

MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Wednesday-Thursday
May 28-29, 2008

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

The Maryland State Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday and Thursday, May 28-29, 2008, at the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. The following members were in attendance: Mr. Dunbar Brooks, President; Ms. Beverly A. Cooper, Vice-President; Mr. Henry Butta; Mr. Blair G. Ewing; Dr. Mary Kay Finan; Mr. Renford Freemantle; Ms. Rosa M. Garcia; Mr. Richard Goodall; Mr. David Tufaro and Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, Secretary/Treasurer and State Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Lelia Allen and Dr. Karabelle Pizzigati were attending a national conference on HIV/AIDS in the African American Community sponsored by the National Association of State Boards of Education and Dr. Charlene Dukes did not arrive until 2:00 p.m.

Elizabeth Kameen, Esq., Assistant Attorney General, and the following staff members were also present: Dr. Skipp Sanders, Deputy State Superintendent for Administration; Dr. Ronald Peiffer, Deputy State Superintendent for Academic Policy; Ms. JoAnne Carter, Deputy State Superintendent for Instruction and Academic Acceleration and Mr. Anthony South, Executive Director to the State Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Superintendent Grasmick asked Mr. Steve Brooks, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Business Services, to respond to questions posed by Mr. Ewing about the budget adjustments for April, 2008. In response to Mr. Ewing's request, Mr. Brooks said that the funds noted in budget adjustments will be identified as net funds in requests to the Board.

Upon motion by Ms. Cooper, seconded by Mr. Tufaro, and with unanimous agreement, the State Board approved the consent agenda items as follows: (In favor – 9)

Approval of Minutes of April 29-30, 2008
Approval of Minutes of May 21 Special Executive Session Meeting
Personnel (**copy attached to these minutes**)
Budget Adjustments for April, 2008
Permission to Publish:

COMAR 13A.05.05.01 & .02 (AMEND)
Programs of Pupil Services

COMAR 13A.08.02.01 (AMEND)
Students Records Manual

COMAR 13A.08.01.01E (AMEND)
Students Records Manual

COMAR 13A.02.06.02B(9) (AMEND)
Students Records Manual

Dr. Grasmick announced that Mr. Jim Lupus, Executive Director of the Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland (PSSAM) is retiring after many years of excellent service. She said, "He is always interested in positive solutions" and reported that Dr. Carl Roberts, Superintendent in Cecil County, will be assuming the position. On behalf of the Board and the Department, she thanked Mr. Lupus for his service to schools in Maryland.

Dr. Grasmick also announced that Board member, Mary Kay Finan, was made a full professor at Frostburg State University. The Board congratulated Dr. Finan on this achievement.

MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT COUNCILS (MASC) YEAR END REPORT

Dr. Grasmick introduced Madiba Dennie, President of the Maryland Association of Student Councils (MASC) and Nora Murray, Specialist, Student Leadership and Outreach Programs, Division of Student, Family and School Support. The Superintendent said that Ms. Dennie will provide the Board with highlights of the MASC activities this year and introduce the newly-elected incoming president. The Superintendent also congratulated student Board member Renford Freemantle upon his graduation from high school.

Ms. Dennie described the various conferences sponsored by MASC throughout the year explaining that the organization provided students with leadership training, networking opportunities and opportunities to exchange ideas about Maryland schools. She introduced Ms. Parker Wise who is the incoming President of MASC. She also announced the names of the other incoming officers: David Murray, Vice President; Harry Lamont, 2nd Vice President; and Malcolm Peacock, Treasurer.

The Superintendent explained that Ms. Dennie offered incredible leadership this year and thanked staff member Nora Murray for her commitment to the students in Maryland.

In response to a question by Ms. Garcia, Ms. Denny explained the various ways the organization recruits membership explaining that "it is a work in progress."

Mr. Freemantle congratulated Ms. Dennie and Ms. Wise.

Mr. Brooks said, "Congratulations, you make us proud."

ALTERNATIVE GOVERNANCE PROPOSALS

Dr. Grasmick reminded the Board that over the past few months they been asked to review and approve the Alternative Governance Proposals for a numbers of schools in Maryland. She introduced Ann Chafin, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Student, Family and School Support; and Teresa Knott, Supervising Coordinator, School Performance, to brief the Board on the actions taken by the Baltimore City Public School System (BCPS) and the Prince George's County Public School System (PGCPS) regarding several schools in their districts.

Ms. Chafin explained that the local education agencies bare the primary responsibility for restructuring the schools designated for Alternative Governance. She reminded the Board that they have approved nineteen plans for Alternative Governance for schools in Maryland thus far. She reported that the Principals of each school are in attendance at this meeting.

Ms. Knott explained that there are four options from which school systems can choose and that each local school system established a board to deal with Alternative Governance issues. She said that those designated boards will oversee the implementation of the Alternative Governance plans and that the State Board will receive documentation of the meetings and actions taken by these local boards. She reported that local school systems have committed vast amounts of funding to the designated schools and that both PGCPS and BCPS will hold summer orientation retreats for new staff prior to the 2008-2009 school year.

Baltimore City Public Schools

Dr. Grasmick introduced Dr. Andres Alonso, CEO, BCPS and recommended approval of the Alternative Governance proposals for the following nine schools in Baltimore City:

- Forest Park Middle – Option 1 – Replace all or most of the school staff
- Francis M. Wood High– Option 1 – Replace all or most of the school staff
- Harbor City Middle/High– Option 1 – Replace all or most of the school staff
- Harford Heights Intermediate– Option 1 – Replace all or most of the school staff
- Northwestern High– Option 1 – Replace all or most of the school staff
- Paul L. Dunbar Middle– Option 1 – Replace all or most of the school staff
- Sharp-Leadenhall Elementary– Option 1 – Replace all or most of the school staff
- Sinclair Lane Elementary– Option 1 – Replace all or most of the school staff
- Woodbourne Day Middle – Option 2 – Contract with a private management company

Dr. Alonso introduced his staff who were instrumental in this process and said “leadership is the key.” He discussed the essentials that guide all school and central office decisions and reported on the steps taken to ensure fair student funding in the schools which included the reduction of 310 positions at the Central Office. He explained that the school system is trying to break the division between vocational and professional learning. Dr. Alonso discussed the various transformation schools and the alternative schools redesign. He also introduced the school Principals who were present and stated that all nine schools are zero-basing their staffs. Dr. Alonso reported that the BCPS Board approved a private management company, *High Roads*, to

provide services to the Woodbourne Day Middle School. He noted, "This work is about accountability."

In response to a question by Ms. Cooper, Dr. Alonso explained the process used to determine the funding for each school, based on the number of students at entry grade who were below proficiency in reading and mathematics. He explained that additional funding was also provided to schools based on the number of advanced students.

In response to a question by Mr. Butta about after-school and Saturday classes, Dr. Alonso said "We cannot have a one size fits all. We need increased opportunities for students." In response to another question by Mr. Butta, Dr. Alonso said that principals will be looking at evaluations and interactions of staff with students and the varying needs of each school when making determinations about the hiring of staff.

Ms. Garcia said, "This is a lot of work and I commend you." In response to her question about the number of African-American males in the specialty schools, Dr. Alonso noted that all students have the opportunity to apply and that the City is primarily African-American. In response to Ms. Garcia's question about the inclusion of community-based organizations, Dr. Alonso said they are looking at Charter schools to find out the best avenues for bringing in community support to the schools.

In response to a question by Mr. Ewing about the drop-out rate, Dr. Alonso said that the unique student identifier is used to determine the drop-out rate and that "whatever the number is, it's too large."

Dr. Grasmick commended the work of Dr. Alonso and his staff and noted that the programs selected for the schools will be aligned with the Voluntary State Curricula (VSC). She also made a statement that, while she is fully supportive of these proposals, she urged that there will be no ambiguity about the programs that are mandated in special education and the importance of ensuring that programs for the arts and libraries will not be seen as optional. She said, "It's important that a child not be denied those opportunities by accident of where that child lives."

Mr. Brooks thanked Dr. Alonso for a very thorough presentation and said, "We realize that a traditional model does not work."

Upon motion by Mr. Goodall, seconded by Ms. Garcia, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the Alternative Governance proposals for the nine schools in Baltimore City. (In Favor – 9)

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS)

Dr. Grasmick introduced Dr. Gladys Whitehead, Chief Academic Office, PGCPS, and Debra Mahone, Director of School Improvement and Accountability, PGCPS, and recommended approval of the Alternative Governance proposals for the following schools in Prince George's County:

- Kettering Middle
- Drew Freeman Middle
- Central High
- Fairmont Heights High

Dr. Whitehead introduced the principal and assistant principal of each school, the regional assistant superintendents and members of a PGCPHS High School Consortium. She explained that *Option 1 – Replace all or most of the school staff*, was chosen for each of the four schools. She noted the funding and workforce commitment by PGCPHS and discussed the Alternative Governance proposals for each school.

In response to a question by Ms. Garcia, Dr. Whitehead said that a student advisory program will be instituted to meet the needs of individual students.

Upon motion by Mr. Butta, seconded by Mr. Goodall, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the Alternative Governance proposals for four schools in Prince George’s County. (In Favor – 9)

COMAR 13A.08.06 POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS & SUPPORT PROGRAMS (ADOPTION)

The Superintendent explained that, as a result of legislation recently enacted by the General Assembly, the Department is required to propose amendments to the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support Programs Regulations. She introduced Andrea Alexander, Specialist, Student Behavior Interventions, Division of Student, Family and School Support, and Ann Chafin, to review proposed changes to COMAR 13A.08.06 Positive Behavioral Interventions & Support Programs. Dr. Grasmick recommended State Board adoption of the amendments and reported that these programs have been enormously positive and have provided excellent results.

In response to a question by Mr. Goodall, Ms. Alexander said the program is designed to retrain school staff to identify what behaviors should be managed either in the classroom or in the school office. She reported that this is a national model.

In response to a question by Mr. Ewing, Ms. Alexander said that the Board is welcome to attend any and all training sessions and agreed to provide the Board with the upcoming training schedule. Ms. Chafin said that local school systems have done a great job in training their staffs.

Upon motion by Ms. Cooper, seconded by Dr. Finan, and with unanimous agreement, the Board adopted COMAR 13A.08.06 Positive Behavioral Interventions & Support Programs. (In Favor – 9)

REGULATORY REVIEW ITEMS FOR ADOPTION

Dr. Grasmick explained that every four years the Department is required to conduct a review of a major portion of regulations to determine if they are current and continue to serve a necessary purpose. She asked Tony South, Executive Director to the State Board, to provide information on the review that was conducted. As a result of that review, she recommended adoption of amendments to the following regulations:

- COMAR 13A.02.05 Maintenance of Effort
- COMAR 13A.02.06 General Financial Aid to Local School Systems
- COMAR 13A.05.04 Programs for Library Media Services

Mr. South discussed the changes required in the regulations and noted that the Board will receive additional proposed regulatory changes at its June meeting.

Upon motion by Ms. Cooper, seconded by Mr. Butta, and with unanimous agreement, the Board adopted amendments to the regulations listed above. (In Favor – 9)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to §10-503(a)(1)(i) & (iii) and §10-508(a)(1),(7), & (8) of the State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and upon motion by Ms. Garcia, seconded by Ms. Cooper, and with unanimous approval, the Board met in closed session on Wednesday, May 28, 2008, in Conference Room 1, 8th floor of the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. Assistant Attorney General Elizabeth Kameen was also present. The Executive Session commenced at 11:45 a.m. (In favor – 9)

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 2 p.m. Dr. Dukes arrived at the meeting.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Dr. Grasmick reported that the artwork in many different venues across the State is a result of the work of staff member Jay Tucker, Fine Arts Coordinator for the Department. She asked Dr. Colleen Seremet, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Instruction, to introduce Mr. Tucker.

Dr. Seremet explained that Mr. Tucker was recently inducted into the Maryland Music Educators' Hall of Fame which recognizes excellence in teaching and/or administration, contributions and improvements made in music education, professional ideals and academic integrity and betterment of the profession through exemplary service or acts. She reported that Mr. Tucker has been on staff at the Department since 1975.

Mr. Tucker said that his work is “terribly rewarding” and thanked the Board for their recognition of his work and contributions.

STATUS OF THE FINE ARTS EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL

The Superintendent introduced Mr. Richard Deasy, Co-Chair of the Fine Arts Education Advisory Panel and Director of the National Arts Education Partnership. She said Mr. Deasy has generated incredible research regarding the arts and why the arts deserve center stage. She also introduced Ms. Mary Ann Mears, Member, Arts Education in Maryland Schools Alliance Board of Trustees and Member of the Fine Arts Education Advisory Panel. She then asked Ms. Mears and Mr. Deasy to provide the Board with an update on the work of the Panel.

Mr. Deasy reported that there is no continuity of the arts in states other than Maryland and that the arts represent multiple pathways to learning. He reported that a poll was conducted which reflected voter attitudes of the vast importance of the arts. Mr. Deasy explained that time allotted to the arts in schools is rapidly diminishing. Mr. Deasy said that Maryland’s proposed Voluntary State Curriculum in the Fine Arts is the best in the country and that he recommends Maryland’s program to other states looking to improve their fine arts curriculum.

Ms. Mears introduced members of the Fine Arts Education Advisory Panel and discussed the four priorities that are used to guide the Panel’s collaborative efforts and actions statewide.

In response to a question by Mr. Tufaro, Ms. Mears said that the focus on assessments has caused students to be pulled from art classes in order to prepare for and complete assessments in core subjects.

Ms. Garcia commended the presenters on their work in this area.

FINE ARTS VOLUNTARY STATE CURRICULUM (VSC)

Dr. Grasmick introduced Dixie Stack, Director of Curriculum, Division of Instruction; Jay Tucker and Sandra Reider, Principal Researcher, Westat Corporation to discuss the evaluation of the Fine Arts VSC and requested the Board’s acceptance of the Fine Arts VSC.

Ms. Stack reported on the development of the Fine Arts VSC and noted that it is organized in the same format as all other VSCs in Maryland. She stated that Westat Corporation was awarded a contract to review the VSC and asked Ms. Reider to provide information on the charge and findings of the Corporation.

Ms. Reider said the charge to Westat was to study and make recommendations on the draft Fine Arts VCS. She reported that Westat used nationally recognized content experts and discussed the recommendations made by the group of experts.

Mr. Tucker discussed an award-winning toolkit developed by MSDE for teachers of the fine arts and plans to provide continuing professional development.

Mr. Ewing stated that he was very impressed with the work of the group and noted the difficult requirements for students to master. Mr. Tucker assured Mr. Ewing that students will be able to meet the requirements provided in the VSC.

Dr. Finan noted that this VSC gives the pre-service beginning teachers a strong basis for teaching the fine arts.

Upon motion by Dr. Finan, seconded by Ms. Cooper, and with unanimous agreement, the Board accepted the Fine Arts VSC. (In Favor – 10)

SEED SCHOOL

Dr. Grasmick reminded Board Members that over the last two months the SEED School of Maryland representatives have discussed the proposed operations of the School including the Amended Articles of Incorporation and the Amended and Restated By-Laws. She provided them with revised documents and introduced Carol Beck, Director of New Schools Development – Maryland, SEED Foundation to update them on the progress of the SEED School of Maryland.

Ms. Beck introduced Dawn Lewis, Head, SEED School of Maryland; Michael Robbins who is responsible for recruitment for the SEED School of Maryland; and, Anna Williams, Director of Student Life, SEED School of Maryland.

Mr. Robbins reported that 125 families attended the recently-held student lottery in which forty boys and forty girls were selected from eligible applicants. He noted that a priority waiting list was also selected including twenty boys and twenty girls. Mr. Robbins reported that twelve Maryland counties were represented among the eighty students selected and that a report on the demographics of those students will be transmitted to the Board in the near future. He stated that eighty percent of the students selected qualify for the Free and Reduced Meals (FARM) Program. Mr. Robbins said that orientations and home visits will be conducted with students and their families over the summer months.

In response to a question by Ms. Cooper, Mr. Robbins read the list of counties from which the students were selected.

In response to a question by Mr. Goodall, Mr. Roberts reported that the SEED School of Maryland receives from the State \$25 thousand for each student in addition to the regular student allotment.

In response to a question by Ms. Garcia about the racial breakdown of the students selected, Mr. Roberts said that 85 to 90 percent are African-American, three percent are Latino, three percent are Caucasian and three percent fall under the “other” category.

In response to a question by Ms. Garcia, Ms. Beck said that all documents provided to applicants and their families were printed in both English and Spanish.

In response to a question by Dr. Dukes, Ms. Williams said that the staff hired are a diverse population and that the total number of staff will be 47. Dr. Dukes urged that cultural competency be included in training of the staff prior to the opening of school. Ms. Beck assured her that this will be included in the training of staff.

Ms. Beck went over the modifications made to the Bylaws in response a result to the State Board's concerns expressed at the June meeting. In response to a question by Dr. Grasmick, Ms. Beck said that meetings of the SEED School of Maryland Board of Trustees can be held by telephone conference.

In response to a question by Mr. Butta about the SEED School Board meetings not being subject to the Open Meetings Law, Ms. Kameen explained that the SEED School structure is crafted much like the structure of the Maryland School for the Blind and that the Attorney General's Office determined that the SEED School, like the Maryland School for the Blind, would not be subject to the Open Meetings Law.

In response to a question by Mr. Ewing, Ms. Beck said that when the Board of Trustees is convened, it will consider adopting the Open Meetings Law. Mr. Ewing suggested that the State Board adopt the SEED School of Maryland's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws and send a letter to its Board of Trustees requesting its adoption of the Open Meetings Law. Mr. Brooks asked Ms. Kameen to prepare a letter to be forwarded to the SEED School with the State Board's request.

In response to concerns expressed by State Board members, Ms. Beck said that a Conflict of Interest Policy will be established to apply to the SEED Board of Trustees and that the State Board will receive a copy when completed.

Ms. Beck asked for the Board's approval of the SEED School's proposed dismissal standards. Ms. Williams explained that the SEED School staff worked very closely with the MSDE staff to craft these standards. Ms. Lewis reported that the SEED School staff looked at policies in all of Maryland's school systems and that they will work in collaboration with the home school system in the event that a student is expelled from the SEED School.

In response to a question by Mr. Brooks, Mr. Roberts explained that the General Assembly outlined the definition of "disadvantaged students."

Mr. Brooks stated that the State Board will include in its letter to the SEED School a request for a copy of the Conflict of Interest Policy as well as its request for the SEED Board of Trustees to hold its meetings in conformance with to Maryland's Open Meetings Law.

Upon motion by Mr. Ewing, seconded by Ms. Garcia, the Board accepted the Articles of Incorporation, the Amended and Restated Bylaws, and the Dismissal Policy, as amended. (In Favor – 7; Mr. Goodall abstained and Mr. Butta and Ms. Cooper dissented)

Mr. Ewing said, "The results of the lottery show that there are thousands of students who can qualify for this program. We have to hope that this opens the eyes of legislators of the massive social problems."

Mr. Butta expressed his concerns that there is too much control by The SEED Foundation, Inc. stating that "it is a "one sided contract."

Ms. Beck thanked the Board and Superintendent and her staff for their support.

PROPOSED POLICY ON AFFILIATION WITH NON-PROFIT ENTITIES

Dr. Grasmick asked Principal Council Liz Kameen to review a proposed Policy on Affiliation with Non-Profit Entities. She explained that, in order for the Department to obtain grants from private foundations to strengthen its capacity to provide high quality education for all students in Maryland, the Department needs a policy to establish an affiliation with a 501(c)(3) corporation. She asked Ms. Kameen to discuss the proposed Policy.

Ms. Kameen explained the purpose, definition of an entity, and the standards for recognition of an affiliated entity. After brief discussion of the item, the Board asked Ms. Kameen to delete the following:

3.4.B.f. Fund-raising by State employees in their capacities as members of the entity's board would be limited or prohibited, particularly as to persons regulated by or doing business with their agency.

Upon motion by Mr. Goodall, seconded by Mr. Butta, the Board adopted the Proposed Policy on Affiliation with Non-Profit Entities, as amended. (In Favor – 9; Ms. Garcia Opposed)

MARYLAND CAREER DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The Superintendent reported that there is currently no formal structure for implementing and discussing career development for students in the schools in Maryland. She introduced Kathy Oliver, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Career Technology and Adult Education; Sherri-Le Bream, Director of High Schools, Carroll County Public Schools and Robert Glascock, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Technology, Howard County Public Schools to provide an overview of a Career Development Framework that has been developed to provide all students with career guidance. She requested State Board acceptance of the Maryland Career Development Framework.

Ms. Oliver discussed the Framework which includes the following six standards:

1. Self Awareness
2. Career Awareness

3. Career Exploration
4. Career Preparation
5. Job Seeking and Advancement
6. Career Satisfaction and Transition

She reported that the Framework provides guidance on the necessary knowledge, skills and applications for students to learn the career development process to make informed decisions about their academic and career planning.

Ms. Bream explained that the schools in Carroll County created a Student Advisory Program for student career development and noted that the Career Development Framework would be a valuable asset to the Program.

Mr. Glascock said it is imperative to connect the students to their future and that this Framework would be a guiding document for the schools in Howard County. He reported that the school system is working to provide career planning to students as early as fifth grade.

Ms. Bream explained that student advisors in the high schools in Carroll County work with students throughout their four years in high school.

In response to a question by Mr. Goodall, Ms. Oliver said that the post/secondary/adult toolkits will assist students in their matriculation to higher education.

In response to a question by Ms. Garcia, Ms. Oliver said that the level of awareness of school systems in Maryland in career guidance is uneven. She said that the Board will receive regulations for school systems to meet these standards at its next meeting. Ms. Bream explained that school systems are looking for structure in career planning.

Mr. Brooks thanked the presenters and said that he is very supportive of the concept of career training for PreK through post secondary education.

Upon motion by Ms. Cooper, seconded by Ms. Garcia, and with unanimous agreement, the Board accepted the Maryland Career Development Framework. (In Favor – 8; Mr. Butta and Mr. Tufaro had left the meeting.)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Brooks went over the procedure by which the Board hears public comments. He introduced Alexandra Wolff who provided comments on bullying.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Ms. Cooper, seconded by Dr. Finan, and with unanimous agreement, the Board meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m. (In Favor – 8)

RECONVENE

The State Board Meeting reconvened at 9:05 a.m. on Thursday, May 29, 2008. Dr. Dukes, Dr. Allen, Dr. Pizzigati, Ms. Garcia and Mr. Freemantle were absent.

Dr. Grasmick reported on the history of a lengthy court case involving the Department and the Baltimore City School System regarding special education services. She explained that a team was established three years ago to monitor and assist BCPS in providing special education services to identified students and that Mr. Harry Fogle of Carroll County Public Schools was selected to head the team. She reported that Mr. Fogle has “done incredible work on behalf of the team and the students in Baltimore City” and that Mr. Fogle will be retiring. She thanked him for his excellent service and said, “It is a huge loss for us.”

Dr. Carole Ann Baglin, Assistant State Superintendent for Special Education, said “It has been a remarkable three years.” She asked the team members to stand and be recognized.

Mr. Fogle discussed the improvements in the special education program in Baltimore City and thanked the staff and Superintendent for their excellent support. He said, “It has been a great challenge and learning opportunity and I leave with a great big thank you.”

Board members thanked and congratulated Mr. Fogle and Mr. Brooks echoed his colleagues’ comments. He said, “The professionalism, knowledge and expertise you brought won the day. We appreciate your service.”

Dr. Grasmick said, “We will miss him tremendously.”

NATIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Dr. Grasmick asked Dr. Colleen Seremet and Mr. Michael Mason, Specialist for Physical Education, Division of Instruction, to introduce a Maryland teacher who has achieved national recognition in the field of physical education.

Dr. Seremet reported that Maryland teachers received two out of the four awards provided by the National Association of Sports and Physical Education (NASPE). She discussed the requirements for application for these awards and asked Mr. Mason to introduce this year’s winner of the National Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year award.

Mr. Mason introduced the winner of one of the awards, Debbie Buenger, who teaches Physical Education at Northwest Middle School in Carroll County. He reported that she also does in-service training for new teachers at McDaniel College.

Ms. Buenger said “It is definitely an honor to be sitting in this chair. I very much appreciate this recognition.” She explained that she has the support of her school system, her colleagues, her principal and supervisors. She said, “Middle school is very challenging. I love my job.”

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Brooks congratulated Ms. Buenger and both he and Dr. Grasmick presented her with a citation and small gift from the Board.

THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE IN TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Grasmick reported that the Maryland Teacher Professional Development Advisory Council was established in January 2003 for the purpose of insuring that all Maryland teachers are the recipients of high quality professional development throughout their professional careers. She asked Dr. Seremet, Dr. Bruce Haslam, Managing Director, Policy Development Associates; and Dr. Jackie Haas, Superintendent of Harford County Schools and Co-Chair of the Maryland Professional Development Advisory Council to discuss the third report of the Council and its plans for next steps.

Dr. Seremet asked members of the Advisory Council, who were present, to stand and be recognized.

Dr. Haslam discussed the work of the Council which included exploring the issues surrounding professional development, the use of the Planning Guide and Planning Framework, evaluation and the deployment of school-based professional development staff. He said the use of the Planning Guide is “a work in progress” and that users say there are some challenges to its use. He said the Council offered recommendations and action steps to local school districts and focused on collaboration between the Department and the districts. He reported that there have been numerous evaluations of teacher professional development programs and that the challenge is to evaluate the link between teachers’ learning and student outcomes. He noted that the trend in Maryland is towards school-embedded professional development staff and that one of the biggest challenges is to provide time for professional development.

Dr. Haas said that one of the observations of the Council was that support for professional development must come from the leadership of the schools. She noted that professional development has been included in school improvement plans and discussed the next steps to be taken. Dr. Haas said that the Council is working with higher education institutions to evaluate graduate student performance. She said that data is needed to make decisions on where funding should be used for professional development.

Mr. Butta said, “Congratulations on this work. It is extremely important” and asked what are the road blocks to providing good teacher professional development?

Dr. Haas said that many districts are working with local and State teacher associations in designing professional development programs for teachers. Dr. Seremet said that the Council is working to target professional development to teacher needs. She reported that there are many professional development courses but very little accountability.

In response to a question by Mr. Goodall, Dr. Haas said that many local school systems have ongoing training not only for teachers but for principals as well.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Brooks thanked the presenters and the Council Members for their hard work.

RECOGNITION OF HANK BUTTA

Dr. Grasmick reported that Mr. Butta will be unable to attend the June Board Meeting which would have been his final meeting on the Board. Therefore, the Board would like to recognize him for his four years of dedicated and excellent service to education in Maryland. She said, "Having met Hank Butta has been one of the treasures of my life."

Mr. Brooks said, "He has been the steady rudder on this Board. We want to recognize his service to the students in Maryland." He told Mr. Butta that the Board has valued his service and thanked him for all he has done for the citizens in Maryland.

Mr. Goodall described Mr. Butta as follows, "He is a humble man of huge character."

Ms. Cooper said that it will be very difficult not having Mr. Butta seated next to her providing support and insight.

Mr. Tufaro noted that Mr. Butta has the understanding of the value of education and the discipline that is required to be successful in life.

Mr. Butta said, "I have been engaged in many things over the years and joining this Board has been one of the highlights. I have thoroughly enjoyed this Department. I do appreciate this experience. Education is both the problem in our State in some areas and the solution."

Mr. Brooks presented Mr. Butta with a gift from the Board.

TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Dr. Grasmick invited Dr. Darla Strouse, Executive Director of Partnerships and Development, to introduce Maryland's 2007-2008 local Teachers of the Year who will represent their school systems in the State and National Teacher of the Year competitions. She said, "What you have represented in this room today is the crème de la crème."

Dr. Strouse discussed the background of the programs, introduced the program sponsors and explained that the objective of the programs is to draw public attention to the teaching profession and the contributions of Maryland's outstanding teachers.

Dr. Strouse said that the Maryland Teacher of the Year will be announced on October 3, 2008 at Martin's West. She reported that each Teacher of the Year will be offered three continuing education credits for their work in this program. She introduced April Todd, last year's Teacher of the Year noting that Ms. Todd has been an incredible representative. She noted the importance of the corporate sponsors stating that they understand the critical importance of quality teachers and thanked Dr. Grasmick for her tremendous support.

Dr. Strouse introduced each Teacher of the Year and asked family members, local district staff and Board member representatives to stand for a photograph with the Board President and Superintendent. A list of the teachers is attached to and made a part of these minutes. Dr. Strouse said, "This is the highest honor you can achieve in teaching. You are all winners." She thanked the local coordinators and announced that the Board is invited to a luncheon following the Board meeting.

Mr. Brooks said, "This is a great news day. You are the best of the best. You are our hall of fame."

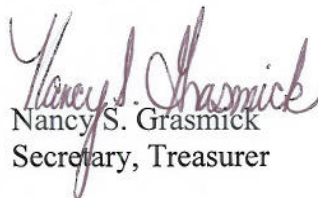
OPINIONS

Ms. Kameen announced the following Opinions:

- 08-26 *Kent County Board of Education v. Kent County Teachers Association, Inc.* -- Declaratory Ruling in Collective Bargaining Case
- 08-27 *Ernie M. v. Carroll County Board of Education* – Student Athlete (Appeal dismissed)
- 08-28 *Andrew Smith v. Carroll County Board of Education* – School redistricting (Appeal dismissed)
- 08-29 *Mary W. v. Prince George's County Board of Education* – Student transfer (Appeal dismissed)

Mr. Brooks announced that an orientation program for new Board members was held on May 21, 2008. With no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy S. Grasmick
Secretary, Treasurer

NSG/rms

APPROVED: June 24, 2008

**MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE MAY 28-29, 2008 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> |
|--------------------|--|---------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Olympia, Ricardo | Information Systems (DP) Assistant Director II | 21 | Office of Information Technology | TBD |
| Simpson, Leslie J. | Education Program Specialist I, Certification | 21 | Certification and Accreditation | 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> |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Brown, Lisa C. | Teacher, Correctional Special Education | IEPP | Career Technology and Adult Learning, Juvenile Services Education | 06/12/2008 |
| Brown, Robert E. | Teacher, Lead | IEPP | Career Technology and Adult Learning, Juvenile Services Education | 05/07/2008 |
| Corbin, Michael R. | Teacher, Adult Basic Education | IEPP | Career Technology and Adult Learning, Correctional Education Program | 06/18/2008 |
| Douglas, Kim | Teacher, Academic | IEPP | Career Technology and Adult Learning, Juvenile Services Education | 05/21/2008 |
| McNeal, Karen C. | Teacher, Correctional Special Education | IEPP | Career Technology and Adult Learning, Correctional Education Program | 05/21/2008 |
| Sharkey, Stanley L. | Librarian, Medical Specialist | IEPP | Career Technology and Adult Learning, Juvenile Services Education | 05/21/2008 |
| Williamson, Shanneck T. | Teacher, Correctional Special Education | IEPP | Career Technology and Adult Learning, Correctional Education Program | 06/18/2008 |

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

May 28-29, 2008

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Ricardo Olympia
Position: Information Systems (DP) Assistant Director II
Division: Office of Information Technology
Salary Grade: 21 (\$55,388 - \$80,896)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

Masters Degree or 36 post-baccalaureate credit hours in Computer Information Technology, Management Information Systems, or other information technology-related field to include course work in local or wide area microcomputer or minicomputer networks from an accredited college or university.

Experience:

Five years of experience designing, developing, implementing, maintaining and controlling information technology systems. Experience supervising and managing the delivery of information technology products and services is desirable.

Note: Applicants may substitute two years of additional experience as defined above for the Masters Degree.

DESCRIPTION:

This position serves as an Information Systems Director responsible for directing, managing, and coordinating operational areas of Information Technology (IT) in support of goals and objectives for the Maryland State Department of Education.

Ricardo Olympia

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Qualifications:

Education:

University of Maryland (Adelphi, Maryland) 2002 – Master of Science in Computer Systems

American University (Washington, D.C.) 1977 – Graduate Certificate in Management Information Systems

University of Philippines (QC, Philippines) 1969 – Bachelor's Degree in Geology

Experience:

OCC/SRA International, Inc. (Gaithersburg, Maryland)

2005 - Present: Director of Network Consulting Services

British Telecom Syntegra/Control Data Federal (Arden Hills, Minnesota)

1974 – 2005: Technology Program Manager/Senior Consultant

Emersons Limited/Flow Laboratories (Rockville, Maryland)

1971 – 1974: Computer Programmer Analyst/Lab Supervisor

Marcopper Mining/Nippon Mining Corporation (Manila, Philippines)

1969 – 1971: Geologist

Employment Status

New Hire



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May 28-29, 2008

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Leslie J. Simpson
Position: Education Program Specialist I, Certification
Division: Certification and Accreditation
Salary Grade: 21 (\$55,388 - \$80,896)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

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

Experience:

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

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

JOB DESCRIPTION:

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

Qualifications:

University of Maryland (College Park, Maryland) 1972 – Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education; 2003 – Doctor of Philosophy in curriculum and Instruction with dual emphasis in Reading and Educational Policy

Western Maryland College (Westminster, Maryland) 1978 – Master’s Degree in Education with emphasis in Reading; Certification Endorsement in School Administration and Supervision

Experience:

McDaniel College (Westminster, Maryland)

1991 – Present: Curriculum Specialist, Adjunct Instructor, Coordinator of Better Educators for the Students of Tomorrow (BEST), Coordinator of Off-Campus Baccalaureate Programs and Curriculum/Instruction

Mount Saint Mary’s College (Emmitsburg, Maryland)

1990 – 1991: Acting Department Chair, Visiting-Professor

Frederick County Public Schools (Frederick, Maryland)

1984 – 1986: First Grade Team Leader and Reading Specialist

Carroll County Public Schools (Westminster, Maryland)

1984 – 1986: Fourth Grade Team Leader/Elementary Teacher

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:

New Hire

**MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE May 28-29, 2008 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> |
|------------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| **Bongiovano, Linda M. | Education Program Specialist I, Certification | 21 | Certification and Accreditation | TBD |
| Gable, Mary L. | Education Program Manager II, Director of Instructional Programs | 24 | Instruction | TBD |

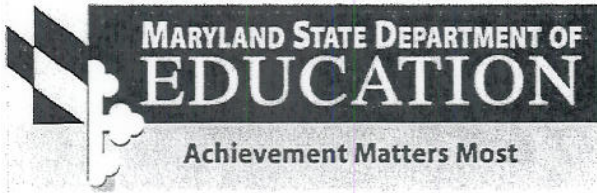
II. Appointments Grade 18 and below:

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>POSITION</u> | <u>SALARY GRADE</u> | <u>DIVISION/OFFICE</u> | <u>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</u> |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| None | | | | |

III. Other Actions:

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>POSITION</u> | <u>SALARY GRADE</u> | <u>DIVISION/OFFICE</u> | <u>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</u> |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| None | | | | |

**Note: Leslie J. Simpson declined this position – Linda Bongiovano is being submitted as a replacement.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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May 28-29, 2008

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Linda M. Bongiovano
Position: Education Program Specialist I, Certification
Division: Certification and Accreditation
Salary Grade: 21 (\$55,388 - \$80,896)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

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

Experience:

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

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

JOB DESCRIPTION:

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

Linda M. Bongiovano
Page two

Qualifications:

Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, Maryland) 1994 – Master’s Degree in Economic Education

Indiana University of Pennsylvania (Indiana, Pennsylvania) 1979 – Bachelor’s Degree in Consumer Services

Experience:

Prince George’s County Public Schools (Upper Marlboro, Maryland)

1998 – 2007: Certification Evaluator

Baltimore City Public Schools (Baltimore, Maryland)

2000 – 2001: Certification Evaluator

Maryland State Department of Education (Baltimore, Maryland)

1994 – 1998: Staff Specialist (Certification)

Archbishop Keough High School-Now Seton-Keough (Baltimore, Maryland)

1983 – 1988: Teacher/Chairperson

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:

New Hire



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May 28-29, 2008

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Mary L. Gable
Position: Education Program Manager II, Director of Instructional Programs
Division: Instruction
Salary Grade: 24 (\$68,692 - \$100,249)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

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

Experience:

Six (6) years of professional experience in coordinating or administering education programs or services, including one year of experience supervising professional education program staff.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

This is a professional position serving as the Director of Instructional Programs responsible for providing direction, leadership and management for conceptualizing and implementing education/instructional initiatives that address Gifted and Talented Summer Centers, Advance Placement, World Languages, English for Speakers of Other Languages, Environmental Education, and professional development. Also this position provides technical assistance and leadership for Master Plan reviews and other federal and state legislative initiatives and projects as assigned.

Mary L. Gable
Page two

Qualifications:

Loyola College (Baltimore, Maryland) 1978 – Master’s Degree in Education

Mt. St. Agnes College (Baltimore, Maryland) 1970 – Bachelor’s Degree in Mathematics and Secondary Education

Experience:

Anne Arundel County Public Schools (Annapolis, Maryland)

- 2005 – Present: Director of Instructional Programs (On Loan to MSDE)
- 2003 – 2005: Director of High Schools
- 2001 – 2003: Director of Instructional Programs
- 1989 – 2001: Principal
- 1983 – 1989: Assistant Principal
- 1970 – 1983: Math Teacher, Department Chairperson, and Resource Teacher

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:

New Hire

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CLOSED SESSION

On this **28th** day of **May 2008**, at the hour of 11:45 am/pm, the Members of the State Board of Education voted as follows to meet in closed session:

Motion made by: Ms. Garcia

Seconded by: Ms. Cooper

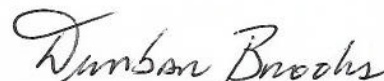
In Favor: 9 Opposed: 0 Member(s) Opposed: _____

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 discussed during this closed session include the following:

1. Discuss five legal appeals.
2. Review four draft opinions.
3. Report on personnel matters involving several local school systems.
4. Report on an MSDE personnel matter.
5. Discuss an internal Board management matter.



President