MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday
October 27, 2009

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

The Maryland State Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, October 27, 2009, at the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. The following members were in attendance: Mr. James H. DeGraffenreidt, Jr., President; Dr. Mary Kay Finan; Dr. Sylvester J. Gates, Jr.; Mr. David H. Murray; Mrs. Madhu Sidhu; Donna Hill Staton, Esq.; Ms. Kate Walsh and Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, Secretary/Treasurer and State Superintendent of Schools. Vice-President Charlene M. Dukes, Dr. Ivan Walks and Mr. Guffrie M. Smith, Jr. were absent.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. DeGraffenreidt asked for approval of the Consent Agenda and asked Dr. Grasmick to report on the proposed amendment to the graduation requirements regulation. Dr. Grasmick explained that the proposed amendment updates the regulation to add environmental science to the list of science courses that are deemed acceptable for meeting the three credit graduation requirement in science.

In response to a question by Ms. Walsh, Dr. Grasmick introduced Becky Bell, Specialist in Environmental Education, Division of Instruction, to respond to Ms. Walsh's question. Ms. Bell said that environmental science has emerged as a separate field of study. She explained that there is an ecology unit in biology which does not include the involvement of human beings and that environmental science takes life science and the earth's processes and combines them through ecology. She noted that this adds an entire new dimension to environmental science.

Mr. Murray explained that he is currently enrolled in environmental science and noted that this field of study is very different than ecology and more relevant to students.

Dr. Finan noted that colleges are offering environmental science courses.

Upon motion by Dr. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Sidhu, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the Consent Agenda as follows: (In Favor – 7)

- Approval of Minutes of September 21, 2009
- Personnel (copy attached to these minutes)
- Budget Adjustments for September 2009
- Permission to Publish:
  - COMAR 13A.03.02.04 (AMEND) Graduation Requirements

COMAR 13A.11.01, 13A.11.02, 13A.11.08 PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Superintendent introduced Robert Burns, Assistant State Superintendent, and Polly Huston, Director, Office of Program and Community Support, both of the Division of Rehabilitation Services to provide background on proposed amendments to COMAR 13A.11.01, 13A.11.02, and 13A.11.08, Programs for Adults with Disabilities. She recommended adoption of the proposed amendments.

Mr. Burns explained that these amendments are proposed to update the sliding scale used to determine financial participation of eligible individuals in cost of services, and to update and incorporate by reference the Division's fee schedule. He also explained that these amendments incorporate technical changes due to an extension of a tax credit for businesses that hire adults with disabilities.

Upon motion by Dr. Finan, seconded by Dr. Gates, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the adoption of the amendments as presented. (In Favor – 7)

STATUS REPORT ON PARENT INVOLVEMENT INITIATIVES

Dr. Grasmick reported that the Governor proclaimed October Parent Involvement Month in Maryland. She introduced Maria Lamb, Director, Program Improvement and Family Support Branch, Division of Student, Family and School Support (SFSS), to provide an overview of the efforts to promote and encourage parent involvement and to discuss the plans for the coming year. She also introduced Maureen Moran, Director, Office of Academic Policy; Sam Mercer, Parent and President-Elect of the Maryland State PTA; Barbara Scherr, Coordinator, Family Involvement, Division of SFSS; and, Young-Chan Han, Specialist, Family Involvement, Division of DFSS.

Ms. Lamb provided a video of the kick-off of Parent Involvement Month, an event attended by more than three hundred parents and community members across the State. She said that a Maryland Parent Advisory Council (M-PAC) was established by the Department in the fall of 2003 to assist the Department in addressing its goal of enhancing parent involvement in our public schools. She reported that the Council developed nearly two dozen recommendations

which are currently being implemented in Maryland. She noted that Maryland has received national accolades and recognition for its progress in the area of family involvement in schools.

Ms. Moran, a member of M-PAC, provided a brief history of the Council since its inception. Board members were provided with a copy of the Council's Summary Report.

Mr. Macer reported that a preliminary Council report was presented to the State Board in 2005 and that input from all local school systems was solicited and included in the Council's Final Report. He reported that he will be installed as the new Maryland PTA President in November and that the Maryland PTA will continue to be a strong partner with the Maryland State Department of Education and will work to move the M-PAC recommendations forward. Mr. Macer explained that he has been associated with the foster care program for twenty-two years serving as a foster parent and providing training to other foster parents in Maryland. He noted the importance of foster parents being involved in the public schools in which their foster children are attending.

Ms. Lamb reported that Dr. Grasmick established The Superintendent's Family Involvement Council which includes more than one-third representation by parents. She said that M-PAC recommended that parents be represented on educational task forces and councils and that at least one-half of all school systems have established Parent Advisory Councils. She noted that each district in Maryland has a Family Involvement Coordinator who is designated by the Superintendent to coordinate outreach and support to schools and families on parent involvement. Additionally, this year, Superintendents were asked to designate an ELL Family Involvement Coordinator. These Coordinators provide outreach and support to schools and families of our immigrant population.

Ms. Lamb said that publications are being provided to parents and are translated in multiple languages. She added that public libraries provide access for parents who do not have computer access. Ms. Lamb highlighted several best practices being implemented by school systems and other stakeholders to increase family involvement. She introduced Ms. Scherr and Ms. Han who conducted 49 team training sessions in twenty-one school systems to build capacity for educators and parents alike as it relates to Title I, Part A.

Ms. Scherr reported on the vast diversity of families with students in public schools. She reported that there are 180 languages spoken by students and families representing more than 100 countries, more than 40,000 ELL students, over 10,000 homeless children and more than 3,000 foster care children in Maryland.

Ms. Han said she coordinates statewide meetings with all stakeholders to share best practices and to reach underserved populations. She noted the lack of trained interpreters and said that opportunities for professional development are being explored to increase the number of trained interpreters in Maryland.

Dr. Grasmick welcomed and introduced Mishaela Duran, National PTA Director of Government Affairs.

Ms. Duran reported that the National PTA is the largest child advocate organization in the United States and Europe. She said that the National PTA has been working with researchers to develop evidenced-based policies and best practices, noting that "Maryland is a guiding light for systemic family engagement." She reported that the Prince George's County Public School System has developed a structure to meaningfully engage families by providing professional development training for personnel responsible for building community and family involvement in the schools. She noted that there is now a national movement on family engagement.

In response to a question by President DeGraffenreidt, Ms. Duran said that Prince George County Public Schools has an excellent data tracking system that provides documentation that parental involvement increases student progress. She explained that the National PTA is collecting data on how support for families is affecting the drop out rate of students. Ms. Scherr stated that support for families is data-driven and reflects increased student success.

In response to a question by Dr. Gates, Dr. Grasmick said that there is an inventory of practices being conducted in all school systems. In response to a second question, Dr. Grasmick said that all school systems have been asked to provide an inventory of their activities and best practices and that they have been very faithful to this request although some systems are more progressive than others. Ms. Lamb said that school family involvement coordinators are sharing information and documents among school systems.

Ms. Lamb said that all Title I schools are required to work with parents and that school system personnel are working with school personnel to provide professional development on how to connect with parents to provide a collaborative partnership.

In response to a question by Ms. Staton, Dr. Grasmick said that school systems have developed a flexibility of hours for staff to allow them to meet with parents who are unable to meet during the school day. Ms. Staton suggested that the State Board pursue legislation requiring/encouraging employers to provide time for parents to be involved in their children's schools.

Mrs. Sidhu noted the lack of participation of parents in parent-teacher conferences for middle and high school students and reported that the Maryland Business Roundtable was promoting the issue of paid time off for parents to attend school activities. Dr. Grasmick said that while, in many cases, available time off is the problem, in some cases parents are discouraged by the middle and high school students from attending school activities and conferences.

UPDATE ON MARYLAND'S GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMS

The Superintendent said that, over the past few years, there has been less attention paid to the gifted and talented population, particularly at the elementary level. She introduced Dr. Jeanne Paynter, Specialist, Gifted and Talented Education, Division of Instruction, to discuss the opportunities for exceptional students. She also acknowledged the members of the State Advisory Council on Gifted and Talented Education who were in the audience.

Dr. Paynter gave an overview of State statute and the strategies to service the under-represented populations who are gifted and talented. She said, "We need a workforce that is comprised of creative thinkers and problem solvers." She said that there is a renewed commitment in developing STEM innovators at the national level and that local school systems are working on strategies to find students in all cultural groups that meet the criteria for gifted and talented programs. For example, several school systems place Gifted and Talented Specialists in Title I elementary schools to identify gifted and talented students and to ensure that environmental factors do not mask the abilities of these students. She discussed the various programs being conducted in Maryland schools to identify and increase participation in advanced learning. She explained that six school systems partner with universities to offer coursework onsite for teachers of gifted students and said, "the goal is to help every child learn something new every day."

Dr. Paynter described the MSDE services that are available to support Gifted and Talented programs in local school systems and the Maryland Summer Centers for gifted and talented students. She noted that the 2010 funding for the Summer Centers was eliminated and that Stephanie Zenker, the MSDE specialist who directs the program, is soliciting funds from private organizations as a stop gap measure to continue these important programs until the state funding is restored. She introduced Duane Dennis, a student at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute who gave a brief overview of his participation in The Ingenuity Project, an accelerated math and science program funded by the Abell Foundation.

Mr. Dennis said that he has taken seven Advanced Placement Courses and is participating in a research project at Johns Hopkins University. He described this experience as rewarding and providing him with insight into the world of work. He noted that he was not challenged in elementary school but that the gifted programs provided him with more challenging opportunities in middle and high school. He discussed his college and career aspirations.

In response to a question by Dr. Gates, Dr. Paynter said that the newly adopted certification for Gifted and Talented Specialist is an add-on endorsement for teachers who are already certified. Thus, teachers already have content expertise before they gain new expertise in gifted education pedagogy.

In response to a concern by Ms. Walsh, Dr. Grasmick said that she serves on The Executive Board of the Center for Talented Youth at Johns Hopkins University. She noted that in the past

there were few students selected from Baltimore City to participate in these programs but the number has increased to more than one hundred participating students from Baltimore City.

In response to a question by Mrs. Sidhu, Dr. Paynter said that the Department is aware of the importance of supporting programs such as Destination Imagination.

In response to a question by Ms. Staton, Dr. Paynter said that the key to identifying students with learning difficulties who are gifted and talented in other areas is to look at discrepancies in performance measures and potential measures. She said that addressing the discrepancies is a challenge which requires addressing the strengths while meeting the needs of the disabilities. Dr. Grasmick said that staff in the Division of Special Education is developing co-teaching methods to address this challenge. Dr. Paynter said there will be a national conference held in Maryland in March entitled, "Diamonds in the Rough: Smart Kids Who Learn Differently."

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dr. Grasmick introduced Debra Lichter, Director, Departmental Coordination and National Legislation Liaison, to provide an update on federal legislation.

Ms. Lichter explained that the Board will receive a list of federal priorities at its December meeting for discussion and approval. She said that the U.S. Department of Education has held hearings to glean input from stakeholders on the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (No Child Left Behind NCLB). Ms. Lichter provided the following recurring themes expressed by stakeholders at the hearings:

1. Procuring effective teachers and leaders for underperforming schools and elevating the status of teaching.
2. Compensating teachers as professionals.
3. Using data to drive instruction and evaluation of teachers.
4. Promoting Accountability and encouragement of teachers to work with struggling students.
5. Broadening the focus on reading and math to include the arts, science and history.
6. Extending the school calendar.
7. Encouraging more students to become teachers.

She reported that a proposed 2010 Budget was completed in May and passed the full House. She reported that the full Senate has not approved the proposed Budget at this time and that a Continuing Resolution was implemented until such time as the passage of the Budget. She noted that the Budget will not be approved until the finalization of the health care issue by Congress. She discussed new programs being considered in the areas of higher education loans, school renovations, technical education state grants, teacher incentive fund grants, the vocational rehabilitation formula, and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) funding.

Dr. Grasmick said that she has been working with leaders at the University of Maryland on an application for a Harlem Children's Zone Program Grant.

President DeGraffenreidt thanked Ms. Lichter for her report and asked Board members to provide him with any suggestions for the Department's federal priorities.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent said that Maryland was the first State to be selected for an audit of the Department's longitudinal data system and that the results were very positive. She said she is awaiting a written report and is very encouraged by the outcome of the audit.

In response to a question by Mr. DeGraffenreidt, Dr. Grasmick said that her staff will prepare a proposal for the next competitive grant in November which will include the longitudinal data collection system.

In response to a question by Ms. Walsh, the Superintendent said that the review was done by the U.S. Department of Education.

Dr. Grasmick thanked Board members who attended the Teacher of the Year Celebration.

The Superintendent said that she received the proposed national exit standards for math and literacy and that the Department submitted an official response. She noted that she is expecting approval of those standards and will then be expecting to receive common core standards for day-to-day instruction.

Dr. Grasmick said that there are thirty-three prerequisite requirements for the Race To The Top competitive funding. After analyzing the requirements, she reported that Prince George's County and Baltimore City Public Schools currently meet the prerequisite of the lowest five percent of performing schools in the State and that Johns Hopkins University is partnering with the Department to provide robust leadership programs and incredible tools for teachers. She noted that she is working with many other partners to assist in this effort. Dr. Grasmick said that she has contacted the Gates Foundation for financial support but that she is also raising private funding in the event the Gates funding is not approved for Maryland.

Dr. Grasmick said that Dr. Dukes asked her to comment on the efficacy of common core standards in Maryland public schools. She said that classroom teachers would have to design down to meet the grade-by-grade standards but that the schools could make the transition. She commented on the excellent work being done in the Judy Centers in early childhood education. The Superintendent said she would provide the Board with innovative practices and data on the most recent results by NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) in fourth and eighth grade mathematics.

Dr. Gates reported that Secretary of Education Duncan spoke at the October 22-23, 2009, meeting of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST). Mr. Duncan spoke on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education and the gap in student performance on international assessments in mathematics and science. Dr. Gates indicated that Mr. Duncan's remarks could be found at http://www.ostp.gov/es/pcast .

Ms. Walsh expressed her concern about Maryland's tenure law calling it a "stumbling block" in getting a proposal accepted for Race To The Top funding.

Deputy State Superintendent Smeallie reported that Dr. Grasmick recently received an award from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) for her "life long dedication to academic success of all children in the State of Maryland." He also reported that she received an award from the Maryland State Interagency Coordinating Council in recognition of her "leadership and commitment to improving the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program."

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

- Cathy Allen, St. Mary's County Board Member and President, Maryland Association of Boards of Education
- Laura Carriere, President, Maryland Council for Gifted and Talented Education
- Janice Sartucci, Parent, Montgomery County Public Schools

RECOGNITION OF BLAIR EWING

Ms. Walsh introduced Tom Jones, Janis Sartucci and Caroline Grandy, parents of special education students who joined to honor the life and legacy of Blair Ewing. Ms. Grandy said Mr. Ewing "always was a leader for the disabled...inspired others of us to become advocates for the disabled." She noted that he served on the Montgomery County Board of Education, the Montgomery Council, the Montgomery County NAACP, the Montgomery County Council of PTAs as well as the Maryland State Board of Education.

The three guests expressed their deep appreciation for Mr. Ewing's outstanding contributions to the plight of the disabled and presented a plaque to Board President DeGraffenreidt. Ms. Walsh read the inscription commemorating Mr. Ewing from the plaque. Mr. Jones asked that the plaque be displayed in a place of prominence at the Department.

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. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Sidhu, and with unanimous agreement, the Maryland State Board of Education met in closed session on Tuesday, October 27, 2009, in Conference Room 1, 8th Floor, at the Nancy S. Grasmick Building. All board members were present except Ivan Walks, Charlene Dukes and Guffrie Smith, Jr. In attendance were Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, State Superintendent of Schools; John Smeallie, Deputy State Superintendent for Administration; Ronald Peiffer, Deputy State Superintendent for Academic Policy; and Tony South, Executive Director to the State Board. Assistant Attorneys General, Elizabeth M. Kameen and Jackie La Fiandra were also present. The Executive Session commenced at 12:45 p.m.

The State Board deliberated four cases.

- *Mary Crookshanks v. Baltimore County Board of Education* - employee discipline
- *Allen Dyer v. Howard County Board of Education* - petition for declaratory ruling
- *David & Nino Kartozia v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education* - residency
- *Linda & Michael Longshore v. Montgomery County Board of Education* - denial of school assignment

The State Board approved six decisions for publication.

- *Alana C. v. Baltimore County Board of Education* - residency - 09-35
- *Allen Dyer v. Howard County Board of Education* - petition for declaratory ruling - 09-36
- *Tom and Judy M. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* - student transfer - 09-37
- *Jack and Pam T. v. Howard County Board of Education* - course dispute - 09-38
- *Julie and Kevin D. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education* - student transfer - 09-39
- *Rita H. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* - student transfer - 09-40

Steve Brooks explained the FY 2011 State Education budget and the upcoming MSDE budget reductions. He and Dr. Grasmick answered the Board's budget preparation questions.

The Board also discussed two internal management issues - - update on identifying candidates for Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners, and the upcoming Board member retreat.

The Executive Session ended at 1:45 p.m.

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 2 p.m.

PROPOSAL FOR FULL VOTING RIGHTS FOR STUDENT MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Student Board Member David Murray introduced a proposal for full voting rights for student members of the State Board of Education. He said that this issue was last raised and considered in 2001 by the State Board. He explained that student members are excluded from voting on legal opinions, budget matters and negative personnel decisions. He reported that the Anne Arundel County Board of Education has provided full voting rights to its student members and urged the State Board to discuss the issue with members of that Board explaining that this issue is the top priority for the students in Maryland.

Dr. Gates said that he concurs with Mr. Murray's request but that he needs more information prior to making a decision on this issue.

Mrs. Sidhu said that while she is very supportive of students' rights, she said that the lack of experience is the reason why student members do not vote on the three topics he listed.

Mr. Murray explained that legal opinions are very relevant to students and that students are capable of handling these issues.

President DeGraffenreidt asked Ms. Kameen to look into the issue and report back to the Board on legal issues concerning full student voting rights. He noted the difference in the process of selection for student members as opposed to the other State Board members as well as the disparities in the length of terms, saying "who lives with the consequences of their decisions." He asked that this item be placed on the December Board Agenda following a review of the legal and constitutional ramifications of this issue.

OPINIONS

Ms. Kameen announced the following Opinions:

09-35 *Alan C. v. Baltimore County Board of Education* – residency (referred back to the local board)
09-36 *Allen Dyer v. Howard County Board of Education* – petition for declaratory ruling (denied)
09-37 *Tom and Judy M. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – student transfer (affirmed the local board's decision)
09-38 *Jack and Pam T. v. Howard County Board of Education* – course dispute (affirmed the local board's decision)
09-39 *Julie and Kevin D. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education* – student transfer (affirmed the local board's decision)
09-40 *Rita H. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – student transfer (affirmed the local board's decision)

ADJOURNMENT

President DeGraffenreidt reported that the Board will hold a retreat in public session tomorrow in the Harbor Terrace Room of the Maryland Science Center starting at 9:00 a.m. to continue its strategic planning. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RETREAT

Wednesday
October 28, 2009

Maryland Science Center
Baltimore, Maryland
Harbor Terrace Room

The Maryland State Board of Education held a retreat on Wednesday, October 28, 2009, at the Maryland Science Center in Baltimore. The following members were in attendance: Mr. James H. DeGraffenreidt, Jr., President, Dr. Charlene M. Dukes, Vice-President; Dr. Mary Kay Finan; Dr. Sylvester J. Gates, Jr.; Mr. David H. Murray; Mrs. Madhu Sidhu; Donna Hill Staton, Esq.; Dr. Ivan Walks; Ms. Kate Walsh and Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, Secretary/Treasurer and State Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Guffrie M. Smith, Jr. was absent due to a death in the family.

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

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

President DeGraffenreidt introduced Van Reiner, President and CEO of the Maryland Science Center.

Mr. Reiner welcomed Board members and said, "The Maryland Science Center provides informational science education" to the students and residents of Maryland. He called the Center's activities "stealth learning." He said the Center has a staff of trained educators and thanked the Board for their ongoing support.

EXPECTATIONS FOR THE DAY

The President said that the goal for the day is to start "from ground zero" and provide the following output:

1. Agreement on an appropriate Vision Statement for the long view
2. Agreement on an appropriate Mission Statement
3. Agreement on a work plan
4. Discussion of the roles and responsibilities of the Board and senior MSDE staff

He said the Board needs to work on strategic direction that acknowledges the reality that there has been a turn-over for Board members and that Board members have limitations on their terms of office. He introduced Brenda Welburn, Executive Director of the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) to serve as a guide in developing the Board's strategic plan.

Dr. Grasmick remarked, "We are in a very dynamic time on the national and international levels."

Ms. Welburn explained that she had as a result of last year's retreat of the State Board administered a survey this past spring to a large number of stakeholder groups including presidents of local boards of education and local superintendents of schools to gain input into proposed vision and mission statements. She noted that the results of the stakeholder survey (http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/stateboard/index.htm) had been shared with the State Board and that a similar survey was conducted with members of the State Board in preparation of today's retreat. She presented draft Vision and Mission Statements to guide the Board on its deliberations and provided the following plan for the day:

- Engage in discussion of Mission and Vision Statements.
- Develop a framework for goals aligned to the Mission and Vision
- Review the status of the Board's implementation of boardsmanship adjustments adopted in 2008
- Develop a consensus on the elements of the Board's next self-evaluation

DEVELOPMENT OF A MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT

The following suggestions were made by Board members relative to the draft Mission Statements:

- Dr. Walks requested that wording be incorporated to reflect the diversity of students in Maryland.

- Ms. Walsh said that the statements should capture the compelling national goals of closing the achievement gaps.

- Dr. Gates suggested referencing the need for providing students with skills to be globally competitive.

- Dr. Walks suggested the inclusion of environmental safety and the health of students. He also expressed concern about the lack of standards for volunteers and other school visitors who interrelate with students during the school day.

- Mr. DeGraffenreidt urged that data-driven decision making be included in the Board's plans. He also noted that the proposed vision and mission statements were consistent with the Governor's priorities for education and the initiatives Maryland is pursuing to secure Race to the Top funding from the U. S. Department of Education.

- Ms. Walsh suggested wording to include the importance of college and career readiness
for students.

- Dr. Grasmick noted that the Department services not only public schools but also rehabilitation services, exiting students with disabilities, as well as the public library systems.

Following extended discussion and review of the information gathered through the online survey, the Board developed a proposed vision for Maryland education which states:

Maryland Public Education: A world class system preparing all students for college and career success in the 21st century.

The Board then discussed and drafted the following mission statements to serve as a guide in the development of a new strategic plan for Maryland public education:

- ***Provide every student with the benefits of highly effective teachers, educational leaders and support personnel to achieve success consistent with measurable goals aligned with the State's vision for education and embraced by students and their parents.***

- ***Provide for meaningful engagement with parents, families and community members to support academic achievement and individual success.***

- ***Promote an environment in which students have positive experiences every day.***

- ***Operate under objective measures of success determined by appropriate standards in a wide range of disciplines.***

- ***Be innovative leaders in adopting evolving technologies, instructional strategies and emerging skills that enable all students to reach their fullest potential.***

- ***Promote an environment in which students, teachers and all school based personnel achieve personal growth and fulfillment.***

- ***Promote standards of quality and conduct for all adults in school-based contact with students consistent with the state's mission and goals for all students.***

- ***Promote student physical and mental health and fitness to help students achieve academically and develop the habits of healthy living.***

After the Board crafted the vision and mission, members broke into two groups to discuss in a broad context, what resources and support would be required for the Board to achieve its mission.

Following the breakout session, Board members expressed their "take-aways" from the small group session:

- Lack of time for the Board to discuss issues
- Money is the key to everything
- Need to change the way the Board thinks about the budget
- State what the challenges would be to make big changes in the budget
- Identify the risks of maintaining the status quo – what do we stop doing to do the things we need to do?
- Determine what initiatives are in place now and how to explore and leverage to increase those
- The need for meaningful engagement with the business community
- The need to define what is and should be the State Board's relationship with local boards of education
- The need for more investment in people and leaders
- Internships for potential teachers
- Need to look at policies that are no longer relevant
- The need to review all regulations in light of the vision and mission statements drafted today
- Critically evaluating technology (just because its new doesn't mean its better)

Mr. DeGraffenreidt thanked the Board and Ms. Welburn for their work on these statements and asked Ms. Welburn to review the statements and make any edits she deemed necessary prior to submitting her summary report of the retreat to the Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The President requested a motion to have the Board go into executive session to discuss several internal management issues.

Pursuant to § 10-503(a)(1)(iii) and § 10-508(a)(7) of the State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and upon motion by Dr. Dukes, seconded by Dr. Gates, and with unanimous agreement, the Maryland State Board of Education met in closed session on Wednesday, October 28, 2009 in the Harbor Terrace Room of the Maryland Science Center at 601 Light Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21230. All board members were present except Guffrie Smith, Jr. In attendance were Dr. Grasmick and staff members John Smeallie, Ronald Peiffer and Tony South. Assistant Attorney General, Elizabeth M. Kameen, was also present as was Brenda Welburn, Executive Director, National Association of State Boards of Education. The Executive Session commenced at 3:00 p.m.

The Board discussed boardsmanship issues raised in the 2008 retreat, including communication issues.

The Board also discussed the yearly calendar; the performance evaluation process; board self-evaluation; and assignments for moving forward with the strategic planning process.

The Executive Session ended at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy S. Grasmick
Secretary, Treasurer

NSG/rms
APPROVED: 12/10/09

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
CLOSED SESSION

On this **28th** day of **October 2009,** at the hour of 2:55 ~~am~~/pm, the Members of the State Board of Education voted as follows to meet in closed session:

Motion made by: Dr Dubin

Seconded by: Mrs Cates

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:

Internal Board Management Items.

President

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CLOSED SESSION

On this **27th** day of **October 2009**, at the hour of 12:20 ~~am~~/pm, the Members of the State Board of Education voted as follows to meet in closed session:

Motion made by: Prof Gates

Seconded by: Mrs. Siddiqui

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

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 awardedor 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 the following:

1. Discuss 4 legal appeals.
2. Review 4 draft opinions.
3. Review 2 expedited draft opinions.
4. Discuss an MSDE personnel issue.
5. Discuss 2 internal Board management items.

President

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE October 27-28, 2009 BOARD MEETING

I. Appointments Grade 19 and above:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY GRADE	DIVISION/OFFICE	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
Edwards, Sylvia J.	Education Program Specialist I, Reading/English Language Arts	21	Instruction	TBD
Nelson, Cathy M.	Education Program Specialist II, English Language Learners	22	Instruction	TBD

II. Appointments Grade 18 and below:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY GRADE	DIVISION/OFFICE	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
Antonioli, Kathyn N.	Staff Specialist III, Nutrition Education	18	Business Services, School and Community Nutrition Programs Branch	11/04/2009
Anwar, Maryum	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist I	12	Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Services	10/21/2009
Bagnell, Patrick	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist II	13	Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Services	10/21/2009
Baughan, Kathleen	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist I	12	Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Services	10/21/2009
Bienert, Keri M.	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist I	12	Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Services	10/21/2009
Bissett, Renee V.	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist II	13	Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Services	10/21/2009
Browning, Wendy	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist II	13	Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Services	10/21/2009

Harsel, Carol E.	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist II	13	Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Services	10/21/2009
Hightower, Shirron M.	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist I	12	Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Services	10/21/2009
Howard, Rashida M.	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist I	12	Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Services	10/21/2009
Materkowski, Gregory	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist I	12	Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Services	10/21/2009
Rittler, Scott D.	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist I	12	Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Services	10/21/2009
Shener, Ava	Vocational Rehabilitation Technical Specialist	15	Rehabilitation Services, Workforce and Technology Center	10/21/2009

III. Other Actions:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY GRADE	DIVISION/OFFICE	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
None				

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Achievement Matters Most

Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street · Baltimore, MD 21201 · 410-767-0100 · 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

October 27-28, 2009

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Sylvia J. Edwards

Position: Education Program Specialist I, Reading and English/Language Arts

Division: Instruction

Salary Grade: 21 ($55,084 - $88,439)

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, or a closely related field.

Experience:

Four (4) years of professional administrative or teaching experience in a Reading English/Language Arts education program.

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

JOB DESCRIPTION:

This is a professional position responsible for providing technical assistance and programmatic support to local school systems for curricular design, content, instructional implementation, assessment, and professional development and for establishing goals, benchmarks and milestones for services related to the production of tasks in Reading English/Language Arts for grades three through eight as related to the Modified Maryland School Assessment.

Qualifications:

Washington College (Chestertown, Maryland) 1983 – Master's Degree in English Literature

Frostburg State University (Frostburg, Maryland) 1973 – Bachelor's Degree in French

- Coursework in Reading Leadership Instruction, Special Education and Guidance and Counseling

MSDE – Advanced Professional Certification with Endorsements in Reading, English and French

Experience:

Anne Arundel County Public Schools (Annapolis, Maryland)

2002 – Present:	Education Program Specialist I, Reading/English Language Arts (On loan to MSDE)
1996 – 2002:	High School English Specialist
1991 – 1995:	High School English Teacher
1988 – 1991:	French Teacher
1982 – 1986:	French Teacher

Towson University (Towson, Maryland)

2000 – 2001:	Young Adult Literature Professor (Part-time)

The Catholic University of America (Washington, D.C.)

1986 – 1988:	Graduate Assistant Instructor

Talbot County Public Schools (Easton, Maryland)

1973 – 1982:	French and English Teacher

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:
New Hire

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Achievement Matters Most

Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street · Baltimore, MD 21201 · 410-767-0100 · 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

October 27-28, 2009

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Cathy M. Nelson

Position: Education Program Specialist II, English Language Learners

Division: Instruction

Salary Grade: 22 ($58,783 - $94,388)

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, English Language Learning, or a related field.

Experience:

Five (5) years of professional administrative or teaching experience in or affiliated with an education program. Administrative experience in an area related to English Language Learning programs is preferred.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

This is a professional position serving as the lead technical specialist for the English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL) Program responsible for providing leadership and technical assistance to local school systems regarding the development and support of programs for curriculum and instruction for English Language Learners (ELL).

Qualifications:

Loyola College (Baltimore, Maryland) 2003 – Certificate in Administration and Supervision

University of Baltimore (Baltimore, Maryland) 1987 - Master's Degree in Instructional Systems Development

L'Universite' Libre de Bruxelles (Brussels, Belgium) 1969 – Fulbright Scholar: Humanities

University of Tulsa (Tulsa, Oklahoma) 1968 – Bachelor's Degree in English

Experience:

Anne Arundel County Public Schools (Annapolis, Maryland)

2008 – Present:	English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Teacher Specialist
2004 – 2008:	Coordinator of ESOL
2004:	ESOL Teacher Specialist
1999 – 2004:	ESOL Resource Teacher
1990 – 1999:	ESOL Teacher K-12

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:
New Hire