

MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday
June 23, 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, June 23, 2009, at the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. The following members were in attendance: Mr. James H. DeGraffenreidt, Jr., President; Mr. Dunbar Brooks; Dr. Charlene M. Dukes; Dr. Mary Kay Finan;; Mr. Richard Goodall; Dr. Karabelle Pizzigati; Ms. Kate Walsh; and Mr. D. Derek Wu. Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, Secretary/Treasurer and State Superintendent of Schools, was also present. Donna Hill Staton, Esq. and Dr. Ivan Walks arrived late. President DeGraffenreidt announced that Mr. Blair G. Ewing, and Ms. Rosa M. Garcia resigned from the Board due to health and work related reasons respectively.

Filling in for Elizabeth Kameen, Esq., Assistant Attorney General and Principal Counsel, was Assistant Attorney General and Deputy Counsel, Elliott Schoen, Esq. The following staff members were also present: Dr. Ronald Peiffer, Deputy State Superintendent for Academic Policy and Mr. Anthony South, Executive Director to the State Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

The President asked for approval of items listed under Consent Agenda.

Upon motion by Dr. Dukes, seconded by Dr. Pizzigati, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the following Consent Agenda items: (In Favor – 8; Ms. Staton and Dr. Walks had not yet arrived)

- Approval of Minutes of May 27-28, 2009
- Personnel (**copy attached to these minutes**)
- Budget Adjustments for May, 2009
- Permission to Publish:
 - COMAR 13A.11.01, 13A.11.02, 13A.11.08 (Amend)
Programs for Adults with Disabilities
- Selection of National Board Candidates

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Dr. Grasmick explained that she would like to recognize the outstanding work of two employees who provide essential services to the citizens of Maryland beyond that of public education. She

invited Mr. Robert Burns, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Rehabilitation Services, to introduce the two employees. Both employees had been recently recognized by the Social Security Administration and awarded Commissioner Citations of Excellence.

Mr. Burns introduced Dr. George Albright, Chief Medical Advisor, Maryland Disability Determination Services (DDS), and Ms. Suzanne Page, Director, Maryland DDS. He reported that Dr. Albright is highly regarded by the staffs of disability agencies throughout the country. Mr. Burns said that Ms. Page has worked for the Department since 1974 and has worked at every job at DDS. He explained that as Director of DDS, "she has put together a fabulous team."

Ms. Page said that she is receiving this recognition on behalf of all of her staff and expressed her appreciation of their work.

Dr. Albright said, "I am pleased to receive it (the award) but I am receiving it to do what I am paid to do." He explained that there are significantly increasing numbers of disability applications due to the effects of the financial crisis in America and said, "I give them credit for this award as well."

Ms. Page said that this year DDS will clear approximately 62,000 applications out of 68,000 received.

NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPAL AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Dr. Grasmick explained that every year the Maryland Association of Elementary School Principals (MAESP) selects an elementary school principal and assistant principal to recognize as exemplars for their professions. She introduced Ms. Debbie Drown, Executive Director, MAESP, to provide a background on this competition and introduce this year's winners.

Ms. Drown said that each year the MAESP selects a nationally distinguished principal who will attend a gala in their honor in Washington, D.C. on October 22-23, 2009. She introduced this year's winner, Dr. Dana McCauley, Principal, Crellin Elementary School in Garrett County. Ms. Drown also introduced Dr. Wendell Teets, Superintendent of the Garrett County School System, who was present to support and recognize Dr. McCauley. Ms. Drown explained that 74 percent of the students who attend Crellin Elementary School receive Free and Reduced Meals (FARM) due to economic disadvantages. She noted that in 2008, 100 percent of the third, fourth and fifth graders scored either proficient or advanced on the Maryland School Assessments (MSAs). Ms. Drown also noted that Dr. McCauley teaches classes as well as supervises the entire school.

Dr. McCauley recognized and thanked Mary Cary, Assistant State Superintendent, Division for Leadership Development; the State Board; and Dr. Teets for their on-going support of her and her school. She said "It is an honor to be recognized."

Ms. Drown introduced Mr. James Richardson, Assistant Principal, Highland Park Elementary School in Prince George's County. She said that Mr. Richardson is noted for his effectiveness in the field of technology.

Mr. Richardson said, "It is an honor to be selected. I have learned a lot being associated with MAESP." He thanked the Board and Dr. Grasmick for their leadership and dedication to leadership.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt congratulated both leaders. Dr. Grasmick thanked them both on behalf of the entire Department. She said, "both of you are exemplars of excellent leadership. You make us very proud in the State of Maryland." The President and Superintendent presented each with a Certificate of Appreciation.

ALTERNATIVE GOVERNANCE PROPOSAL: BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dr. Grasmick reported that the Board is being asked to approve Alternative Governance Proposals for Moravia Park Elementary/Middle School in Baltimore City and Maces Lane Middle School in Dorchester County. She invited Ann Chafin, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Student, Family and School Support (DSFSS), and Teresa Knott, Supervising Coordinator, School Performance, DSFSS, to give introductory remarks prior to presentations by Dr. Andres Alonso, CEO, Baltimore City Public School System and Dr. Frederick Hildenbrand, Superintendent, Dorchester County Public Schools.

Ms. Chafin said that the *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB) provides that any school that has not met Adequate Yearly Progress for multiple years must reinvent itself and provide a two-year school improvement plan.

Ms. Knott said that thus far this year the Board has approved the Alternative Governance Proposals for five schools. She noted that, in addition to the two schools today, there will be one more Alternative Governance Proposal in July coming before the Board. She explained the process used to designate a school for an Alternative Governance Proposal and the options provided to the school system under the provisions of the NCLB. She noted that both schools have selected Option 1—Replace all or most of the school staff. She explained that both schools went through a comprehensive needs assessment and she reported on the efforts made to assist both schools. She noted that the plans for both schools were approved by the local boards of education.

Dr. Alonso introduced his staff members in attendance and the new principal of Moravia Park Elementary/Middle School. He said, "We have a very aggressive policy of intervening with schools that are not performing." He reported on the nine schools that have been closed in Baltimore City and noted that enrollment at Moravia Park Elementary/Middle School has been increasing. He said that there has been remarkable progress in test scores during the 2008-2009 school year especially in first and second grades at Moravia Park. Dr. Alonso said that MSA scores for the school have shown continuing increases explaining that the scores for this year's

testing are unavailable at this time. He noted that the school has been selected for Option 1 and the staff is being interviewed. Dr. Alonso said that every teacher hired to work at the school will meet the requirements for designation as Highly Qualified. He discussed the professional development and programs and strategies being implemented for the school and provided data on the demographics of the school's population.

In response to a question by Dr. Dukes, Dr. Alonso said that everyone in the school must reapply for their job which creates a process for keeping staff who are successful and replacing those that are unsuccessful at the school.

In response to a question by Dr. Finan, Dr. Alonso said that the percentage of Highly Qualified Teachers (HQT) has increased to 68 percent in Baltimore City schools.

Mr. Brooks explained that this school has made real progress and commended its staff for what they have done thus far to make Moravia Park Elementary/Middle School successful.

In response to a question by Ms. Walsh, Dr. Alonso said that the reason for the decrease in the number of schools requiring Alternative Governance Proposals is the hard work being done in the schools and school systems in Maryland. He explained a flaw in the NCLB statute which does not address the difficulties of maintaining and continuing progress as the schools continue to report higher and higher test scores.

Dr. Pizzigati said the concerns expressed by Dr. Alonso are being discussed nationally. In response to her question about communication difficulties, Dr. Alonso said that communication in school systems is always a challenge and that they will be reaching out to the community this summer about the changes at Moravia Park.

Dr. Grasmick thanked Dr. Alonso for his presentation and recommended State Board approval of the Alternative Governance Proposal for Moravia Park Elementary/Middle School.

Upon motion by Mr. Goodall, seconded by Dr. Pizzigati, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the Superintendent's recommendation. (In Favor – 10)

ALTERNATIVE GOVERNANCE PROPOSAL: DORCHESTER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dr. Grasmick recommended approval of the Alternative Governance Proposal for Maces Lane Middle School in Dorchester County. She introduced Dr. Frederick Hildenbrand, Superintendent, Dorchester County Public Schools (DCPS) and Mr. Henry Wagner, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, DCPS, to discuss the proposal.

Dr. Hildenbrand reported that there are currently only 4,654 students being served by the DCPS which provides very limited funding resources to the school system. He said that the DCPS established two task forces with wide stakeholder representation to address the issues surrounding the school. He noted that the school system restructured their human resources

department and noted the improvement in the number of highly qualified teachers this past year. He reported that attendance rates are at 92 percent and that test scores are improving every year. Dr. Hildenbrand reported that, for the 2009-2010 school year, 33 percent of the school staff will be replaced.

Mr. Wagner explained that a Teacher Capacity Needs Assessment (TCNA) was conducted in December and the results were refined in January. He discussed the process used to conduct interviews and introduced the incoming principal, Steve Cunningham. Mr. Wagner said that the interview process was geared to discern whether each teacher believes that every student has the ability to learn. Dr. Hildenbrand said that the TCNA process has been a very valuable one which has highlighted the importance of professional development for staff.

In response to a question by Ms. Walsh, Dr. Hildenbrand explained that, in Dorchester County, all Title I schools are elementary schools. He said that this decision was made many years ago based on an agreement that all opportunities for additional funding be used in the lower grades.

In response to another question by Ms. Walsh about the low percentage of highly qualified teachers, Dr. Hildenbrand said that it is difficult to recruit and retain younger teachers in Dorchester County and that many current teachers have not kept up their studies to maintain their credentials. In response to Ms. Walsh's question about how the State Board can assist in this area, Dr. Hildenbrand suggested incentives for students in higher education teaching programs to bring them to Dorchester County. Mr. Hildenbrand thanked the Board, the Superintendent and, in particular, Mr. Goodall, for their unwavering support of the Dorchester County Public Schools.

Dr. Grasmick reported that she visited North Dorchester Middle School and that there is a wellness center associated with the school. She said, "It is a stunning example of looking at the whole child – the whole family." She noted that there is also a wellness center at Maces Lane Middle School and invited Board members to visit.

Upon motion by Dr. Pizzigati, seconded by Mr. Goodall, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the Alternative Governance Proposal for Maces Lane Middle School. (In Favor – 10)

UPDATE ON THE SEED SCHOOL OF MARYLAND

Dr. Grasmick reminded Board Members that the SEED School of Maryland, a publicly-funded residential education program for at-risk students, opened with 80 sixth graders in August 2008. She said the work being done on behalf of students is, "absolutely wonderful." The Superintendent said that she attended the lottery which was held to select the students for next year's program and observed the students' excitement on being selected. She thanked the leaders of the SEED School of Maryland for their hard work and introduced Eric Adler, Co-founder and Managing Director of the SEED Foundation, and Jerry Kountz, who serves as the Head of the School.

Mr. Adler thanked Dr. Grasmick and the Board and said “we have had a very successful year.” He said school leaders have built a tremendous relationship with the Department and thanked staff for their excellent support.

Mr. Kountz also thanked the Board and Department staff for their support and, in particular, Ms. Garcia who assisted with an outreach plan to recruit a more diverse student population. He introduced Stan Estremsky, Management Director of the School and Anna Williams, Director of the Boarding School Program.

Mr. Kountz reported that the goal of the School is to prepare the students for college and life after school. He provided data which reflected the progress in reading and math scores for all students including special education and Title I students. He said that the school leadership is very pleased with the academic outcomes of the students this year. He also noted that social, emotional and interpersonal growth has been excellent for the students this year as well. He reported that there were nineteen student withdrawals this past year and that an active parent-teacher organization was formed in January. He explained that of the 104 sixth graders, students represented fourteen counties in Maryland and that there has been an increase in the ethnic and racial populations in the school. He reported that a new dorm is being constructed and invited all Board members to visit the school.

President DeGraffenreidt said, “We are very pleased to see your success. You are off to a great start.”

In response to a question by Ms. Staton, Mr. Kountz said that the reasons for student withdrawals center around families or students that could not adjust to being away from home or, in some cases, involved custody issues.

In response to another question by Ms. Staton, Ms. Williams outlined the activities of students after school is dismissed which included attendance at clubs, outdoor sports, study hall and character/values education.

In response to a question by Dr. Walks, Mr. Kountz said that the majority of students who withdrew were males who, at eleven years of age, are found to be less mature than females of the same age.

In response to another question by Dr. Walks about the progress of those students who withdrew, Mr. Kountz said that data shows that students who withdrew from the SEED School of Washington, D.C. were found to be generally more successful than students who did not attend the School, reflecting a 90 percent graduation rate.

Mr. Adler reported that the school admissions policy includes an income cap of 2.7 times the poverty rate.

In response to another question by Ms. Staton, Mr. Kountz said that information is provided to parents about learning opportunities for the students when they return home for the summer. He

said many of the students spend time with relatives and are given reading and social studies projects to work on during the summer.

Dr. Grasmick acknowledged Carol Beck, a leader in the SEED Foundation, and said that the Department has worked collaboratively with the School and will be presenting a Memo of Understanding to the Maryland General Assembly in 2010.

LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM

The Superintendent introduced Dr. Leslie Wilson, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Assessment and Accountability, to provide an overview of the progress that has been made and has yet to be made to complete Maryland's longitudinal data system, one of the core requirements in the competition for federal stimulus Race to the Top funding.

Dr. Wilson explained that although Maryland does not have a longitudinal data system of historical student records, it does have a very robust data system in place. She explained that the Department created one of the key components in December 2007, a unique student identifier. She explained that Maryland's current system provides an independent, one-time snapshot used for reporting student accomplishments to the community and that the current system cannot link data across years of data collection. She identified the ten components of a longitudinal data system required by the Data Quality Campaign and noted that Maryland recently added a fourth component for a total of four of the ten components. She noted that over the next five years, Maryland hopes to add three more components to be funded by a \$6.5 million federal grant. Dr. Wilson said that in order to accomplish DQC Component #6 "Student level transcript information including courses completed and grades earned" the State needs to standardize course codes. She said that Department staff will be collaborating with local school system leaders to procure an agreement on course codes for elementary through high school.

She reported that legislation was enacted during the 2009 General Assembly to create a unique teacher identification system and that this will have major implications for local school systems since many don't have the technical capacity to institute this system at this time. She noted the challenges involved in this type of work are highly technical and require certain skill levels on the part of those individuals involved.

In response to a question by Mr. DeGraffenreidt, Dr. Wilson said that a Request for Proposals (RFP) will be prepared to hire a highly skilled project manager familiar with longitudinal data systems as well as additional staff to run the system. She also noted the expensive hardware, software and maintenance issues involved in this project.

Dr. Grasmick noted the complexity and magnitude of the project and reported that Dr. Wilson's Division has lost six positions over the past several years. She noted the State's slow problematic procurement process which poses many challenges to the Department in filling staff positions.

In response to a request by President DeGraffenreidt, Dr. Grasmick said that there are four assurances required of states in the Race to the Top application for federal stimulus funding. She

said that Maryland's system is exemplary in three components and that she feels the proposal Maryland will present will show that the Maryland State Education Department can complete a successful Longitudinal Data System.

In response to a concern expressed by Ms. Walsh, Dr. Wilson said that a grant proposal is being prepared to fund a unique teacher identification system in Maryland.

In response to a question by Ms. Staton, Dr. Wilson said that the figure of \$30 million to develop the system includes the costs to all school systems in Maryland. She said that many of the school systems currently have very sophisticated student record systems.

In response to a question by Dr. Pizzigati, Dr. Wilson said that there are a vast amount of best practices available to local school systems on implementing data systems and that a needs assessment was provided to school systems in May to use as a resource.

Dr. Dukes expressed her concern about the public's understanding of this project. She also noted that a large portion of graduates are matriculating to community colleges which are not part of the University of Maryland System and urged that they be included in all communications about linking high school and higher education data.

Mr. Brooks suggested the use of the University of Maryland's resources to assist with linking public school data with higher education.

Ms. Walsh expressed her concern about the dependence on federal monies since funding from the State has not been forthcoming. Dr. Grasmick said that she has communicated this concern to the Governor since the federal government will be looking at the State's support of education when determining which states will receive the Race to the Top funding.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt said that this type of project needs a strategic presentation and high level stewardship. He said the Governor has made this a personal high priority and that he is optimistic that the General Assembly will be made aware of its importance.

Dr. Grasmick then called on Dr. Wilson to provide the timeline for when data on this year's high school graduating class can be made available to the Board. Dr. Wilson replied that the preliminary data on the results of the HSAs on the graduating class of 2009 should be available by the August Board Meeting. Dr. Grasmick reported that based on preliminary information less than 100 students out of 55,000-56,000 statewide did not receive a high school diploma as the result of not meeting the HSA graduation requirement.

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. Pizzigati, seconded by Mr. Brooks, and with unanimous agreement, the Maryland State Board of Education met in closed session on Tuesday, June 23, 2009, in Conference Room 1, 8th floor, at the Nancy S. Grasmick State

Education Building. All board members were present. In attendance were Dr. Grasmick, Dr. Peiffer, Deputy State Superintendent Dr. Smeallie, and Tony South. Assistant Attorneys General Elliott Schoen, Jackie C. LaFiandra, and Demetria Tobias were also present. The Executive Session commenced at 12:40 p.m. (In favor – 9)

The Board considered and deliberated the following appeals. Opinions will be issued at an upcoming meeting.

- *William & Penny Colbert v. Calvert County Board of Education* – student discipline
- *Atanya Crockett v. Dorchester County Board of Education* – student discipline
- *Autumn Schultheis v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education*- residency
- *Sheri Trone v. Montgomery County Board of Education*- revocation of student transfer
- (Consolidated) *James & Maureen Wilson v. Montgomery County Board of Education*; *Erik & Susan Evenson v. Montgomery County Board of Education*; and *Liza Greenberg & Phillip Brooks v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – student transfers

The State Board approved three decisions for publication.

- *David & Adrienne G. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – early entry to kindergarten 09-19
- *Thomas Hearn v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – dispute over agreement for turf field 09-20
- *Robert & Stephanie P. v. Allegany County Board of Education* – student discipline 09-21

Mr. Schoen gave an update on the legal developments concerning the Maintenance of Effort Waiver decisions. Mr. Schoen explained how requests for advice on the legality of the allocation of funding from the school systems will be handled. The Board discussed the Prince George's County appeal of the MOE Waiver decision and who should defend the State Board's decision before the Circuit Court.

Dr. Grasmick, joined by Steve Brooks, Assistant State Superintendent for the Division of Business Services, explained upcoming budget reductions.

The State Board addressed several internal board management issues:

- *Board dinner* – June 23, 2009
- *Contract with MABE* – The Board advised Dr. Grasmick that she has wide latitude in determining the future of the contract.
- *Candidates for State Board Office* – New leadership is elected at the July meeting. Blair Ewing nominated Kate Walsh for Vice President prior to his resignation.
- *Candidates for Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners* – The Board discussed the need to work on the process for nominating individuals to be members of the City Board. (During this discussion, the Executive Session adjourned for a break from 2:55 – 3:05 p.m.)

The discussion of Board management issues was interrupted so that Mr. Schoen could respond to several questions pertaining to the following matters:

- The role of the Attorney General's Office in representing MSDE, the State Superintendent, and the State Board, and how the Office handles potential conflicts of interest.
- The confidentiality of written/computerized records maintained by members of the State Board and how those records can be accessed through litigation discovery and public information requests.
- The manner in which topics are introduced for discussion during Board meetings.

The Board continued its discussion of additional Board management items:

- Superintendent's Evaluation
- Executive Director's Evaluation

The Executive Session ended at 4:00 p.m.

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 4 p.m.

TRANSFER OF ADULT & CORRECTIONS EDUCATION PROGRAMS-MOU

The Superintendent explained that Tom Perez, Secretary of the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR) was present to discuss the transition of the adult education and correction education programs to the DLLR. She said that he will report on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) drafted by both Departments regarding the collaborative procedures that will be followed in awarding high school diplomas through the GED Tests and the External Diploma program. She introduced Kathy Oliver, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Career Technical Education and Adult Learning, to make some introductory remarks. Dr. Grasmick recommended that the State Board sign the proposed MOU that will govern the high school diplomas by examination.

Ms. Oliver explained that the MOU was jointly developed and that the attachment prescribes the assurances that President DeGraffenreidt requested regarding the awarding of high school diplomas.

Secretary Perez expressed his confidence that his Department will be able to provide a seamless and cohesive program for the adults and incarcerated individuals in Maryland.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt expressed his appreciation for the timely response to his concerns and the DLLR's commitment to the citizens of Maryland. Mr. Perez, Mr. DeGraffenreidt, and Dr. Grasmick signed the MOU.

RECOGNITION OF MEMBERS EXITING STATE BOARD SERVICE

The President explained that Dunbar Brooks, Dick Goodall, Karabelle Pizzigati and Derek Wu will be exiting the State Board this month. President DeGraffenreidt expressed his appreciation of the collegiality and high caliber of intellectual firepower that the outgoing Board members have brought to the table. He invited each outgoing Board Member to address the Board with any thoughts or guidance about their tenure on the Board.

Mr. Brooks thanked Mr. DeGraffenreidt for his excellent leadership this year and also thanked the Governors that appointed and re-appointed him to the Board. He said that he felt that he brought the local board's perspective to the State Board's discussions since he spent many years serving on the Baltimore County Board of Education. He noted his appreciation for the privilege of serving with some "great people" and acknowledged the excellence of the State Superintendent and her staff.

Mr. Goodall said, "It's been a great four years." He noted that the common thread among State Board Members and MSDE staff is that they really care for the children. He said that not only is Dr. Grasmick a great leader but emphasized that she has secured a great group of workers to meet the demands of education in Maryland. He urged the Board, "Get to know the staff. Come in early, find out what they're doing, get to meet the local superintendents, listen to the superintendents, visit folks. It's important to get out there and see what's going on." He urged the State Board to work to increase funding for leadership training and provide more time for students in the classrooms.

Dr. Pizzigati said, "Education in Maryland has come a really long way. We have a special focus on early learning which is near and dear to my heart." She noted the great strides provided by the Bridge to Excellence funding in Maryland schools and urged the Board to continue with good planning and follow-through. She noted the importance of the voice of the Board "having the long view which brings a grounding for good decision-making." Of her tenure on the Board, she said, "This has been part of my life long learning process." Dr. Pizzigati expressed her appreciation for the extraordinary work of the State Superintendent and her staff. She said, "It has been an honor and privilege to serve on this Board and on the NASBE Board."

Mr. Wu thanked the State Board and the Department staff for giving a student in Maryland the opportunity to serve on the Board with full voting privileges. He noted that Maryland is one of only three states that have this unique attribute. He expressed his appreciation for allowing his voice to be heard and speak for the students in Maryland and said, "It is a true privilege and honor to serve with all of you. I have learned so much. This experience has opened my eyes." He described Dr. Grasmick as one of the most dedicated and diligent people he knows. Mr. Wu said that he is grateful that the Department reinstated the MASC liaison position and suggested that the Board consider a scholarship incentive for future student State Board members.

Dr. Grasmick commented on the hard work and dedication of the outgoing Board Members and President DeGraffenreidt thanked them for their service.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Grasmick discussed the Race to the Top assurances stating that she is “anxiously awaiting” the application materials. She discussed a concern expressed by the U.S. Secretary of Education about states that have a cap on the number of charters schools. She noted that many jurisdictions are very satisfied with the traditional public schools and explained that there are currently thirty-four charter schools in Maryland.

Dr. Grasmick reported that Maryland School Assessment data has been sent to local jurisdictions and that an appeal process relative to schools meeting Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) has been established.

The Superintendent reported that Maryland was voted number one in the nation for high performing high schools by *Newsweek* magazine. She reported on a Dropout Summit that was held this week noting that Maryland has a very low statewide dropout rate of approximately three percent. She said, “that number is still too high.” The Superintendent noted that she placed in the Board’s mailboxes a report on the grants and contracts approved by the Board of Public Works at its two meetings in June.

NASBE UPDATE

Dr. Pizzigati reported that the National Association of State Board’s of Education (NASBE) held its regular Committee Meetings and Study Groups in Mid-June. She said the NASBE Board met with White House staff on the reauthorization of ESEA and that NASBE will be sending out election materials for President-Elect of NASBE and various area Directors. Dr. Pizzigati said there are two candidates for President and that election results will be announced in October. She reported that NASBE’s New Member Institute will be held on July 24-26 and noted that this training provides valuable grounding in state governance and education issues. She explained that NASBE funds this training for two new Board members.

Mr. Brooks reminded the Board that he served as the voting member for NASBE and that the new Board will be required to select a new representative. He encouraged his colleagues to serve in this important role.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

- Jerome Dancis
- Enrique Melendez

OPINIONS

Mr. Schoen announced the following Opinions:

- 09-19 *David & Adrienne G. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* (early entry into kindergarten) Affirmed the local board's decision
- 09-20 *Thomas Hearn v. Montgomery County Board of Education* (Use of school property) Affirmed the local board's decision
- 09-21 *Robert & Stephanie P. v. Allegany County Board of Education* (Student Expulsion) Dismissed

ADJOURNMENT

The President announced that the Board made some preliminary decisions during today's Executive Session regarding a more extensive process for selecting candidates to recommend to the Governor and Mayor Dixon for appointment to the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners and that the Board will be continuing that discussion at the July Board meeting. He also announced that the Board would be having dinner together tonight at the Cinghiale Restaurant for the purpose of honoring the retiring Board members and that no business will be discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy S. Grasmick / Clk
Nancy S. Grasmick
Secretary, Treasurer

NSG/rms

APPROVED: *July 22, 2009*

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CLOSED SESSION

On this **23rd** day of **June 2009**, at the hour of 12:15 pm/pm, the Members of the State Board of Education voted as follows to meet in closed session:

Motion made by: Pizzetti

Seconded by: Books

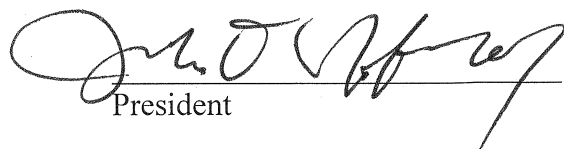
In Favor: All Opposed: _____ Member(s) Opposed: _____

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 the following:

1. Discuss five legal appeals.
2. Review three draft opinions.
3. Receive legal advice on recent decisions rendered by the Board.
4. Discuss an MSDE personnel issue.
5. Discuss 4 internal Board management items.
6. Discuss 2 personnel matters.


President

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE June 23-24, 2009 BOARD MEETING

I. Appointments Grade 19 and above:

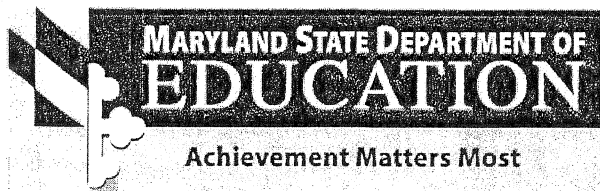
<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY GRADE</u>	<u>DIVISION/OFFICE</u>	<u>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</u>
Greene-Bryant, Betty	Education Program Specialist I, Student Achievement	21	Special Education/Early Intervention Services	TBD

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>
Lendo, Kevin R.	Teacher, Academic	IEPP	Career Technology and Adult Learning, Juvenile Services Education Program	07/01/2009
Skipper, Rochelle Y.	Teacher, Computer Business Applications	IEPP	Career Technology and Adult Learning, Juvenile Services Education Program	07/01/2009

III. Other Actions:

<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

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

June 23-24, 2009

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Betty Greene-Bryant
Position: Education Program Specialist I, Student Achievement
Division: Special Education/Early Intervention Services
Salary Grade: 21 (\$56,496 - \$90,706)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

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

Experience:

Four (4) years of professional administrative or teaching experience in or affiliated with special education and/or a content area. Experience in data analysis is preferred.

DESCRIPTION:

This is a professional position responsible for providing technical assistance and support to Local School Systems for ensuring compliance with State and federal regulations for the provision of specialized education and related services to ensure students with disabilities achieve adequate yearly progress (AYP).

Qualifications:

Education:

Regent University (Virginia Beach, Virginia) 2007 – Doctorate in Education; 2004 – Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies

Howard University (Washington, D.C.) 1981 – Master’s Degree in Secondary Education; 1979 – Bachelor’s Degree in Art Education

Experience:

Maryland State Department of Education (Baltimore, Maryland)

2008 - Present: Staff Specialist III, Special Education Teacher Alternative Certification Program (Contractual)

Coppin State University (Baltimore, Maryland) Part-time

2006 - Present: Adjunct Professor

Learning Point, the Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement (Washington, D.C.)

2005 - 2007: Assistant Director, State Improvement Grant, US Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services

The American University (Washington, D.C.) Part-time

2006 - 2007: Adjunct Professor

The Council for Exceptional Children (Arlington, Virginia)

2003 - 2005: Senior Director for Professional Standards

The National Association of Secondary School Principals (Reston, Virginia)

1999 –2003: Principal in Residence for Special Education

Manassas City Public Schools (Manassas, Virginia)

1996 –1998: Assistant Principal, Special Education Administrator

District of Columbia Public Schools, Division of Career and Vocational Education (Forest Hill, Maryland)

1993 –1996: Principal, MM Washington Career High School

1991 –1993: Assistant Principal, MM Washington Career High School

1980 –1991: Visual Arts Teacher

Central Intelligence Agency (Langley, Virginia) Part-time

1988 –1990: Security Headquarters

Betty Greene-Bryant
Page three

Employment Status
New Hire

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE JUNE 23-24, 2009 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>
Alvey, Patricia R.	Education Program Specialist I, Juvenile Services Program Analyst	21	Career Technology and Adult Learning, Juvenile Services Education Program	TBD

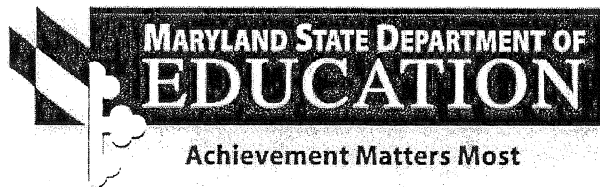
II. Appointments Grade 18 and below:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY GRADE</u>	<u>DIVISION/OFFICE</u>	<u>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</u>
-------------	-----------------	---------------------	------------------------	----------------------------

III. Other Actions:

<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

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

June 23-24, 2009

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Patricia R. Alvey
Position: Education Program Specialist I, Juvenile Services Program Analyst
Division: Career Technology and Adult Learning
Juvenile Services Education
Salary Grade: 21 (\$56,496 - \$90,706)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

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

Experience:

Four years of professional administrative, management, or teaching experience in or affiliated with an education program. Experience in data management and analysis, GED testing, or interagency collaboration is highly desirable.

DESCRIPTION:

This position is responsible for providing technical assistance for managing and evaluating accountability and data for the Juvenile Services Education Program, managing the GED testing functions, and coordinating the collaborative process used by the State Board of Education and the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to jointly issue the Maryland High School Diplomas earned by examination.

Qualifications:

Education:

Towson University (Towson, Maryland) 1994 – Master’s Degree in Psychology/Counseling

University of Maryland (Baltimore, Maryland) 1977 – Bachelor’s Degree in English

Experience:

Maryland State Department of Education (Baltimore, Maryland)

2002 – Present: Education Program Supervisor (GED Office)

1997 – 2002: Staff Specialist III, Employment Services (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services)

1991 – 1997: Vocational Rehabilitation Supervisor

1985 – 1991: Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist I-IV

1984 – 1985: Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Disability Determination Services

Employment Status

Voluntary Demotion