

MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday
July 20, 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, July 20, 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. Sayed Naved; Mr. Gayon Sampson; Mrs. Madhu Sidhu; Mr. Guffrie M. Smith, Jr.; Donna Hill Staton, Esq.; Dr. Ivan Walks; Ms. Kate Walsh and Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, Secretary/Treasurer and State Superintendent of Schools.

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

President DeGraffenreidt opened the meeting at 9 a.m. and announced that the Board would convene an Executive Session and would reconvene the public meeting at 1 p.m. He acknowledged the newest member of the State Board, Mr. Gayon Sampson, the new student member. Mr. Sampson is from Frederick County.

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 Mr. Naved, and with unanimous agreement, the Maryland State Board of Education met in closed session on Tuesday, July 20, 2010, in Conference Room 8 from 9:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and Conference Room 1 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., 8th Floor of the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. All board members were present. Dr. Grasmick was also in attendance.

The State Board first conducted the State Superintendent's evaluation and discussed potential candidates for State Board office.

Following completion of the discussion of these items, the Board and Dr. Grasmick were joined by Dr. John Smeallie, Deputy State Superintendent for Administration; Steve Brooks, Deputy State Superintendent for Finance; Tony South, Executive Director to the State Board; and, Elizabeth M. Kameen, Assistant Attorney General.

Dr. Grasmick, Steven Brooks, Robert Crawford, Director of Business Services, and Rick Baker, Deputy Chief, Budget Branch, presented a Budget Report and the 2012 State Education Budget Enhancement Proposal.

Assistant Attorney General Jackie La Fiandra joined the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

The State Board approved four decisions for publication.

- *Tyrice C. v. Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners* – expulsion – Opinion 10-25
- *Isaiah Showell v. Wicomico County Board of Education* – teacher suspension – Opinion 10-26
- *Calvert Neighbors for Sensible Redistricting v. Calvert County Board of Education* – redistricting Opinion 10-27
- *Julia Maggitti v. Washington County Board of Education* – redistricting – Opinion 10-28

The Board deliberated three cases.

- *Laverne Crump v. Montgomery County Board of Education*- teacher termination
- *Robert Johnston v. Howard County Board of Education* – employee benefits
- *Janis Zink Sartucci v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – contract dispute

Opinions in those cases will be published at a future Board meeting.

The State Board received legal advice concerning its jurisdiction over collective bargaining cases filed before July 1.

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

The public meeting of the State Board resumed at 2:10 p.m.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt introduced Gayon Sampson as the new Student Member of the State Board of Education.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Grasmick noted two personnel appointments, one in psychological services and one in assessment and accountability, describing the two individuals as highly qualified. She said the Department is very fortunate to bring these high caliber employees on board.

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

- Approval of Minutes of June 23, 2010
- Personnel (copy attached to these minutes)
- Budget Adjustments for June, 2010
- Naming of Persistently Dangerous Schools and Probationary Status Schools

- Permission to Publish:
 - COMAR 13A.06.03.04 (Amend)
Interscholastic Athletics in the State
 - COMAR 13A.04.13 and COMAR 13A.04.18 (Repeal and New)
Specific Subjects: Physical Education and Comprehensive Health Education

ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

President DeGraffenreidt congratulated Ms. Staton and Dr. Dukes on their recent re-appointments to the State Board.

Dr. Grasmick asked for nominations for the position of President of the Board. Ms. Sidhu nominated Mr. DeGraffenreidt. Dr. Finan seconded the motion. Following a vote, Mr. DeGraffenreidt was unanimously re-elected Board President. (In Favor – 11)

President DeGraffenreidt nominated Dr. Dukes for the position of Vice-President of the Board. Upon a second by Dr. Walks, and with unanimous agreement, the Board voted to re-elect Dr. Dukes as Vice-President. (In Favor – 11)

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Grasmick reported on the unique relationship between the Department and the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African-American History and Culture. She announced that the Department was working with the Museum on the development of a high school curriculum that will educate students about the contributions of African-Americans not only to Maryland but the country as a whole. She said that this project will be completed by the end of this school year and will be piloted and disseminated next year.

She announced that the Maryland Summer Food Service Program administered by MSDE was ranked second in the nation by the Food Research and Action Center for increasing the number of children served by the Program in 2009.

Dr. Grasmick said that the Department is preparing for the next step in Maryland's application for Race To The Top (RTTT) funding which would entail an interview process. She said that the "breakthrough centers" instituted in underperforming schools have made sustained progress which will bode well for Maryland's chances of winning a RTTT award.

The Superintendent thanked Ms. Sidhu for her attendance at the Eastern Shore Superintendents Association meeting earlier this month. She also thanked Board members for attending the cruise provided by program sponsors for the newly-named local Teachers of the Year.

Dr. Grasmick also announced that the Department is the recipient of a Longview Grant to conduct a conference on international education.

TRANSITIONING TO THE COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

Dr. Grasmick introduced Dr. Colleen Seremet, Assistant State Superintendent of Instruction, and Ms. Dixie Stack, Director of Curriculum, to lay out a timeline for the transition from our current State standards in mathematics and reading to the Common Core Standards.

Dr. Seremet explained that the Common Core Standards will serve as a framework and said that Ms. Stack will explain how the Common Core Standards will be aligned with the current State curriculum.

Ms. Stack provided a draft transition plan explaining that a gap analysis comparing the current standards with the Common Core Standards will be completed in August. She noted that every school district will provide a representative with expertise in either mathematics or reading. She noted that the Maryland Higher Education Commission and University System staff are coordinating higher education staff who will be participating in the curriculum transition project as well. Ms. Stack said that by September, her staff will be able to define the particular revisions to the State Curriculum that will be necessary to complete this project.

Dr. Seremet said that the staff will also be working with the anticipated assessment work of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) consortium. Maryland is a governing state in this consortium and the curriculum and assessment work will be frequently cross-checked to ensure tight alignment.

In response to a question by Ms. Montero-Diaz, Ms. Stack said that the new curriculum should be completed by June 2011 in order to provide time for professional development for teachers.

In response to a question by Dr. Gates, Ms. Stack assured the Board that higher education representatives will be involved in this project. Dr. Grasmick suggested that it would be very helpful if Dr. Gates would elicit the names of faculty members from the arts and sciences departments who might wish to work on this project.

2010 MSA RESULTS

Dr. Grasmick invited Dr. Leslie Wilson, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Accountability and Assessment, to present the results of the 2010 administration of the Maryland School Assessments (MSAs). She reported that Dr. Wilson will be sharing the MSA Science results at the August Board meeting. She commended Dr. Wilson and her staff for their excellent work in completing a very “challenging” job.

Dr. Wilson explained that these are the results of assessments of reading and mathematics skills administered to more than 362,900 students in Maryland. She explained that students receive a score of Basic, Proficient or Advanced and that these assessments are in fulfillment of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requirements used to determine Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in all Maryland schools.

Dr. Wilson summarized the results as follows:

- Continued progress
- Many local school systems maintaining high performance
- Increments of improvement are smaller
- Historically lower-performing subgroups continue to make good progress

She provided data on the range of performances of local education agencies (LEAs) She attributed the improvement trend of assessment results to greater early learning opportunities, the continuity of learning provided by the State Curriculum, the cumulative impact of the Bridge to Excellent funding on teaching and learning, and the increase in the percentages of classes taught by highly qualified teachers.

Dr. Wilson provided data on the progress made by elementary and middle school students in mathematics and reading. She reported that subgroups requiring special services such as special education and English Language Learners (ELL) made progress in every area except for ELL students in middle school math and special education students in elementary reading. She noted that it is harder to erase early deficits in later years.

She provided data on the progress made in closing achievement gaps for all races and provided a list of the new race codes for 2011.

Dr. Wilson also discussed Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) which provides the rate of progress towards the goal of 100% of students proficient by the year 2014. She reported the following AYP data:

- 10 schools exited school improvement
- 175 schools are currently in school improvement
- 119 of the 136 schools (88%) that missed AYP last year did not enter school improvement
- 181 schools missed AYP for the first time
- 77% of schools did not meet AYP because of only one subgroup - special education

She summarized as follows:

- Student performance continues to improve
- Achievement gaps continue to close
- Local attention works
- Evidence of more schools not meeting AYP

Dr. Wilson said that new tests will be implemented in 2014-15 following the implementation of the Common Core Standards Curriculum.

In response to questions by Dr. Gates, Dr. Wilson said that twenty-six states have signed on for Common Core Standards and that all the states will have the same common assessment system.

Board members thanked Dr. Wilson for her informative and detailed report.

OVERVIEW OF TEST SECURITY AND PROTOCOLS

Dr. Grasmick reported that Maryland has had a long history of conducting State testing programs and has been successful in maintaining the integrity of the tests and the test reporting process. She asked Dr. Wilson to review the test security procedures and the protocols that have been established for the State assessments.

Dr. Wilson acknowledged the excellent work of Dr. Tamara Lewis who serves as the Department's Test Security Officer. She explained that test security is addressed in Maryland Regulations (COMAR) and explained the requirements and prohibitions listed in COMAR.

She went over what constitutes test security violations, the training provided to all personnel involved in the testing process, the observation procedures, the analysis of test answers and the scoring process. Dr. Wilson described the process used to investigate, document and review cases of suspected security breaches. She discussed the sanctions for test security violations, challenges to the process, and provided data on 2008 and 2009 security violations. Dr. Wilson said that the longitudinal data system and new online assessments will go a long way to ensuring additional test security.

In response to a question by Mr. Sampson, Dr. Wilson said that, in the case of the HSAs, if a teacher does not follow the testing protocols such as noting the test closing time on the blackboard, students could be allowed to take the test a second time.

In response to a question by Ms. Walsh, Dr. Wilson said that when the prior testing package (MSPAP) was administered, teachers were given the test questions in advance in order to teach students what they needed to learn to pass the test. She explained that teachers are not given the test questions in advance for the administration of the HSAs.

In response to a question by Mr. DeGraffenreidt, Dr. Wilson said there is no indication that there is a trend of cheating during the administration of HSAs. President DeGraffenreidt urged that this issue be monitored closely to identify if a trend emerges.

In response to a question by Mr. Naved, Dr. Wilson said that test proctors receive background checks when they are hired into the teaching ranks. In response to a suggestion by Mr. Naved, Dr. Grasmick said that she will suggest to local superintendents that parents should be apprised of these security protocols during their PTA meetings. She also suggested that the Department could provide handouts for parents describing these processes.

In response to a question by Ms. Staton, Dr. Wilson said that in cases in which students are not provided the appropriate accommodations for taking the tests, the cause can usually be attributed to miscommunication among the staff at the school.

Once again, the Board thanked Dr. Wilson for her excellent presentation.

FOLLOW-UP TO CHARTER SCHOOL POLICY DISCUSSION

Mr. DeGraffenreidt reminded the Board members of the discussion that they had at their last meeting related to the adoption of the Charter School policy. He said that the Board needs to have a better understanding of the operations of charter schools in Maryland before considering any department legislation to change the existing law. Ms. Renee Spence, Executive Director, Governmental Relations, said that the normal deadline for the Board submitting its legislative priorities is September 8, 2010. She went on to say that she has spoken to her contact in the Governor's Legislative Office and was informed that the Legislative Office would grant the State Board an extension beyond this deadline to permit the State Board ample time to conduct a thorough review of the operation of the existing Charter School law.

The President suggested that further discussion be held at the August Board meeting to initiate the Board's review of charter schools and determine the questions that need to be answered prior to recommending any legislative action on this subject. He further suggested that the Board follow a process similar to the one used by the Board to identify and examine issues surrounding Alternative Teacher Preparation Programs. Using this process the Board could become informed by having presentations by a panel of representatives of local school systems and a panel of charter school providers/advocates. Ms. Walsh suggested that the Board hear from individuals who are currently running charter schools in Maryland to address the following: facilities, local education agencies as authorizers, and teacher union issues.

In response to a concern raised by Ms. Walsh about a constituent issue, Dr. Grasmick said that she will reiterate to local school superintendents the requirement for charter schools to teach the curriculum needed for students to be successful in passing HSAs.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. DeGraffenreidt explained procedures by which the Board hears public comment.

Jennifer Barmon, Office of the Public Defender, commented on expelled students in Montgomery County and services being provided to them.

OPINIONS


Ms. Kameen announced the following Opinions:

- 10-25 *Tyrice C. v. Baltimore County Board of Education* – student expulsion (affirmed local board's decision)
- 10-26 *Isaiah Showell v. Wicomico County Board of Education* – teacher suspension (affirmed local board's decision)
- 10-27 *Calvert Neighbors v. Calvert County Board of Education* – redistricting (adopted Administrative Law Judge's decision as final, affirming local board)
- 10-28 *Julia Maggitti v. Washington County Board of Education* – redistricting (adopted Administrative Law Judge's decision as final, affirming local board)

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy S. Grasmick
Secretary, Treasurer

NSG/rms

APPROVED: 8/24/10

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CLOSED SESSION

On this **20th** day of **July 2010**, at the hour of 9:00 am pm, the Members of the State Board of Education voted as follows to meet in closed session:

Motion made by: M. Smith

Seconded by: Mr. Naved

In Favor: All Opposed: 0 Member(s) Opposed: _____

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

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

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

1. Discuss 2 internal personnel matters.
2. Discuss 2 internal Board management matters.
3. Discuss 1 item that is subject to Executive Privilege.
4. Discuss 3 legal appeals.
5. Review 5 draft opinions.



President

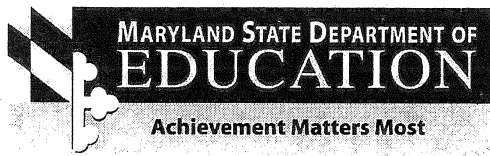
MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE JULY 20-21, 2010 BOARD MEETING

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>
Bates, Portia S.	Education Program Specialist II, Lead Comprehensive Planning Specialist	22	Student, Family, and School Support	TBD
Nottage, William D.	Education Program Specialist I, Career Technology Student Organizations (CTSO)	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>
Cox, Danielle J.	Teacher, Academic (Reading/Language Arts)	IEPP	Career and College Readiness, Juvenile Services Education Program	07/01/2010
Hager, Rhonda J.	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist II	13	Rehabilitation Services, Workforce and Technology Center	07/14/2010
Jones, Emily J.	Teacher, School Counselor	IEPP	Career and College Readiness, Juvenile Services Education Program	06/30/2010
McKee, Angelique	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist II	13	Rehabilitation Services, Region III	07/14/2010
Palczewski, Aaron J.	Teacher, Academic – Social Studies	IEPP	Career and College Readiness, Juvenile Services Education Program	07/14/2010
Parker, Stephen H.	Teacher, Special Education	IEPP	Career and College Readiness, Juvenile Services Education Program	07/01/2010
Shankle, Rachael	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist II	13	Rehabilitation Services, Region I	07/14/2010
Smith, Kellee K.	Teacher, Special Education	IEPP	Career and College Readiness, Juvenile Services Education Program	07/01/2010



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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July 20-21, 2010

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Portia S. Bates
Position: Education Program Specialist II, Lead Comprehensive Planning Specialist
Division: Student, Family, and School Support
Salary Grade: 22 (\$59,140-\$94,961)
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, Educational Research, Education Policy or a related field.

Experience:

Five (5) years of professional teaching or administrative/supervision experience in, or affiliated with, an education program, including two years of experience coordinating or administering an education program. Experience coordinating strategic planning for a local school system, business or educational organization is preferred.

DESCRIPTION:

Serves as the lead technical specialist in the Student Services and Alternative Programs Branch responsible for providing technical assistance to local school systems in planning, program, and fiscal requirements of Comprehensive Master Plans as well as the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

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Qualifications:

Education:

Trinity College (Washington, D.C.) 2004 – Master of Arts Degree in Teaching

Hampton University (Hampton, Virginia) 2000 – Bachelor’s Degree in English

Experience:

Baltimore City Schools (Baltimore, Maryland)

2009 – Present: Academic Intervention Coordinator (School Administrator Internship)

2008 – 2009: Team Leader

2008 – 2009: Program Director, Ambassadors Investing in Mentoring (Part-time)

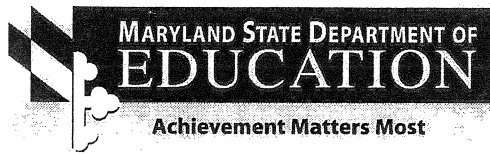
2008: Summer School Administrator

2006 -2008: Gifted and Talented Coordinator

2002 – 2009: English Teacher

Employment Status

New Hire



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July 20-21, 2010

BOARD LIST

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

Name: William D. Nottage
Position: Education Program Specialist I, Career Technology Student Organizations (CTSO)
Division: Career and College Readiness
Salary Grade: 21 (\$55,419-\$88,976)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

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

Experience:

Four (4) years of professional administrative, student services, or teaching experience in or affiliated with an education program including two (2) years of experience in coordinating or administering an education program or service directly related to the position. Experience in an area related to conference coordination, student services, and/or a related field is preferred.

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

DESCRIPTION:

This position is responsible for providing leadership and technical assistance to Career Technology Student Organizations to ensure increased school and student performance, as measured by Maryland's statewide assessment programs, and for providing assistance to CTSO's, school districts, and business partners to improve Career and Technology Education (CTE) program quality; additionally will provide support to two Career Cluster Teams and contribute to the ongoing development of CTE programs of study.

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Qualifications:

Education:

State University College at Buffalo (Buffalo, New York) 2001 – Master's of Science, Student Personnel Administration

University at Buffalo (Buffalo, New York) 1999 – Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Experience:

University of Baltimore – The Career Center (Baltimore, Maryland)

2004 – Present: Associate Director – Programming and Technology

The University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, Michigan)

2001 – 2004: Career Counselor/Programmer

Buffalo Urban League – Progressive Adolescent Vocational Exploration Program (Buffalo, New York)

2000 – 2001: Career Counselor

State University College at Buffalo (Buffalo, New York)

2000 – 2001: Academic Advisor, Success Track for Academic Readiness (STAR) Program

Employment Status

New Hire

**MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE JULY 20-21, 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>
Dorman, Sally A.	Education Program Specialist I, Psychological Services	21	Student, Family, and School Support	TBD
Vasquez, Unmi L.	Education Program Specialist I, Education Planning Administrator	21	Accountability and Assessment	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				



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July 20-21, 2010

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Sally A. Dorman
Position: Education Program Specialist I, Psychological Services
Division: Student, Family, and School Support
Salary Grade: 21 (\$55,419-\$88,976)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

A Master's Degree or equivalent 36 post baccalaureate credit hours of course work in Education, Education/Administration, School Counseling, School Psychology or a related field. Doctorate in School Psychology is preferred.

Experience:

Four (4) years of professional teaching or administrative/supervision experience in, or affiliated with, an education program. Experience working as a pupil personnel worker, guidance counselor or school psychologist preferred.

NOTE:

Possession of a Doctorate in a field related to the position may be substituted for one year of the experience requirements.

DESCRIPTION:

This is a professional position responsible for providing leadership, consultation and technical assistance in the development and implementation of programs for School Psychology services in local school systems (LSS) to expand mental health services and support improved learning outcomes for students across Maryland.

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Qualifications:

Alfred University (Alfred, New York) 2003 – Doctor of School Psychology; 2001 – Master of Arts in School Psychology

Mansfield University (Mansfield, Pennsylvania) 1999 – Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology

University of Alaska (Anchorage, Alaska) 1992 – Bachelor's Degree in Psychology

Experience:

Charles County Public Schools (La Plata, Maryland)

2005 – Present: School Psychologist

Wesley College (Dover, Delaware)

2005: Adjunct Professor of General Psychology (Part-time)

Alfred University (Alfred, New York)

2003 – 2004: Director of Operations, Rural Justice Institute

2003: Adjunct Instructor

2000 – 2002: Graduate Assistant (Part-time)

2002: Instructor (Part-time)

2000 – 2001: Graduate Clinician (Part-time)

1999 – 2000: Graduate Assistant (Part-time)

Addison Central School District (Addison, New York)

2002 – 2003 School Psychology Intern

2001 - 2002: Consulting Evaluator (Part-time)

Laurel Youth Services (Blossburg, Pennsylvania)

2001 – 2002: Diagnostic Specialist

Tioga Women's Coalition (Wellsboro, Pennsylvania)

2000: Advocate (Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and HIV)

Fillmore Central School District (Fillmore, New York)

1999 – 2000: School Psychology Extern (Part-time)

Steuben County Community Mental Health Center (Bath, New York)

1998 – 1999: Master Psychology Intern (Full and Part-time)

The Net Domestic Abuse Program (Bath, New York)

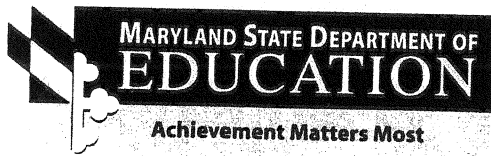
1997: Advocate, Domestic Violence (Part-time)

Abused Women's Aid in Crisis (Anchorage, Alaska)

1992 – 1997: Advocate/Volunteer Coordinator

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:

New Hire



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July 20-21, 2010

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Unmi L. Vasquez
Position: Education Program Specialist I, Education Planning Administrator
Division: Accountability and Assessment
Salary Grade: 21 (\$55,419-\$88,976)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

Possession of a Master's Degree or equivalent 36 credit hours of post-baccalaureate course work from an accredited college or university.

Experience:

Four years of administrative or teaching experience in or affiliated with an education program; this experience to include two years coordinating or administering an education program or services directly related to the position.

NOTES:

1. Two additional years of experience directly related to the position may be substituted for the required Master's Degree.
2. 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 for the administration of the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) between the Maryland State Department of Education and the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and provides for the coordination for reviews of NAEP assessment items and processes for administration within the state, and coordinates the use of NAEP results for policy and program planning.

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Qualifications:

University of Kansas (Lawrence, Maryland) 2003 – Master of Arts Degree in Education Administration

Washburn University (Topeka, Kansas) 1998 – Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education

Experience:

CNA (Alexandria, Virginia)

2010: Project Manager III, Task Lead for Communications and Dissemination for the Regional Education Laboratory Appalachia

Kansas State Department of Education (Topeka, Kansas)

2004 - 2009: Education Program Consultant, Coordinator of State Social Studies Standard and Assessment

University of Phoenix (Phoenix, Arizona)

2007 – current: Instructor for Humanities (Part-time)

University of Kansas, Center for Research on Learning (Lawrence, Kansas)

2003 - 2004: Instructional Facilitator

Auburn Washburn Unified Schools District (Topeka, Kansas)

1998 - 2003: Social Studies Teacher

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:

New Hire

TYRICE C.,

Appellant

v.

BALTIMORE CITY BOARD
OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS,

Appellee.

BEFORE THE

MARYLAND

STATE BOARD

OF EDUCATION

Opinion No. 10-25

OPINION

INTRODUCTION

The Appellant filed an appeal of the decision of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners (local board) expelling her son from school. The local board filed a Motion for Summary Affirmance maintaining that its decision should be upheld because it is not arbitrary, unreasonable or illegal.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

At the time of the incident, Appellant's son, DF, was a 12th grade student attending Baltimore City College (City College). In the week prior to the incident, DF experienced stress due to the death of his friend, a deteriorating relationship with his father, and his failed attempt to make the varsity football team. (T. 27 – 29).

On the afternoon of September 1, 2009, the Appellant arrived at City College to pick up DF. DF exited the building and informed the Appellant that someone had taken his sun visor. DF then retrieved a 2 x 4 piece of lumber used to prop open a door to the school, and went back into the school to retrieve his visor. DF entered the boy's locker room and, holding the lumber in a threatening manner, confronted ten to fifteen members of the football team. He demanded that they return his visor or else "somebody was going to get hit." (T.35, 36). The Varsity Football Coach, Angelo Geppi, confronted DF in the locker room and told him to leave. (T.36). DF responded "I'll hit you too" and refused a second instruction by Coach Geppi to leave. At this point, Coach Geppi called security. (T.36-37; CEO Exh. 4).

While Coach Geppi was making the call, the Appellant entered the locker room and pleaded for DF to calm down and leave. (T. 37). DF exited the locker room with the Appellant, but stayed in the immediate area and remained visibly distraught while the Appellant continued her efforts to calm him. (T.57, 66). Soon after, the Assistant Principal, Nathan Burns, arrived with security. (T.38, 56). Mr. Burns brought DF and the Appellant back to his office and obtained written statements from them and Coach Geppi. (T.55-66). As part of his investigation, Mr. Burns also obtained written statements from three student witnesses the following day. (T.68).

Based on the results of his investigation, Mr. Burns recommended that DF be suspended from school for possessing a weapon, a Level IV offense under the Code of Conduct. (Exh. B, Hearing Exam's. Summ.). After conducting a hearing, the Office of Suspension Services recommended expulsion to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) due to the severity of the offense. (*Id.*; T.93; CEO Exh. 20). The CEO concurred with the recommendation and expelled DF from City College, assigning him to the Success Academy, an alternative education setting. (Exh. B, Hearing Exam's. Summ.;T. 97). DF later transferred to Harbor City Apex Program which provides a remote education via computer. (T.129).

The Appellant appealed the decision to the local board and the matter was referred to a hearing examiner for review. The hearing examiner recommended that the local board uphold the CEO's expulsion decision. (Exh. B, Hearing Exam's. Summ.). The local board concurred with the hearing examiner's recommendation and upheld the expulsion.

Appellant appealed the local board's decision to the State Board. By this time, DF had already completed all of his graduation requirements, finishing them in January 2010, and had begun taking classes at a community college. (Letter of Appeal). In addition, DF had obtained a job at a grocery store and began interning at the Baltimore City Board of Education. (T.129).

STANDARD OF REVIEW

In student suspension and expulsion cases, the decision of the local board is considered final. Md. Code Ann., Educ. §7-305(c). Therefore, the State Board will not review the merits of the decision unless there are "specific factual and legal allegations" that the local board failed to follow State or local law, policies, or procedures; violated the student's due process rights; acted in an unconstitutional manner; or that the decision is otherwise illegal. COMAR 13A.01.05.05G(2).

LEGAL ANALYSIS

Through this appeal, the Appellant seeks, not to have the local board's decision overturned, but rather, to have the expulsion removed from DF's record to prevent any negative effect it might have on his chances when he applies for college in the future. (Letter of Appeal).

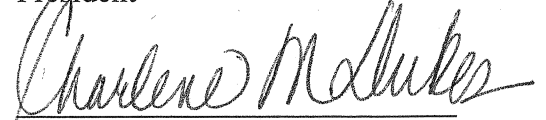
The Appellant has not provided any basis for her request to remove the expulsion from DF's record. She makes no allegations that the local board failed to follow State or local law, policies or procedures, that the local board violated DF's due process rights, or that the local board acted in an unconstitutional manner. Nor does she allege that the local board's decision is illegal. (*See* Letter of Appeal). In fact, she states that DF has accepted responsibility for his actions and the consequences that followed. (*Id.*). Thus there is no reason for this Board to review the merits of the local board's decision.

CONCLUSION

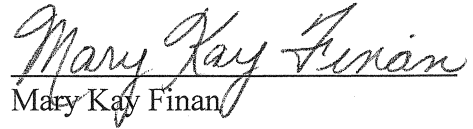
For the reasons stated above, we dismiss the appeal.



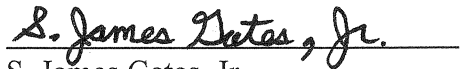
James H. DeGraffenreid, Jr.
President



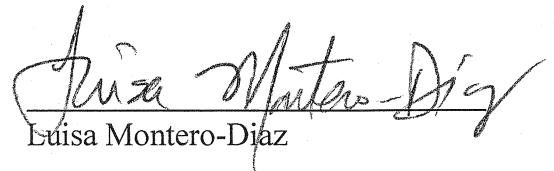
Charlene M. Dukes
Vice President



Mary Kay Finan



S. James Gates, Jr.



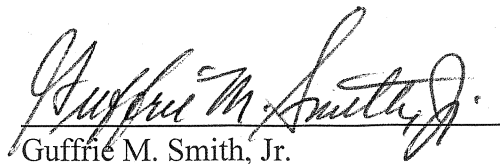
Luisa Montero-Diaz

ABSENT

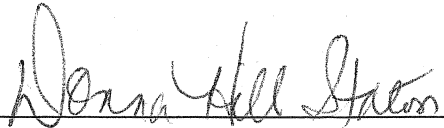
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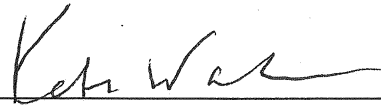
Madhu Sidhu



Guffie M. Smith, Jr.


Donna Hill Staton


Ivan C.A. Walks


Kate Walsh

July 20, 2010