funds were put back into the Department's budget. He said the Aid-to-Education Budget and Bridge to Excellence were fully funded in the proposal. Mr. Brooks discussed the issue of Maintenance of Effort (MOE) and the actions taken by several school districts.

Ms. Spence stated that Maryland education fared well in the Governor's proposed budget. She said that there are discussions underway to determine if pension funding can be applied to MOE. She reported that there have been 415 bills introduced in the General Assembly thus far of which only four are policy bills. Ms. Spence reported that Dr. Sadusky presented before the House Ways and Means Committee and was very well received. She noted the following issues before the General Assembly:

- Virtual learning
- Financial literacy as a requirement
- Bullying/Electronic bullying
- Oral health
- Social studies/government assessments

Ms. Spence discussed four policy bills dealing with Master Plans, age for compulsory attendance, informal kinship care and retiree health savings.

Ms. Lichter reported that Congress adopted a budget on December 17, 2011, reflecting across-the-board cuts of 1 ½ percent and slight increases to Title I, Title II and special education. She reported that the House recently introduced two bills to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and that the Senate released an reauthorization bill last fall. Ms. Lichter summarized some of the components of the bills and said she is working on producing a chart reflecting the comparison of the Senate and House versions. She said the House and Senate bills are aligned with the Maryland waiver request and noted that the reauthorization will most likely be approved after the upcoming Presidential election.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Sadusky reported on his visit to the USDE about the RTTT initiatives. He said the USDE is very interested in the MOE issues and virtual learning and suggested a discussion be held at the next Board meeting on these topics.

The Superintendent reported on his visits to local school systems stating that he is impressed with their use of America Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding and the digital skills students display.

Ms. Sidhu complimented the Superintendent, Department and school systems for keeping Maryland #1 in the country.

### **COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS**

Dr. Gates reported that he made a presentation at the White House on STEM education. He also noted a weak link between career education in Montgomery County and the dynamic opportunities inherent in that area. Dr. Dukes agreed with Dr. Gates saying that the Board should explore the connection between business and schools. Dr. Sadusky said he will follow-up on this suggestion.

Ms. Sidhu reported that she and Mr. Smith attended a National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) meeting in Virginia the previous weekend. She indicated that she is participating in a study group on the role of technology in preparing students for computer assessments and building digital portfolios. Mr. Smith is a member of NASBE's Governmental Affairs Committee. Mr. Smith said the group will be lobbying for technology funding on March 22 and 23 in Washington as part of the NASBE 2012 Legislative Conference.

Ms. Diaz reported that she visited Roberto Clemente Middle School and commended the students who are working on the same issues with which the Board is grappling.

Dr. Gates reported that he attended a meeting in Korea on technical and educational environments. He said, "The kinds of things we wrestle with are the same. They worry about us – why the U.S. is the most innovative society in the world."

Dr. Walks said that he attended a White House conference of business leaders and discussed the Department's Healthy Beginnings Program.

Dr. Dukes reported on the P-20 Council meeting discussing PARCC, longitudinal data systems, internship availability and the Maryland Business Roundtable working to provide internships for STEM students.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. DeGraffenreidt explained procedures by which the Board hears public comment. The following persons provided comment:

- Penny Zimring – gifted and talented regulations
- Rick Tyler – gifted and talented regulations
- Yvonne Golczewski – gifted and talented regulations
- Curtis Valentine – preK, parental involvement, charter school law

## OPINIONS

Ms. Kameen announced the following Opinions:

- 12-01 *Marcia B. v. Prince George's County Board of Education* – expungement of student record (affirmed the local board's decision)
- 12-02 *Richard C. and Kathy C. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education* – student discipline complaint (dismissed)
- 12-03 *Trina C. v. Prince George's County Board of Education* – student discipline (affirmed the local board's decision)
- 12-04 *Sara Belin v. Washington County Board of Education* – teacher termination (affirmed the local board's decision)
- 12-05 *Paul and Ety E. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – student transfer (affirmed the local board's decision)
- 12-06 *David and Kimberly H. v. Harford County Board of Education* – student transfer (affirmed the local board's decision)
- 12-07 *Mr. and Mrs. Rashad M. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – student transfer (affirmed the local board's decision)


Ms. Kameen announced the following Orders:

- 12-01 *Rock Creek Hills Citizens Association, et al. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – feasibility student (dismissed as moot)
- 12-02 *Leah Antonas v. Howard County Board of Education* – residency (untimely, dismissed)
- 12-03 *Krista Kurth, et al. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – lease of land (clarifying the record in the case)

## ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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

Date:

*2/28/12*

# MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## CLOSED SESSION

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of January 2012, at the hour of 1:15 am/pm, the Members of the State Board of Education voted as follows to meet in closed session:

Motion made by: Smith

Seconded by: Dukes

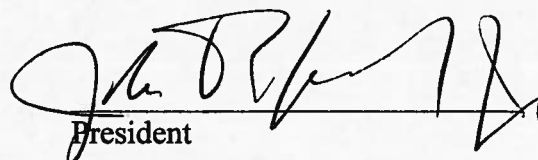
In Favor: All Opposed: None Member(s) Opposed: None

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 4 legal appeals.
2. Review 3 draft orders.
3. Review 4 draft opinions.
4. Receive legal advice on a draft report and proposed appeal matter.
5. Receive a report on an internal Board management/personnel matter.

  
President

**MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE January 24-25, 2012 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>
Emrich, Valerie A.	Education Program Manager II, Director of Instructional Technology	24	Instruction	TBD
Rather, D. Christy	Education Program Specialist I, Extended Learning	21	Student, Family, and School Support	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>
Burrisson, Lakeisha E.	Teacher, Academic (Resource)	IEPP	Career and College Readiness, Juvenile Services Education Program Baltimore City Juvenile Justice Center	01/11/2012
Epstein, Arthur H.	Teacher, Academic (Mathematics)	IEPP	Career and College Readiness, Juvenile Services Education Program Victor Cullen Center	01/11/2012
Rawls, Jr., Van F.	Teacher, Academic (Mathematics)	IEPP	Career and College Readiness, Juvenile Services Education Program Charles H. Hickey Detention Center	01/25/2012
White, Sheree D.	Teacher, Library Media Specialist	IEPP	Career and College Readiness, Juvenile Services Education Program Cheltenham Youth Facility	01/25/2012
Winston, Matthew E.	Teacher, Academic (Life Skills)	IEPP	Career and College Readiness, Juvenile Services Education Program Cheltenham Youth Facility	12/14/2011



III. Other Actions:

NAME

None

POSITION

SALARY  
GRADE

DIVISION/OFFICE

DATE OF  
APPOINTMENT



**Bernard J. Sadusky, Ed.D.**  
**Interim State Superintendent of Schools**

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January 24-25, 2012

**BOARD LIST**

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

**Name:** Valerie A. Emrich  
**Position:** Education Program Manager II, Director of Instructional Technology  
**Division:** Instruction  
**Salary Grade:** 24 (\$68,692 - \$110,297)  
**Effective Date:** TBD

**JOB REQUIREMENTS:**

**Education:**

Master's Degree or equivalent 36 credit hours of post-baccalaureate course work in Instructional Technology Education, Education Administration/ Supervision, or a related field.

**Experience:** Six (6) years of related experience in coordinating or administering Instructional technology or e-learning programs or services. Minimum of one (1) year of supervision of professional education program staff is required. PreK-12 teaching experience preferred.

**DESCRIPTION:**

This is a professional position serving as the Director of Instructional Technology responsible for providing the vision, leadership, coordination and management of the PreK-12 Instructional Technology programs for Maryland.

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Valerie A. Emrich

Page two

**Qualifications:**

**Education:**

Towson University (Towson, Maryland) 1992 – Master’s Degree in Instructional Technology

University of Maryland (College Park, Maryland) 1972 – Bachelor’s Degree in Elementary Education

The Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, Maryland) 2000 – Graduate Technology Certificate

Towson University (Towson, Maryland) 2002 – Administrator Certificate

**Experience:**

Anne Arundel County Public Schools (Annapolis, Maryland)

2003 – Present: Instructional Technology Manager

1999 – 2003: Instructional Technology Resource Specialist

1995 – 1999: Media Specialist

Prince George’s County Public Schools (Upper Marlboro)

1972 – 1977: Teacher (Grades 2 & 3)

**Employment Status**

New Hire



**Bernard J. Sadusky, Ed.D.**  
**Interim State Superintendent of Schools**

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January 24-25, 2012

**BOARD LIST**

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

**Name:** D. Christy Rather  
**Position:** Education Program Specialist I, Extended Learning Opportunity Specialist  
**Division:** Student, Family, and School Support  
**Salary Grade:** 21 (\$56,496 - \$90,706)  
**Effective Date:** TBD

**JOB REQUIREMENTS:**

**Education:**

Possession of a Master's Degree or equivalent 36 credit hours of post-baccalaureate course work in Education, Education Supervision/Administration, School counseling or a related field.

**Experience:**

Four (4) years of professional administrative or teaching experience within an educational setting or a community based organization designing and monitoring afterschool programs.

**DESCRIPTION:**

This is a professional position serving as the Extended Learning Specialist responsible for providing lead technical assistance and administration to local recipients of State funds utilized for afterschool programs that are designated to improve the academic achievement of disadvantaged children.

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[www.MarylandPublicSchools.org](http://www.MarylandPublicSchools.org)

**Qualifications:**

**Education:**

College of Notre Dame (Baltimore, Maryland) 2004 – Master of Arts in Nonprofit Management

University of Maryland (College Park, Maryland) 1995 – Bachelor of Arts English Language and Literature

**Experience:**

Village Learning Place (Baltimore, Maryland)

2005 – Present: Director of Education

Howard Community College/Employee and Training (Columbia, Maryland)

2002 – 2005: Independent Consultant/Youth Programs Coordinator

Our Lady of the Rosary High School (Baltimore, Maryland)

1998 – 2002: Educator (English Language and Literature)

University of Maryland Baltimore County (Baltimore, Maryland)

1996 – 1998: Educational Caseworker

**Employment Status**

New Hire