

MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday & Wednesday
May 25-26, 2010

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

The Maryland State Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 25-26, 2010, 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. David H. Murray; Mr. Sayed Naved; 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. and Elliott Schoen, Assistant Attorneys 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.

President DeGraffenreidt opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. and announced that the Board would convene an Executive Session to discuss two Maintenance of Effort waiver requests and would reconvene the public meeting at 9:15 a.m.

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 Dr. Finan, seconded by Dr. Gates, and with unanimous agreement, the Maryland State Board of Education met in closed session on Tuesday, May 25, 2010, in the Board Conference Room, 7th 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. 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, Jackie La Fiandra, and Elliott Schoen were also present. (In favor – 9; Ms. Walsh, Ms. Staton and Dr. Dukes arrived after the vote was taken.)

The State Board discussed the procedure for and the legal issues related to the upcoming oral arguments in two Maintenance of Effort waiver cases. The Executive session ended at 9:15 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Grasmick invited Bob Burns and Sue Page to the podium and announced that Mr. Burns will be retiring as the Assistant State Superintendent for Rehabilitation Services (DORS). She recommended Ms. Page for that position and discussed the excellent work of Ms. Page. Dr. Grasmick noted that DORS is the largest division in the Department.

Bob Burns said, "I have had a wonderful, wonderful career with this Department" noting the profound changes made in people's lives as a result of the work done by his staff. He said, "The staff are fabulous people" and "Dr. Grasmick is the best of the best."

President DeGraffenreidt said, "We are grateful to you for your service."

Upon motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Dr. Dukes, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the Consent Agenda as follows: (In Favor – 12)

- Approval of Minutes of April 27, 2010
- Personnel (copy attached to these minutes)
- Budget Adjustments for April, 2010
- Recommendations of the College Success Task Force

EMBRACED THE CONCEPTS OF THE HEARINGS ON MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT WAIVER REQUESTS

President DeGraffenreidt explained the procedures to be followed in the hearing process. He then called on Ms. Kameen to introduce the presenters for the hearing on the Wicomico County request.

Wicomico County Maintenance of Effort Waiver Request

The Board heard testimony from the following individuals:
Rick Pollitt, Wicomico County Executive
Patricia Petersen, Director of Finance, Wicomico County

President DeGraffenreidt then called on Ms. Kameen to introduce the presenters for the hearing on the Montgomery County request.

Montgomery County Maintenance of Effort Waiver

The Board heard testimony from the following individuals:
Mr. Isaiah Leggett, Montgomery County Executive
Mrs. Patricia O'Neill, President, Montgomery County Board of Education
Dr. Jerry Weast, Superintendent, Montgomery County Public Schools

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. Staton, seconded by Mrs. Sidhu, and with unanimous agreement, the Maryland State Board of Education met in closed session on Tuesday, May 25, 2010, in Conference Room 1, 8th 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. 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, Jackie La Fiandra, and Elliott Schoen were also present. The Executive Session commenced at noon. (In favor – 12)

The State Board approved four decisions for publication.

- *Katherine Cureton v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – teacher termination Opinion No. 10-21
- *Janelle D. v. Howard County Board of Education* – residency – Opinion No. 10-22
- *Kenneth F. v. Baltimore County Board of Education* – early entry to kindergarten – Opinion No. 10-23
- *Caryn J. v. Baltimore County Board of Education* – grade dispute – Opinion No. 10-24

The Board deliberated the two Maintenance of Effort waiver cases and voted to grant the waivers requested.

- *In Re: Waiver Requested of Montgomery County*; and
- *In Re: Waiver Requested of Wicomico County*

The Board will issue written opinions at an upcoming meeting.

The Board discussed the recruitment of candidates for the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners. President DeGraffenreidt described the progress made in developing the Superintendent's performance evaluation.

The Executive Session ended at 2:00 p.m.

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 2:15 p.m.

Ms. Kameen reported that the waiver request for Wicomico County was approved by a vote of 8-4 and that the waiver request for Montgomery County was approved by a vote of 7-5. She said an Order for each request will be published as soon as possible.

COMAR 13A.12.2.25 & .26 (NEW) MATHEMATICS INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST
COMAR 13A.12.01.11A (3) (AMEND) FAILURE TO MEET REQUIREMENTS
COMAR 13A.12.01.04E (AMEND) APPROVED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Dr. Grasmick introduced Jean Satterfield, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Certification and Accreditation, and Dr. JoAnn Ericson, Chief, Certification Branch, to discuss actions taken by the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) at its May meeting. She explained that if the Board has any concerns regarding these actions, it has the option of requesting a Joint Conference Committee be appointed to discuss their concerns prior to any action to publish.

Upon motion by Dr. Gates, seconded by Dr. Dukes, and with unanimous agreement, the Board agreed not to convene a Joint Conference Committee prior to the publication of these amendments. (In Favor – 12)

REVISED PRAXIS II ASSESSMENTS – TEST ADOPTION & SCORE AFFIRMATION

Dr. Grasmick recommended State Board adoption of six assessments offered by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) to test content knowledge of educators in each of the following areas: French, German, Spanish, World Language Pedagogy, Business Education, and Special Education. She also asked for Board affirmation of the qualifying scores based on data generated by ETS standard setting studies.

Upon motion by Dr. Gates, seconded by Dr. Dukes, and with unanimous agreement, the Board adopted the six assessments offered by the ETS to test content knowledge of educators in the above-named areas and affirmed the qualifying scores. (In Favor – 12)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Smeallie announced that Dr. Grasmick was recently awarded an honorary degree from Gallaudet University for her excellent commitment to education. He also announced that she was recently granted a Harris Award for Extraordinary Leadership Skills and, along with Dr. Alonso, CEO of Baltimore City Public Schools, received a “Pride of Baltimore Person of the Year Award” for her unwavering commitment to America’s youth.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

1. Dr. Andres Alonso, CEO, Baltimore City Public School System, on RTTT
2. Jerome Dancis on college readiness

3. Alyssa Fieo, Maryland Disability Law Center, on education services during long term suspensions
4. Anthony Devine on the ability of people to volunteer with non-sports related high school organizations
5. Cheryl Bost, President, Teachers Association of Baltimore County, on RTTT
6. Ann De Lacy, President, Howard County Teachers Association, on RTTT
7. Gary Brennan, President, Frederick County Teachers Association. on RTTT
8. Wanda Twigg, President, Education Association of St. Mary's County, on RTTT
9. Edward Shirley, President, Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland and Superintendent, Caroline County Public Schools, on RTTT
10. Dr. Joe Hairston, Superintendent, Baltimore County Public Schools, on RTTT

COMMON CORE STANDARDS

Dr. Grasmick introduced Dr. Colleen Seremet, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Instruction, and explained that final common core standards will be not released by the U.S. Department of Education until June 2, 2010, and recommended that the Board endorse the standards at this meeting and adopt them at its June meeting.

Dr. Seremet explained that the work began last summer with opportunities to glean feedback from school leaders. She said that the reading/English language arts standards will provide greater emphasis on technical reading and more attention to text in reading. She reported that a final draft of the math standards was reviewed and reflects an improvement on what is currently a very strong set of standards. She reported that the Board will receive long-range plans at its June meeting on the implementation of these common core standards.

Dr. Grasmick reported that when the Department developed the voluntary state curricula in math and reading they engaged more than 7,000 teachers. She noted that this will take place once again in integrating these common core standards.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt explained that this endorsement will be included in the RTTT application to be submitted on June 1st.

In response to a request by Dr. Gates, Dr. Seremet said that the higher education community will be involved in the process of integrating the common core standards with the Maryland standards.

Upon motion by Mr. DeGraffenreidt, seconded by Dr. Finan, and with unanimous agreement, the Board endorsed the common core standards. (In Favor – 12)

RACE TO THE TOP (RTTT)

The President announced that the Board would table the vote on the RTTT application until Wednesday's meeting to allow the Board time to reflect on the public comments received today. He asked Dr. Grasmick to address in her remarks the concerns raised in those comments.

Dr. Grasmick asked Dr. Jim Foran, Project Director for the RTTT Application, and Mr. Anand Vaishnav, Project Manager, Education First Consulting Team, to answer questions and concerns of the Board on Maryland's RTTT application. She distributed an Executive Summary of the application noting that the final full application will be provided to the Board on Wednesday. She reported that whether the State receives this funding or not, it is poised to enact the reforms specified in the application. She expressed her strong commitment to collaboration and said that the goal stated in the application is to eliminate the achievement gaps between all cohorts of students in Maryland. She discussed the stakeholder input on the Steering Committee and provided attendance records from all discussions that have taken place thus far. She explained that two versions of the application have been posted on the Department's website and that the teachers' associations were asked to provide representatives for the focus groups noting that more than eighty presentations were made throughout the State.

Dr. Grasmick explained that there is much misunderstanding about the nature of the fifty percent of teacher and principal evaluation tied to student growth. She explained that thirty percent would be set by the State based on MSA, HSA or other measures for non-tested areas and twenty percent will be decided at the local level for teachers and principals, with MSDE approval. She said the final fifty percent will be decided by local school systems at their discretion. The Superintendent reported that an Educator Effectiveness Work Group will be constituted consisting of 50-60 participants, most of whom will be teachers. Dr. Grasmick said that pilot programs will be initiated in the spring of 2011 and full implementation would take place in 2012-2013.

Ms. Kameen assured the Board that the Attorney General's Office has reviewed the application and deemed it in compliance with the Education Reform Act.

Dr. Grasmick explained that in crafting the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to be signed by local school systems, collective bargaining language was taken into consideration and the application language reflects support for collective bargaining.

Dr. Foran acknowledged and thanked all of the many individuals who were involved in the RTTT application process and discussed the Executive Summary.

Mr. Vaishnav thanked the Board for the privilege of working with the Maryland team. He said, "This is a strong application which builds on the strengths that this State has." He noted that the application has a uniquely Maryland feel and applauded the fact that Maryland provided the public with several drafts and recruited public comment on each draft. He explained that approximately ten or twelve states will receive RTTT awards and noted that at least five to seven of the finalists in Round 1 will most likely receive awards.

Dr. Grasmick thanked the President for his leadership and availability in this endeavor.

President DeGraffenreidt explained that the Maryland State Education Association (MSEA) was a charter member of the leadership team crafting the application. He noted that there will be much collaboration with teachers and their representatives in creating the evaluation process.

Ms. Staton addressed the teachers and their representatives in the room by saying, “we will be there to support you. While this may seem a little scary, you will be included. You will have an opportunity to participate. I hope you take full advantage of that.”

In response to Ms. Walsh’s question about how the application deals with ways to reflect teacher effectiveness, Mr. Vaishnav said that measuring teacher effectiveness will be one of the tasks for the educator workgroup. He said there will be models on evaluation, compensation and professional development. Dr. Foran said that there may be tiered certification and/or local negotiated incentives for teachers.

Ms. Satterfield discussed a possible two tiered licensing structure which, she noted, would require regulatory changes.

With no further discussion, approval of the RTTT application was tabled to the Board’s session on Wednesday, May 26, 2010.

REPORT OF THE TEACHER PREPARATION AND CERTIFICATION WORKGROUPS

Dr. Grasmick introduced Jean Satterfield and explained the issues leading to the formation of the Alternative Teacher Preparation and Certification Workgroups.

Ms. Satterfield reported on the recommendations of the two workgroups.

Dr. Grasmick said that in light of possible action to change the certification structure, she recommended no action on the Certification Workgroup recommendations. She recommended State Board adoption of the revised Guidelines for Implementing Alternative Preparation Programs proposed by the Maryland Approved Alternative Preparation Programs (MAAPP) Workgroup.

Upon motion by Ms. Walsh, seconded by Dr. Gates, and with unanimous agreement, the Board adopted the revised Guidelines for Implementing Alternative Preparation Programs. (In Favor – 11; Dr. Walks was not present)

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Dr. Dukes, seconded by Dr. Finan, and with unanimous agreement, the Board meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

RECONVENE

The Board meeting reconvened at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 26, 2010. Dr. Walks was absent.

ALTERNATIVE GOVERNANCE PROPOSALS – BALTIMORE CITY

Dr. Grasmick invited Ann Chafin, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Student, Family and School Support, and Teresa Knott, Supervising Coordinator, School Performance, to provide some introductory remarks on Alternative Governance Proposals for the following three Baltimore City schools: Gilmore Elementary, Northeast Middle, and Patapsco Middle. Dr. Grasmick also introduced Dr. Andres Alonso, CEO, Baltimore City Public School System (BCPSS) and Dr. Lawanda Burwell, Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff. She recommended Board approval of the Alternative Governance Proposals for the three schools.

Ms. Knott explained that each school works under the leadership of an Alternative Governance Board with union representatives and legal counsel available for assistance when needed. She reported that the three schools currently have new principals in place and that all of the plans have been approved by the local boards of education and review panels. She thanked the many people who were involved in the process for their diligence and hard work.

Dr. Alonso introduced two of the three principals who were present and announced that the third principal was undergoing surgery and unable to be present. He reported that all three schools showed evidence of progress last year. He noted that Gilmore Elementary had been managed by a charter school organization, The Edison Group. He discussed the progress made in the three schools in the area of mathematics and reading and the support networks in place in the schools.

In response to a question by Ms. Walsh, Dr. Alonso said that Gilmore Elementary School's current progress is attributable to Edison's increased investment in resources. He explained that the school system opened its professional development opportunities to charter school staff. He also noted that *Adequate Yearly Progress* (AYP) is calculated on the percentage of students who are deemed proficient and that when a school starts well below that level, it is difficult to make the strides necessary to make students proficient.

In response to another question by Ms. Walsh, Dr. Alonso said that the curriculum in math and reading in all three schools was changed. Dr. Alonso also explained that many students are over-age for their grade and often drop out after eighth or ninth grade. He said the largest increase in test scores has been in the middle schools. Dr. Alonso also noted that there have been 931 fewer dropouts last year than in the past three years.

In response to a question by Mr. Smith, Dr. Alonso said that he supports the RTTT application because it is about providing incentives for growth. He said that school leadership feels very strongly that the work is about results. He also noted the importance of engaging parents and communities in a way that supports the schools. He said, "We need to stretch the day for kids so that they are in an environment that is healthy." He explained that charter schools historically have figured out ways to leverage partnerships.

Upon motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Walsh, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the Alternative Governance Proposals for Gilmore Elementary, Northeast Middle and Patapsco Middle Schools. (In Favor – 10, Dr. Dukes not present for vote)

ALTERNATIVE GOVERNANCE PROPOSALS – BALTIMORE COUNTY

The Superintendent invited Dr. Joe Hairston, Superintendent, Dr. Kendra Johnson, Area Assistant Superintendent, and Mandi Dietrich, Director of Special Projects, all with the Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS), to discuss Alternative Governance Proposals for Deer Park Middle and Old Court Middle Schools and recommended Board approval of the Alternative Governance Proposals for the two schools.

Dr. Hairston said that he does not view these schools as failures and that there is a strategy to deal with their challenges. He noted that for the past ten years, student scores in Baltimore County have been increasing.

Dr. Johnson noted that both schools have a high student mobility rate and have made progress but not “adequate” progress. She discussed the Alternative Governance Option I process of replacing most or all of the school staff as well as the corrective action plans introduced in both schools. She discussed the six significant reforms being implemented in the schools with a goal of high expectations and teacher collaboration to accelerate student and teacher performance.

In response to a question by Dr. Gates about college readiness, Dr. Hairston said that BCPS commissioned Dr. Tom Rhodes to do a study of students who enter college to determine their college readiness. He noted that BCPS has a partnership with the Community College of Baltimore County but noted that there is a lack of consistency in higher education with very little alignment between public schools and higher education.

In response to another question by Dr. Gates, Dr. Hairston said that school culture needs to improve by providing a positive environment for students to learn.

Dr. Gates commended Dr. Hairston on the school system’s excellent professional development program. Dr. Hairston said that he feels there is a lack of teacher preparation in higher education and that the school system has a partnership with local colleges and universities to improve this preparation. Dr. Grasmick said that this issue is a major part of the RTTT application.

Mr. Smith commended Dr. Hairston for his diligence and urged that best practices be gleaned and catalogued from each county as a resource for Maryland schools.

Dr. Hairston introduced the principals of both schools.

Upon motion by Dr. Dukes, seconded by Dr. Gates, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the Alternative Governance Proposals for Deer Park Middle and Old Court Middle Schools. (In Favor – 11)

ALTERNATIVE GOVERNANCE PROPOSALS – DORCHESTER COUNTY

Dr. Grasmick introduced Dr. Frederic Hildenbrand, Superintendent, Dorchester County Public Schools (DCPS), and Henry Wagner, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, DCPS. She announced that Mr. Wagner will be taking over as Superintendent as Dr. Hildenbrand will be

retiring in the near future. She recommended Board approval of the Alternative Governance Proposal for Cambridge South—Dorchester High School.

Dr. Hildenbrand provided Board members with statistics about the student population in the school and noted that the school population has made great strides given that many students have started at very low levels of achievement. He said that the school will be staffed with a team of highly qualified teachers but that one of challenges is to provide common planning time for staff noting the difficulties in providing additional pay for teachers to work beyond the school day. He also noted that the feeder school is in Alternative Governance which often provides a low level of proficiency of students entering ninth grade. He said that the school has made significant changes over the past year with a high school and middle school task force working on the challenges. He said, “This school is a very high priority for us.”

Mr. Wagner went over the staffing and planning processes and introduced the principal who he described as “an excellent leader.” He said that interviews will begin next week and that the school system has customized the staffing pattern for the school. Mr. Wagner said that they will be expanding the collaborative planning model and monitoring instruction through student data and that staff will be provided with job-embedded professional development.

In response to a question by Ms. Staton about the large number of student referrals, Dr. Hildenbrand explained that a new principal was hired to get discipline issues under control which precipitated the large jump in principal referrals. He noted that this also precipitated a large jump in the number of suspensions in the school. He said that professional development is being implemented to assist teachers in dealing with disciplinary problems in the classroom. He said that cultural training is going to be part of the intervention process. Mr. Wagner also noted that a Minority Achievement Task Force has been established to deal with cultural issues in the school.

In response to a question by Dr. Dukes, Dr. Grasmick said that there is a statewide effort to provide assistance through the Break-through Centers and offering best practices from across the State and the nation. She noted that Maryland was one of the four states to get a Governor’s grant to provide Break-through Centers for schools in need and that Maryland has established professional development standards based on nationwide best practices.

In response to a question by Dr. Gates, Dr. Hildenbrand said that students on suspension are provided with full education services.

In response to a question by Dr. Finan, Mr. Wagner said, “If they (the staff) want a job, they need to buy into our mission.”

Upon motion by Ms. Staton, seconded by Dr. Gates, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the Alternative Governance Proposal for Cambridge South-Dorchester High School.
(In Favor – 11)

COMAR 13A.05.05.06 & .07 PROGRAMS OF PUPIL SERVICES (ADOPTION)

Dr. Grasmick introduced Donna Mazyck, Chief, School Health Issues Section, and Alicia Mezu, Specialist, Chronic Health/HIV/Teen Pregnancy, to discuss amendments to COMAR 13A.05.05.06 & .07 Programs of Pupil Services. She reported that no comments were received on the proposed changes during the regulatory comment period and recommended Board adoption of the proposed amendments.

Upon motion by Ms. Staton, seconded by Dr. Gates, and with unanimous agreement, the Board adopted the proposed amendments. (In Favor – 11)

COMAR 13A.04.17 (REPEAL AND REPLACE) ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Dr. Grasmick reported that the Governor appointed a Task Force to look at how to build the knowledge base for students on environmental issues. She said that she served as co-chair and that many wonderful recommendations were made by the Task Force. The Superintendent said that one of the recommendations was to require environmental education as a graduation requirement for Maryland students. She explained that the amendment to COMAR 13A.04.07 Environmental Education includes using existing curricula and embedding environmental education in the current course work and stated that the Board will be receiving standards for this program at a later Board meeting. She introduced Joe Gill, Deputy Secretary, Maryland Department of Natural Resources; Dr. Kevin Maxwell, Superintendent, Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS); Donald Baugh, Vice-President, Chesapeake Bay Foundation; and Dr. Colleen Seremet to answer any questions or concerns expressed by Board members.

Mr. Gill explained that Maryland faces many environmental problems today and expressed the need for students to address these issues. He explained that there are federal funding opportunities to assist in providing environmental education.

Dr. Maxwell said that all Maryland superintendents are in favor of this graduation requirement and stressed the need for this program.

Mr. Baugh said that there is increasing concern at the federal level for environmental problems and that the “No Child Left Inside” Act provides language and funding for states to develop an adequate literacy plan. He said that the President included environmental education in the budget and stated, “We have an opportunity and obligation to cement leadership and practical funding for this.”

Dr. Seremet said that local superintendents of instruction were asked to make recommendations and that curriculum standards will be provided to the Board over the next few months. She said that this program is connected to all core courses provided in Maryland.

Dr. Grasmick acknowledged the work of former MSDE staff members, Becky Bell and Gary Heath, and thanked all of the Coalition members who were involved in this important activity. She recommended that the Board grant permission to publish its intent to repeal current language

in COMAR 13A.04.17 and replace it with new language for Environmental Education Instructional Programs.

Ms. Sidhu said, “Great idea, it’s about time” and urged that attention to safety be incorporated in the program.

In response to a question by Dr. Gates, Mr. Baugh said that in the event environmental education is not included in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the U.S. Department of Education is poised to support this program.

Upon motion by Dr. Dukes, seconded by Mr. Smith, and with unanimous agreement, the Board granted permission to publish its intent to repeal current language in COMAR 13A.04.17 and replace it with new language for Environmental Education Instructional Programs. (In Favor – 11)

MODIFIED MARYLAND STATE ASSESSMENTS – STANDARD SETTING

Dr. Grasmick introduced Dr. Leslie Wilson, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Accountability and Assessment, and Dr. Carol Ann Baglin-Heath, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Special Education, to discuss recommended standards of performance for the Modified Maryland State Assessments in reading and mathematics. She said that these assessments are provided for two percent of students with disabilities meeting specific federally prescribed criteria and that there were also federally prescribed criteria that was followed for the standard setting process that established the basis of the recommended standards. She requested Board approval of the recommended standards for assessments in mathematics and reading for grades three, four and five.

Dr. Heath explained that Individual Education Plan (IEP) Teams make decisions on the assessments and provide options for accommodations for students that meet the specific criteria. She explained the various modifications made for students and elaborated on the professional development provided to school staff.

Dr. Wilson went over the standard setting process and reported that a policy review was held including all stakeholders. She provided statistics on the number of students who participated in the 2010 Mod-MSA and provided the proposed Mod-MSA cut scores in reading and mathematics. She also provided impact data in reading and mathematics comparing 2010 Mod-MSA to performance of special education students from the 2009 MSA. Dr. Wilson discussed the next steps in continuing the full implementation of the Mod-MSA program.

In response to a question by Ms. Sidhu, Dr. Heath reported that all students take tests to determine their learning status.

Upon motion by Dr. Gates, seconded by Dr. Finan, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the recommended standards for Modified Maryland State Assessments in mathematics and reading for grades three, four and five. (In Favor – 11)

RTTT APPLICATION

The President asked Board members to address the issue of approval of the RTTT application which is due no later than June 1, 2010 to the U.S. Department of Education.

Dr. Grasmick said, "We have systems poised to do the work of RTTT. I am very enthusiastic about it. It is the next level of reform."

Ms. Sidhu said she is strongly recommending approval, keeping in mind the issues brought up by organizations earlier in the meeting regarding collaboration. Dr. Dukes and Dr. Gates reiterated Ms. Sidhu's comments and the need for collaboration among all education stakeholders.

President DeGraffenreidt emphasized that the State Board, the State Superintendent, the local boards of education who have signed the Memoranda of Understanding, the principals and the local superintendents who support the application are all holding themselves accountable for student growth.

Upon motion by Mr. DeGraffenreidt, seconded by Ms. Walsh, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the RTTT application for transmittal to the U.S. Department of Education. (In Favor – 11)

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent reported that the Department is monitoring Congressional action related to extending \$23 billion in stimulus funding for schools another year.

She thanked local school systems for their support in identifying parents who have done extraordinary things in support of schools. She commended the Parent of the Year, Jeffrey Macris from Anne Arundel County, who was instrumental in changing the environment of a school in Annapolis.

She announced that the Hawaii Department of Education is using Maryland as an example of what should happen to improve education in Hawaii and distributed an article entitled, "The Maryland Lesson."

Dr. Grasmick noted that many school systems are providing international language programs through collaborative relationships with embassies in this country.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Dr. Grasmick introduced Dr. Darla Strouse, Executive Director, Partnerships and Development, to recognize Maryland's newly named 2010-2011 local Teachers of the Year who will represent their school systems in the State and national Teacher of the Year competition, the winner of which will be announced on October 8. She welcomed the Teacher of the Year supporters

attending the meeting. She said that Maryland is unique in that these individuals will serve as ambassadors and advisors to the Department by sharing best practices and provide professional development throughout the State. Dr. Grasmick reported that each winner will participate in a three-day retreat which will provide them with three continuing education credits.

Dr. Strouse introduced and thanked Rod Mann, the owner of a number of local area McDonalds' restaurants, who is one of the main sponsors of the program. She thanked Dr. Grasmick, Board members, and Mr. South for their support of this recognition as part of the State Board meeting, saying, "This means a great deal to be recognized by the State Board."

President DeGraffenreidt and Dr. Grasmick presented each teacher with a plaque and citation and announced that a luncheon would be held following the Board meeting. A list of the teachers who were selected as Maryland's 2010 Teachers of the Year is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt said, "This is an opportunity for you to lead by example and show what effective teaching is and the benefits for students. Congratulations."

OPINIONS


Ms. Kameen announced the following Opinions:

- 10-21 *Katherine Cureton v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – teacher termination (affirmed local board's decision)
- 10-22 *Janelle D. v. Howard County Board of Education* – residency (dismissed)
- 10-23 *Kenneth F. v. Baltimore County Board of Education* – early entry to kindergarten (affirmed local board's decision)
- 10-24 *Caryn J. v. Baltimore County Board of Education* – grade dispute (affirmed local board's decision)

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy S. Grasmick
Secretary, Treasurer

NSG/rms

APPROVED:

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
CLOSED SESSION

On this **25th** day of **May 2010**, at the hour of 8:35 am/pm, the Members of the State Board of Education voted as follows to meet in closed session:

Motion made by: Dr. Finan

Seconded by: Prof Gate

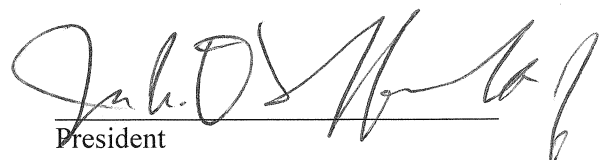
In Favor: All Opposed: _____ - Member(s) Opposed: _____

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 discussed during this closed session include:

Maintenance of Effort Waiver Requests from Montgomery County and Wicomico County.



President

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CLOSED SESSION

On this **25th** day of **May 2010**, at the hour of 11:20 am/pm, the Members of the State Board of Education voted as follows to meet in closed session:

Motion made by: Staton

Seconded by: Sidha

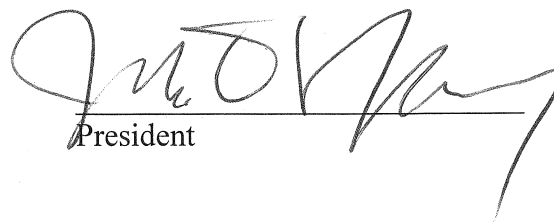
In Favor: All Opposed: _____ Member(s) Opposed: _____

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 1 legal appeal.
2. Review 3 draft opinions.
3. Review 1 Expedited opinion.
4. Discuss 2 Maintenance of Effort Waiver Requests
5. Discuss 2 internal Board management matters.



President

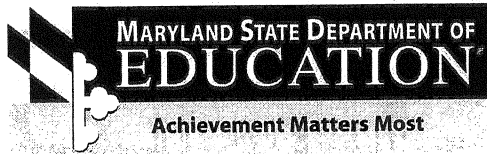
**MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE May 25-26, 2010 BOARD MEETING**

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> |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Jermany M.D., Mertine | Physician Program Specialist (Part-time) | 35 | Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Services | 05/19/2010 |
| King, Jodi L. | Education Program Supervisor, Non-Public Special Education/Tuition Assistance | 22 | Special Education/Early Intervention Services | TBD |
| Koerner, Matthew V. | Education Program Specialist I, Career and Technology Education (CTE) Accountability | 21 | Career and College Readiness | 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> |
|-----------------|---|---------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Dickey, Matthew | Teacher, Academic (Computer Literacy) | IEPP | College and Career Readiness, Juvenile Services Education Program | 05/05/2010 |
| Gopy, Akida | Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist II | 13 | Rehabilitation Services, Region III | 05/19/2010 |
| <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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May 25 – 26 - 2010

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Mertine Jermany, M.D.
Position: Physician Program Specialist (Part-time)
Division: Rehabilitation Services
Disability Determination Services
Salary Grade: 35 (\$103,613 - \$170,831)
Effective Date: May 19, 2010

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

Possession of a degree in medicine from an accredited college or university. Possession of a license to practice medicine in Maryland issued by the Maryland State Board of Physician Quality Assurance.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Responsible for interpreting medical evidence, prescribing medical evaluation needs, and participating as the medical examiner in the adjudication of disability claims under the Social Security Disability Programs.

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Mertine Jermany, M.D.

Page Two

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education:

Meharry Medical College (Nashville, Tennessee) 1985 – Doctor of Medicine

Licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maryland by the Maryland Board of Physician Quality Assurance.

Experience:

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Baltimore, Maryland)

2009 – Present: Physician Clinical Specialist

Mental Health Management Services, Inc. (Baltimore, Maryland)

2005 – 2009: Psychiatrist

Spring Grove Hospital Center (Catonsville, Maryland)

2000 – 2005: Psychiatrist and Unit Director

Magellan Behavioral Health (Columbia, Maryland)

1996 – 2001: Physician Advisor

Urban Behavioral Associates, P.A. (Baltimore, Maryland)

1994 – 1999: Medical Staff Member

Private Practice (Ellicott City, Maryland)

1991 – 1999: Psychiatrist

District of Columbia Department of Mental Health (Washington, D.C.)

1988 – 1990: Psychiatric Contractual Consultant

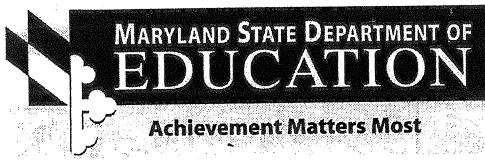
Mertine Jermany
Page Three

Baltimore County Bureau of Mental Health (Towson, Maryland)

1988 – 1990: Psychiatric Consultant

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:

Voluntary Demotion from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene



May 25-26, 2010

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Jodi L. King
Position: Education Program Supervisor, Non-Public Special Education/Tuition Assistance
Division: Special Education/Early Intervention Services
Salary Grade: 22 (\$58,783 - \$85,830)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

Masters Degree or equivalent 36 credit hours of post-baccalaureate course work in Education, Education Administration/ Supervision, Special Education, or a related field.

Experience:

Five (5) years of professional administrative or teaching experience in an education program, including two years of experience in coordinating or administering an education program serving individuals with disabilities. Experience in reviewing budget development and analysis is desired.

DESCRIPTION:

This is a professional position responsible for providing oversight and supervision to the Nonpublic Tuition Assist Program and responsible for coordinating the Community and Interagency Services Branch's collaborative efforts to implement federal and State regulations, maintain compliance, and provide appropriate community-based and nonpublic special education and support services to students with disabilities.

Qualifications:

Wilmington University (Wilmington, Delaware) 2004 – Doctorate of Education in Leadership

Washington College (Chestertown, Maryland) 1984 – Master’s Degree in Psychology

Mansfield University (Mansfield, Pennsylvania) 1979 – Bachelor’s Degree in Special Education

Experience:

Cecil County Public Schools (Elkton, Maryland)

2006 – Present: Chief, Nonpublic Special Education Section (On Loan to MSDE)

2000 – 2006: Program Facilitator for Special Education

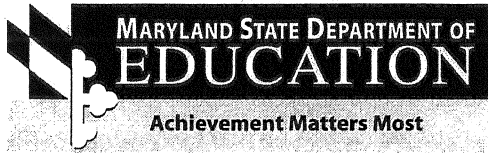
1998 – 2000: Consulting Teacher

1985 – 1998: Special Education Teacher and IEP Chairperson

1980 – 1985: Special Education Teacher

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:

New Hire



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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April 27-28, 2010

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Matthew V. Koerner
Position: Education Program Specialist I, Career and Technology Education (CTE) Accountability
Division: Career and College Readiness
Salary Grade: 21 (\$55,084-\$80,452)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

A Master's Degree or equivalent 36 post baccalaureate credit hours of course work in Education, Education Administration/Supervision, Public Administration, Information Management Systems, or in any related field.

Experience:

Four (4) years of professional administrative, accountability or teaching experience in or affiliated with an education program including two years of experience in coordinating or administering and education program or service directly related to the position. Experience with business intelligence software and/or Excel desired; administrative experience in an area related to accountability, information management, or a related field is preferred.

NOTE: Two years of additional experience as defined above may be substituted for the Master's Degree or possession of a Doctorate in a field related to the position may be substituted for one year of the required experience.

DESCRIPTION:

This is a professional position responsible for providing technical assistance to Career and Technology Education programs to ensure increased school and student performance as measured by Maryland's statewide assessment programs, and for conducting data collection, analysis and reporting activities to support CTE performance improvement initiatives at Maryland's High Schools and Community Colleges.

Qualifications:

Education:

University of Maryland (College Park, Maryland) 2004 – Bachelor's Degree in Animal Sciences

Experience:

Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation (Havre de Grace, Maryland)

2002 – Present: Maryland's Future Farmers of America, Executive Secretary

Employment Status

New Hire

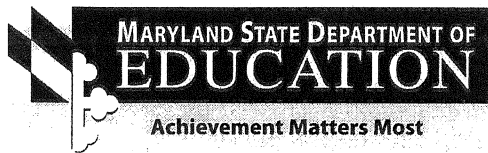
**MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE May 25-26, 2010 BOARD MEETING**

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> |
|--------------------|---|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Lessard, Daniel N. | Education Program Specialist I, Certification | 21 | Certification and Accreditation | TBD |
| Romano, Dominic M. | Education Program Specialist II, Lead Technical Specialist for School Safety and Discipline | 22 | 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> |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| None | | | | |
| None | | | | |



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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May 25-26, 2010

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Daniel N. Lessard
Position: Education Program Specialist I, Teacher Certification
Division: Certification and Accreditation
Salary Grade: 21 (\$55,084 - \$88,439)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

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

Experience:

Four years of professional teaching or administrative work in or affiliated with an education program; experience that includes the interpretation and application of policies and regulations and/or certification policies and procedures is desired.

Note: Two years of additional experience as defined above may be substituted for the Master's Degree.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

This position is responsible for providing technical assistance and expertise in all aspects relating to the application and interpretation of certification regulation and determining certification eligibility for teachers and other professional personnel employed in public and private schools and State institutions.

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Qualifications:

Washington College (Chestertown, Maryland) 1990 – Master's of Art in Psychology

Richard Stockton College (Pomona, New Jersey) 1984 – Bachelor of Arts in Historical Studies and Completion of Teacher Certification Program

Experience:

Queen Anne's County Public Schools (Centreville, Maryland)

2001 – Present: Education Program Specialist, Teacher Certification (On loan with MSDE)

1990 – 1991: Teacher, U.S. History and Government

Kent County Public Schools (Chestertown, Maryland)

1998 – 2001: Coordinator of Human Resources

1989 – 1991: Teacher of G.E.D. (Adult Basic Education)

Dixon Valve and Coupling Company (Chestertown, Maryland)

1997 – 1998: Corporate Training Director and Human Resources Specialist

1993 – 1996: Director of Human Resources and Training

1991 – 1993: Director of Training and Education

Chesapeake College (Wye Mills, Maryland)

1992 – 1997: Associate Faculty (part-time)

Washington College (Chestertown, Maryland)

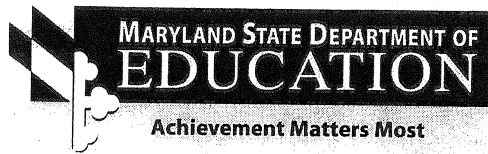
1990: Teacher, History and Maryland Summer Gifted and Talented Program

Vineland Public Schools, (Vineland, New Jersey)

1985 – 1989: Teacher, Social Studies

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:

New Hire



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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May 25-26, 2010

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Dominic M. Romano
Position: Education Program Specialist II, Lead Technical Specialist for School Safety and Discipline
Division: Student, Family, and School Support
Salary Grade: 22 (\$58,783-\$94,388)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

Master's Degree or equivalent 36 credit hours of post-baccalaureate course work in Education, mental health, counseling, psychology or a related field.

Experience:

Five (5) years of administrative, leadership, coordination or teaching experience in or affiliated with behavior management, school wide discipline programs, behavior interventions and/or school climate modification.

DESCRIPTION:

Serves as the Lead Technical Specialist responsible for providing leadership, coordination and technical assistance to local school systems in addressing school safety, violence prevention, and school discipline to promote safe learning environments and facilitate a continuum of services and programs for positive student behavior.

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Qualifications:

Education:

Bowie University (Bowie, Maryland) 1979 – Master’s Degree in Education (Guidance Counselor)

Washington College (Chestertown, Maryland) 1969 – Bachelor of Arts in United States History

Experience:

Queen Anne’s County Public Schools (Centreville, Maryland)

2005 – Present: Education Program Specialist II, Lead School Safety and Discipline Specialist (On Loan with MSDE)

1995 – 2005: Supervisor of Student Services

1984 – 1995: Principal (Stevensville Middle School and Sudlersville Middle School)

1979 – 1984: Assistant Principal

1976 – 1979: Guidance Counselor

1969 – 1976: Middle School Teacher

Employment Status

New Hire

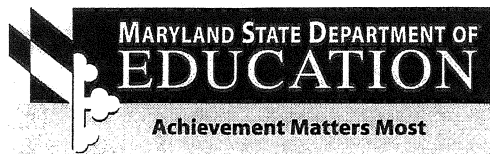
MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE May 25-26, 2010 BOARD MEETING

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> |
|---------------|--|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Page, Suzanne | Assistant State Superintendent for Rehabilitation Services | ESS | Rehabilitation 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> |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| None | | | | |
| <u>NAME</u> | <u>POSITION</u> | <u>SALARY GRADE</u> | <u>DIVISION/OFFICE</u> | <u>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</u> |
| None | | | | |



May 25-26, 2010

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Suzanne Page
Position: Assistant State Superintendent for Rehabilitation Services
Division: Rehabilitation Services
Salary Grade: Executive Salary Schedule
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

A Master's Degree or 36 hours of post baccalaureate coursework in Public or Business Administration, Educational Administration, Rehabilitation Counseling, Special Education, Guidance and Counseling, Vocational Evaluation, Psychology, or a closely related field.

Experience:

Ten years of professional or administrative experience in the field of rehabilitation. Seven years of the required experience must have been in direct supervision of other professional employees, or direct responsibility for the administration of a rehabilitation program or other human service program.

DESCRIPTION:

This is a professional position that serves as the Assistant State Superintendent responsible for the leadership, direction, and oversight of the operational units for Statewide vocational rehabilitation services including Business Support Services, Client Services, the Workforce and Technology Center, Disability Determination Services, Office for Blindness and Vision Services, and Program and Community Support.

Qualifications:

Education:

College of Notre Dame (Towson, Maryland) 2000 – Master’s Degree in Management

Frostburg State University (Frostburg, Maryland) 1974 – Bachelor’s Degree in Elementary Education

Experience:

Maryland State Department of Education (Baltimore, Maryland)

- 2006 – Present: Vocational Rehabilitation Director III (Director of Disability Determination Services)
- 1999 – 2006: Program Manager II (Director of Support Services)
- 1998 – 1999: Vocational Rehabilitation Director II (Director Operations)
- 1991 – 1998: Vocational Rehabilitation Director I, Claims Adjudication
- 1980 – 1991: Vocational Rehabilitation Supervisor
- 1974 – 1980: Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

Employment Status

Promotion