



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD • MarylandPublicSchools.org

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Nancy S. Grasmick *Nancy*

DATE: June 21, 2011

SUBJECT: Status Report on 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* (August 2010)

PURPOSE:

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* (ATTACHMENT).

BACKGROUND/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

At its August 2011 meeting, the Maryland State Board of Education (MSBE) adopted the recommendations made in the report found on pages 36-37. Since then, the report has been widely circulated and discussed with local school system personnel. Staff has worked at putting in place the processes and means in order to implement the recommendations.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The first two recommendations deal with defining terms in regulation and in the *Maryland Student Records System Manual* (MSRSM). The third recommendation calls for more refined data collection surrounding reasons for long-term suspensions, educational services provided to long-term suspended and expelled students, and when services are not provided. We are requesting as part of this agenda item permission to publish proposed changes in the MSRSM. If adopted, this new MSRSM would provide those definitions and require that data collection.

The fourth recommendation speaks to establishing a process by which the Department could provide technical assistance to local school systems with troubling patterns of long-term suspensions and/or expulsions without the provision of educational services. The Division of Student, Family, and School Support annually conducts onsite reviews of Programs of Student Services. During this process, the Central Office and select schools are visited. Part of this process asks the local school system and school staffs to examine their discipline data and address issues relating to disproportionality and discipline policies and their implementation.

Maryland State Board of Education
June 21, 2011
Page 2 of 2

Moreover, guidance to local school systems in preparing an update to their Master Plans includes requirements to examine what is being done to address over representation of certain subgroups in receiving long-term suspensions and expulsions. This year's Master Plan Update review will particularly focus on this issue.

ACTION:

For information and discussion and to request "Permission to Publish" proposed amendments to the Maryland Student Records System Manual.

NSG/cjb
Attachment