

MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday
September 23, 2008

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

The Maryland State Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, September 23, 2008, at the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. The following members were in attendance: Mr. James H. DeGraffenreidt, Jr., President; Mr. Blair G. Ewing, Vice President; Dr. Lelia T. Allen; Dr. Charlene M. Dukes; Dr. Mary Kay Finan; Ms. Rosa M. Garcia; Mr. Richard Goodall; Dr. Karabelle Pizzigati; Dr. Ivan C.A. Walks; Ms. Kate Walsh; Mr. D. Derek Wu and Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, Secretary/Treasurer and State Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Dunbar Brooks was unable to attend.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion by Dr. Pizzigati, seconded by Mr. Ewing, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the Consent Agenda as follows: (In Favor – 9; Dr. Dukes and Dr. Walks were detained)

Approval of Minutes of August 26, 2008
Personnel (**copy attached to these minutes**)
Budget Adjustments for July & August, 2008
Withdrawal of Permission to Publish COMAR 13A.05.11
Programs for Correctional Education

Mr. Ewing remarked, “The descriptions of the budget changes were extremely well done and very clear. I appreciate that very much.” Mr. DeGraffenreidt thanked the Department staff for being so responsive to the Board.

MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF BOARDS OF EDUCATION OVERVIEW

Dr. Grasmick introduced Ms. Sandra Barry, President of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE) and Dr. Carl Smith, Executive Director of MABE to provide an overview of the organization and the services it provides.

Ms. Barry reported that MABE is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year and noted that she has given presentations to all of the member boards of education in Maryland. She noted that Maryland is one of the few states which include its State Board as a member. Ms. Barry reported on the four goals of the organization which include advocacy and governmental relations, professional development, member services and public outreach and community relations. She described the various activities and benefits provided to members and the challenges for the future for boards of education and public education in general.

Dr. Smith described the Green Street Coalition, a group of education advocates who lobby for education legislation. He also reported on the various programs, services, and partnerships that MABE seeks out for its members such as web-based paperless board meetings, web-based data-driven decision-making tools, web-based school-to-parent communications tools and web-based student payment services.

Ms. Barry described the assistance MABE provides to local boards which are searching for new superintendents. She said that MABE understands the unique nature of the education program in Maryland. She thanked the State Board for their time and interest in MABE and reported that Pat Gordon of Howard County will serve as the new MABE President for the coming year.

Dr. Grasmick thanked Ms. Barry and said that she attended the MABE Summer Workshop where she noted a great deal of interest in the MGT Evaluation of the use of Thornton dollars for education. She noted that there will be two workshops at the MABE Conference in Ocean City to provide information on the final report of MGT. She explained that the final Report will be sent to the Governor and the General Assembly in December.

Dr. Smith urged Board Members to attend a new board member orientation being held in December at the BWI Marriott Hotel.

Dr. Pizzigati thanked Ms. Barry for her service as President of MABE and encouraged her State Board colleagues to attend MABE conferences to get to know their local board counterparts.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt thanked the presenters for their time and dedication to education.

FINANCIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Dr. Grasmick introduced Mr. Steve Brooks, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Business Services, to brief the Board on the statutory financial reporting requirements for local school systems and the status of financial reporting to date. She requested that the State Board grant her the authority to notify the Comptroller to withhold ten percent of the November State aid payment and each subsequent installment for any school system that is not in full compliance with the financial reporting requirements.

Mr. Brooks explained that there have been some significant changes to the fiscal accountability for local school systems and reported that school systems have been very responsive to the

requirements. He noted that only two systems have been sanctioned with the withholding of State funding in the past and that no money was withheld last year.

Upon motion by Dr. Finan, seconded by Dr. Dukes, and with unanimous agreement, the Board granted the State Superintendent the authority to notify the Comptroller to withhold ten percent of the November State aid payment and each subsequent installment for any school system that is not in full compliance with the financial reporting requirements. (In Favor – 11)

COUNTY LIBRARY CAPITAL PROJECT GRANT

The State Superintendent reminded the Board that they approved the proposed FY 2010 State Capital Budget in July. She explained that included in that Budget, as required by State legislation, was \$5 million for the County Library Capital Project Grant Program. She introduced Ms. Irene Padilla, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Library Development and Services; and Ms. Mary Baykan, Director, Washington County Free Library, to discuss the programs and the projects that the Department is recommending for funding in FY 2010. She requested Board approval of the list of public library projects recommended for funding in the State's FY2010 Capital Budget.

Ms. Padilla explained that the Department ensures that counties receive funding regardless of size and financial abilities. She reported on the application and review processes and noted that fifteen requests were received. She indicated that one of the submission was for an ineligible project. Ms. Padilla explained that all projects require a fifty percent match by local government.

In response to a question by Mr. Ewing, Ms. Padilla explained that some county projects have received funding in past years and, therefore, are approved for a partial grant in FY2010. She also explained that some library buildings require major reconstruction and are, therefore, given higher priority than those with minor needs.

In response to a question by Ms. Garcia, Ms. Padilla said that her staff works with staff of the Department of Budget and Management to meet State standards for quality and efficiency. She also noted that the Governor has mandated that departments work to reduce energy consumption in State buildings.

Dr. Grasmick reported that the State has a Division for Capital Improvements which is working to set up an efficient system for monitoring all Capital Improvements. Ms. Padilla introduced and acknowledged the work of staff members Renee Croft, Library Capital Projects Manager and Susan Paznekas, Planning Specialist.

Upon motion by Mr. Ewing, seconded by Mr. Goodall, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the list of Public Library Projects recommended for funding in the State's FY2010 Capital Budget. (In Favor – 11)

OVERVIEW OF THE DIVISION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Dr. Grasmick said that Maryland is the only State in the nation that has transferred all of its early childhood programs to the Department of Education. She reported that in response to requests by several Board Members to devote time to outline various programs included in the Department's Budget, she asked Dr. Rolf Grafwallner, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Early Childhood Development, to provide an overview of his Division and its scope of responsibilities.

Dr. Grasmick also reported that the Board will be asked to recognize the first Maryland county to have all of its early learning programs accredited by the State. She noted that Dr. Grafwallner will also review the draft of the *Preschool for All* Business Plan which was developed in response to a recommendation contained in the Report of the Task Force on Universal Preschool Education.

Dr. Grafwallner reported that Maryland has gained a reputation for providing excellent programs in early childhood education. He noted that since 2001, Maryland has conducted a kindergarten assessment for all students entering public school. He also noted that a Voluntary State Curriculum (VSC) was established for pre-Kindergarten programs in Maryland. Dr. Grafwallner reported that the Department development a three-year Strategic Plan which outlines the following three goals:

1. Provide a high quality workforce;
2. Provide standards in all programs; and
3. Work with parents and guardians to stress the importance of quality early childhood education.

Dr. Grafwallner reported that in 2007 a report on school readiness showed that significant gains in all skills have been made by students entering kindergarten. He also reported that workforce development in early childhood development is a developing field in Maryland and throughout the country.

Dr. Grasmick acknowledged the various partners represented in the audience and the extraordinary staff of the Early Childhood Development Division stating, "These partnerships have been incredible." She emphasized that these programs begin at birth.

In response to a question by Ms. Garcia about licensing approval delays for pre-school providers, Dr. Grafwallner explained that there is a group of staff members who approve and monitor all programs. He noted that the Department is trying to build a pool of well qualified providers but that there is a huge turnover in this field.

In response to questions by Mr. Ewing, Dr. Grafwallner explained the organizational setup of the Division dealing with State and Federal Programs.

Dr. Grafwallner reported on the various programs in place to reach all communities and parents to ensure that all child care providers have strong parental organizations.

In response to a question by Dr. Walks, Dr. Grafwallner said that there is a screening aspect in the child care approval process which siphons out children who need further evaluation both physically and mentally.

EARLY CHILDHOOD ACCREDITATION – GARRETT COUNTY

Dr. Grasmick commended Dr. Dukes and Dr. Allen for the assistance by their community colleges in the credentialing process for Early Childhood Education Programs. She introduced Dr. Wendell Teets, Superintendent of the Garrett County Public Schools, and asked him to speak to the Board about the County's success in having all of its early childhood programs accredited by the State.

Dr. Teets introduced many supporters and partners attending the meeting and thanked them for their hard work. He reported that four Garrett County schools have Head Start Programs in them and that these programs follow curricula based upon the Voluntary State Curriculum (VSC) ensuring appropriate rigor to the programs. He said that all schools, Kindergarten and pre-Kindergarten, are validated. He described the various professional development programs for school personnel.

Dr. Teets introduced Duane Yoder, Member of the Garrett County Community Action Commission, who reported that over the last six years there has been an enormous amount of collaboration among many organizations in Garrett County. He reported that the Judith P. Hoyer Early Care and Family Education Centers (Judy Centers) were designed to eliminate the achievement gap, specifically at Title I schools.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt stated that "This is an example of best practices." He and Dr. Grasmick presented a certificate of recognition to Dr. Teets and Mr. Yoder and thanked them and their colleagues in Garrett County for their outstanding leadership and support of early childhood education.

PRESCHOOL FOR ALL BUSINESS PLAN

Dr. Grafwallner reviewed the draft of the *Preschool for All* Business Plan which was developed in response to a recommendation contained in the Report of the Task Force on Universal Preschool Education presented to the State Board in January. He explained that Maryland's Prekindergarten programs currently offer publicly funded educational services to all four-year-old children from families with economically disadvantaged backgrounds or who are homeless. He explained that in order to provide universal preschool education, qualified vendors would need to be identified and that the vendors would meet the prekindergarten regulations and the quality benchmarks established by the Task Force. It would also include Memos of Understanding (MOUs) signed with local boards of education to coordinate services for four-year olds. Those vendors would provide free prekindergarten (half-day or full-day) for low income families whose income is above the income threshold established by the Bridge to

Excellence law.. He stated that local jurisdictions would be required to establish a review panel to evaluate the application and submit them to the state for funding.

Ms. Walsh recommended that staff investigate programs in other states such as Massachusetts where there have been some excellent results on math standards for PreK students. In response to her question about providing three-year old programs, Dr. Grafwallner said that more programs can be provided depending upon the needs of the community. In response to her question about the lack of successful results of the Head Start Programs, Dr. Grafwallner said that Head Start programs which emphasize the VSC and have certified teachers tend to prepare head Start children better than those who do not. MSDE is working with Head Start providers to improve their services.

In response to Mr. Ewing's suggestion to allow school systems to eliminate twelfth grade to provide preschool for all, Dr. Grasmick said that she proposed this idea many years ago and that there is a study committee looking at changing high schools to three, four and five year programs.

Dr. Grafwallner acknowledged Margo Sipes, Director of the Downtown Child Care Center and Beatriz Otero, President of Centro Nia.

In response to questions by Ms. Garcia, Dr. Grafwallner explained that the Preschool for All Program would be phased-in over the next decade and that the impact would be considerable. Ms. Garcia stated the need for additional culturally linguistic staff working in the Department.

In response to a question by Dr. Allen, Dr. Grasmick said that there are many students in Maryland who are dually enrolled in high school and community colleges. She reported that Maryland has been ranked number one in the nation for the number of students participating in Advanced Placement Courses. She explained that there are monetary issues involved in these programs which need to be addressed.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt thanked Dr. Grafwallner and his staff for their excellent work and urged him and his Division to look upon the business plan as a strategic document and look for opportunities to tilt resources toward the longer term objectives of the plan. He said the Dr. Grafwallner will know these possibilities when he sees them. Dr. Grasmick acknowledged and thanked the child care partners attending the meeting.

2008 MARYLAND SCHOOL ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Dr. Grasmick introduced Dr. Leslie Wilson, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Accountability and Assessment, to provide brief remarks on the results of the first administration of the Maryland School Assessment (MSA) in Science for grades five and eight. She said that Dr. Wilson will also present data on student performance for the first administration of the MSAs in reading and mathematics as well.

Dr. Wilson explained that the Science MSA was administered in the Spring of 2008 and that the results are not used to determine Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) of schools. She discussed the

first administration comparisons for reading, math and science for fifth and eighth grade students. Dr. Wilson provided graphs depicting the achievement gap among all subgroups for grades five and eight in all three subject areas and provided the following summary:

- Very little difference between Grades 5 and 8
- First administration science scores are about equal to those of reading and stronger than math both administered for the first time in 2003
- Services subgroups as well as African American and Hispanic students are lagging behind
- Achievement gaps are about equal to those from reading and math first administration
- Some evidence that what is tested is taught.

In response to Dr. Walks' question as to whether a new strategy is needed to increase test scores, Dr. Grasmick said that the challenge is the lack of time in the school day to meet all of the demands of student learning. She noted that the school day has remained the same while learning expectations continue to increase.

Ms. Walsh expressed concern with reading blocks stating that they need to be integrated into other content areas. Dr. Grasmick said that school systems are integrating reading into other content areas but that time constraints are the major issues.

Mr. Goodall urged the Board to have a more in-depth discussion about extending the school day and/or the school year.

Dr. Grasmick explained that middle and high school teachers are highly qualified in content areas but that elementary teachers are generalists and, therefore, science in elementary school is taught along with all other content areas.

Dr. Dukes said, "The message is that minorities are not performing proficiently in science."

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 Dr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Ewing, and with unanimous approval, the Board met in closed session on Tuesday, September 23, 2008, in Conference Room 1, 8th floor of the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. All board members were present except Dunbar Brooks. In attendance were Nancy S. Grasmick, State Superintendent of Schools, John Smeallie, Deputy State Superintendent for Administration, Ron Peiffer, Deputy State Superintendent for Academic Policy, and Tony South, Executive Director to the State Board. Assistant Attorneys General, Elizabeth M. Kameen, Jackie C. LaFiandra, and Administrative Officer, Towanda Santiago were also present. The Executive Session commenced at 12:55 p.m. (In favor – 11)

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

- *Mohan G. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – early entry
- *Interboro Packing Corp. v. Prince George's County Board of Education* – contract dispute
- *Mr. & Mrs. Danny J. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – student transfer
- *Robert Vice v. Carroll County Board of Education* - bus driver suspension
- *Nanping W. & Yi N. v. Howard County Board of Education* – residency

The State Board approved five decisions for publication.

- *Austin G. v. Prince George's County Board of Education* – student transfer 08-43
- *Keith & Cynthia J. v. Prince George's County Board of Education*- student suspension 08-44
- *Annette K. v. Somerset County Board of Education* – student discipline 08-45
- *Kent County Board of Education v. Kent County Teachers' Association, Inc.* – reconsideration 08-46
- *Mr. & Mrs. Danny J. v. Montgomery County Board of Education*- student transfer 08-47

Ms. Kameen provided general legal advice on an Open Meetings Act issue concerning an upcoming dinner meeting with MABE.

Ms. Santiago and Ms. LaFiandra left the meeting at this point.

Dr. Grasmick and Steve Brooks explained considerations to meet cost containment initiatives. Ms. Kameen provided budget and personnel legal advice on confidentiality restrictions on budget discussions.

The Board reviewed the proposed 2009 Meeting Calendar and agreed to change the dates of the December 2008 Board meeting to December 17 and 18.

Dr. Pizzigati presented an overview of the candidates running for President of the National Association of State Boards of Education. The Board voted 8 to 3 to support the candidacy of Lowell Johnson, a member of the West Virginia State Board of Education. The Board agreed to have Mr. Brooks represent the Board as the Voting Delegate at the NASBE Annual Conference.

The Board nominated Dr. Dukes to represent the State Board as a member of the Task Force to Improve Financial Literacy in Maryland.

At this point, all staff with the exception of Dr. Grasmick left the meeting. The Committee on Performance Standards reported to the Board

The Executive Session ended at 2:15 p.m.

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 2:10 p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS – UPDATES AND DISCUSSION

Dr. Grasmick asked Dr. Wilson to provide the Board with an update on the status of the reporting of HSA results. She also introduced Dr. Bernard Sadusky, Director of the Bridge Plan and Mr. Scott Pfeifer, Director for Instructional Assessment, to provide an update on the implementation of the Bridge Plan, an additional option for satisfying the HSA graduation requirement. The Superintendent also introduced Dr. Carol Ann Heath-Baglin, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention, to brief the Board on the grant support that has been made available to local school systems to assist children with learning disabilities.

Dr. Wilson reported that each year there are approximately 6.5 percent of students who fail to graduate and that this statistic is unrelated to the HSA requirement for graduation. She noted that HSA updates are snap shots in an ever-changing data environment. She explained that HSA data is being received by the Department from school systems daily and provided results as of September 30, 2007. She noted that the update provided to the Board in October will reflect results as of June 2008. Dr. Wilson reported that there will be three more administrations of the HSA prior to graduation in 2009. She explained that as of June 2008, 88 percent of students who have taken all four courses/tests have met the requirements. She noted that while LEP and Special Education students are the groups still working on the requirements, they are experiencing success with Bridge projects.

In response to a question by Mr. DeGraffenreidt, Dr. Wilson said that parents can get information on their child's progress toward graduation from school counselors.

Dr. Wilson said that the outlook for 2009 is that there is no reason why any student should be denied a diploma based solely on HSA requirements. She also said that there will be students who do not graduate because they have insufficient credits and have not met other State and local requirements.

Mr. Pfeifer reported that a summer pilot of Bridge Projects was conducted and that scoring centers showed that approximately 70 percent of the projects were scored as acceptable and 30 percent were returned to students to make corrections following appropriate feedback. Mr. Pfeifer said that the projects were very challenging to students and that students appreciated the opportunity to meet the requirements with this option. He noted that feedback from teachers was that the projects were of excellent quality and served as excellent instructional tools.

Dr. Sadusky stated that students were very motivated and noted the importance of the student monitors. He reported that county administrators felt that the projects were of high quality and worthy of meeting the criteria for awarding a high school diploma. He said that school system leaders have plans in place to see that all students can complete the necessary projects toward graduation.

Dr. Dukes stated that Board Members are getting negative comments about the inability of certain cohorts of students to meet the requirements for graduation. Dr. Wilson said that the data from school systems is not available yet and that assumptions are being made by parents who are worried about their children. She said, "Schools are getting information out to the parents and students." Dr. Grasmick said that other states have experienced the same difficulties in raising the bar for students to graduate. She reminded the Board that the HSAs test the minimum knowledge a student must have to graduate rather than what knowledge is necessary to get into college or move into the workforce.

Ms. Garcia expressed her concern about whether passing tests prove that the diploma "means something." She asked, "What evidence do you have that parents understand this." Dr. Heath-Baglin said that transition plans address this and are provided to all students with disabilities and their parents.

In response to a question by Ms. Garcia, Dr. Ronald Peiffer, Deputy State Superintendent for Academic Policy, explained the considerable efforts made over the last ten years to provide translated materials and briefings to parents of English language learners.

In response to a question by Dr. Walks, Dr. Wilson said that the Board's October briefing will provide more data on the number of students who are or are not meeting the requirements for graduation. Dr. Grasmick noted that in previous years there have been up to six thousand students who have not graduated for various reasons. She said that those students often need more than four years to complete high school.

Mr. Wu applauded the teachers and staff for their work on interventions with students who are in need. In response to a question by Mr. Wu, Dr. Grasmick explained that Title I schools receive federal dollars to provide supplemental educational services. She noted that the national level of participation in these services is 19 percent and that Maryland's participation level is at 70 percent. She said that the Individual Student Identifier tracks students from third grade until graduation. She noted that school systems are placing students in specialized academies over the summer to assist them in meeting graduation requirements.

Mr. Pfiefer, a former principal in Howard County, stated that, as principal, he received information on every student in his school and prepared well in advance for each student's need.

Dr. Sadusky, a former superintendent of schools, stated that much progress has been made and lauded the classroom teacher for making the difference.

Mr. Ewing stated his skepticism and concern about the data provided and the success of the Bridge program. He said, "This is too rosy a picture. I don't think we should be doing the HSA in Maryland. I believe that the people who don't get their diploma will be the same cohort of students."

Dr. Grasmick reminded him that the statistics show that graduation and dropout rates are the same this year as in past years. She reiterated her confidence that Maryland is on the right path for its students.

Dr. Peiffer reported that the State of Massachusetts, which implemented high stakes testing, has found that the gaps between test scores for all cohorts have been declining over time.

In response to a question by Ms. Walsh, Dr. Wilson said that the HSA administrations have cost approximately \$1 million per content area and \$1 million for preparation of each test. She said that the overall cost is approximately \$20 million.

In response to a second question by Ms. Walsh, Dr. Wilson said that testing has significantly improved instruction for all cohorts of students. Dr. Grasmick said, "The Maryland diploma now means that students need mastery of certain skills. Every student matters now."

In response to a question by Dr. Pizzigati about communication in the schools, Dr. Grasmick said that Department staff have visited schools and are confident that information is being communicated to parents and students statewide.

President DeGraffenreidt said that he would request that October's Board discussion on HSAs include insight from superintendents on this issue. He thanked the panel of presenters and his colleagues on the Board for their questions and comments.

STATE BOARD CALENDAR

Upon motion by Dr. Pizzigati, seconded by Dr. Allen, and with unanimous agreement, the Board adopted the list of State Board meeting dates for calendar year 2009. The list is attached to and made a part of these minutes. (In Favor -11)

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Grasmick said that she would be ready to bring an Implementation Plan on the recommendations of the African-American Male Task Force to the Board in December

She reported that in response to a call from the Governor's Legislative Office, the Department reported that it has no legislative proposals at this time. She asked Board Members to contact her or Rene Spence, the Executive Director for the Department's Legislative Office, if they have any legislative proposals for the 2009 General Assembly Session.

NASBE UPDATE

Dr. Pizzigati reported on a meeting hosted by the U.S. Army and the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) in which extensive educational and employment opportunities were disseminated. She also reminded members of the annual NASBE Meeting to be held in Arlington, Virginia on October 16-18 and urged Board Members to attend.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. DeGraffenreidt reviewed the procedures by which the Board hears public comments. He introduced the following persons who provided comments:

- Barbara Dezmon -- Support of the High School Assessments (HSAs)
- Roxanne Umphery-Lucas -- Support of the HSAs
- Jim Pitts-- Support of the HSAs
- Janis Sartucci—Curriculum Fees in Montgomery County
- Karen Salmon -- Support of the HSAs
- Carl Bailey – Support of the HSAs
- Selene Almazan – Support of the HSAs
- Kelly Nelson – Support of the HSAs
- Vincent Piscano – Support of the HSAs
- Rebecca Razavi – Criticism of the HSAs

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. DeGraffenreidt said that Ms. Walsh's request for an independent review of the changes to this year's MSAs and the possible impact on student scores will require that a Request For Proposals (RFP) be issued for prospective bidders. He said that the RFP cannot be issued until after the Technical Report prepared by the testing contractor is received and accepted by the Department. He noted that the Report is not due to be completed until December at which time the scope of the RFP can be discussed. Mr. Ewing asked that a Board member be included in the review panel for the contractor. Mr. DeGraffenreidt said that he feels that the Superintendent and her staff should drive that decision. Ms. Walsh urged that parameters for the independent review be set by the Board.

The following Agenda items were suggested by Board Members:

- Update on the Pre-K Through 20 Council (Dukes)
- Where is the Department headed on the African-American Male? (Dukes)
- Dual Enrollment (Dukes)
- Achievement Gap – Best Practices in Other States Contiguous to Maryland (Dukes)
- Length of School Day/Year (Goodall)
- Leadership Training (Goodall)
- School Day/Year Mastery v. Time Spent (Pizzigati)
- Local Perspective, reflecting diversity of the State, on agenda items brought before the Board (Pizzigati)
- Dropout Demographics and Trends Here and Elsewhere (Ewing)
- Persistently Dangerous Schools Policy (Walsh)

- MSDE Salary and Benefit Structure for all Staff (Walsh)
- Math Standards (Prior to Approval) (Walsh)
- School Health (Walks)
- Researching After-School Activities (Allen)
- School Safety (Wu)

OPINIONS


Ms. Kameen announced the following Opinions:

- 08-43 *Austin G. v. Prince George's County Board of Education* – student transfer (affirmed the local board's decision)
- 08-44 *Keith & Cynthia J. v. Prince George's County Board of Education* – student suspension (affirmed the local board's decision)
- 08-45 *Annette K. v. Somerset County Board of Education* – student discipline (affirmed the local board's decision)
- 08-46 *Kent County Board of Education v. Kent County Teachers' Association, Inc.* – reconsideration (dismissed)
- 08-47 *Mr. & Mrs. Danny J. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – student transfer (affirmed the local board's decision)

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy J. Grasmick
Secretary, Treasurer

NSG/rms

APPROVED: 10/29/08

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CLOSED SESSION

On this **23rd** day of **September 2008**, at the hour of 12:30 am/pm, the Members of the State Board of Education voted as follows to meet in closed session:

Motion made by: Dr. Allen

Seconded by: Mr. Ewing

In Favor: 11 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. Discuss an MSDE personnel issue.
4. Discuss five internal Board management matters.



President

**MEETING DATES FOR THE
MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FROM JANUARY 2009
THROUGH DECEMBER 2009**

Tuesday & Wednesday, January 27-28, 2009

Tuesday & Wednesday, February 24-25, 2009

Tuesday & Wednesday, March 24-25, 2009

Monday & Tuesday, April 27-28, 2009

Wednesday & Thursday, May 27-28, 2009

Tuesday & Wednesday, June 23-24, 2009

Tuesday & Wednesday, July 21-22, 2009

Thursday & Friday, August 27-28, 2009

Monday & Tuesday, September 21-22, 2009

Tuesday & Wednesday, October 27-28*, 2009

Thursday & Friday, December 10-11, 2009

*October 28th is an all day Retreat.

**MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE September 23-24, 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>
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None

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>
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Burns, Lynda	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist II	13	Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Services	09/10/2008
Council, Keyonna E.	Fiscal Services Officer I	16	Business Services, Financial Reporting and Coordination Branch	09/24/2008
Isenberg, Shira R.	Staff Specialist III, Nutrition Education	18	Business Services, School and Community Nutrition Programs Branch	09/10/2008
Kohut, Tracy A.	Teacher, Juvenile Special Education	IEPP	Career Technology and Adult Learning, Juvenile Services Education Program	09/10/2008
Lee, Glenn E.	Fiscal Services Officer I	16	Business Services, Financial Reporting and Coordination Branch	09/10/2008
McGill, Adrienne E.	Staff Specialist III, Nutrition Education Marketing Specialist	18	Business Services, School and Community Nutrition Programs Branch	10/08/2008
Paterniti, Angelic R.	Personnel Specialist	13	Office of Human Resources	08/27/2008
Stokholm, Nora	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist II	13	Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Services	09/10/2008

White, Demetria E.	Teacher, Correctional Special Education	IEPP	Career Technology and Adult Learning, Correctional Education Program	09/10/2008
Yard, Jodi E.	Staff Specialist III, Nutrition Education	18	Business Services, School and Community Nutrition Programs Branch	09/24/2008

III. Other Actions:

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

Revised 9/1/9/2008

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE September 23-24, 2008 BOARD MEETING

I. Appointments Grade 19 and above:

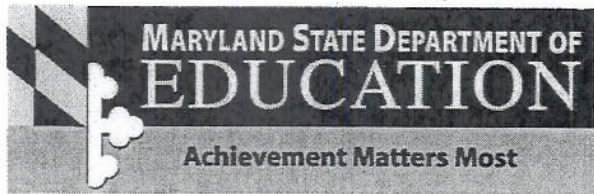
<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY GRADE</u>	<u>DIVISION/OFFICE</u>	<u>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</u>
Han, Young-chan	Education Program Specialist I, Family Involvement	21	Student, Family, and School Support, Program Improvement and Family Support Branch	TBD
Perez, Virgen L.	Assistant Principal	IEPP	Career Technology and Adult Learning, Juvenile Services Education Program	TBD
Pogue, Kimberly	Principal	IEPP	Career Technology and Adult Learning, Juvenile Services Education Program	TBD
Syed, Kausar	Accountant Manager II	20	Business Services, Accounting Branch	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				



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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

September 23-24, 2008

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Young-chan Han
Position: Education Program Specialist I, Family Involvement
Division: Student, Family, and School Support
Salary Grade: 21 (\$56,496 - \$82,514)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

Possession of a Master's Degree or equivalent 36 credit hours of post-baccalaureate course work in Education, Mental Health, Counseling, Psychology or a related field.

Experience:

Four (4) years of professional administrative or teaching experience in or affiliated with an education program which promotes family involvement serving disadvantaged student populations.

Notes:

1. Two additional years of experience directly related to the position may be substituted for the required Master's Degree.
2. Possession of a Doctorate in a field related to the position option may be substituted for one year of the required experience.

DESCRIPTION:

This is a professional position responsible for providing support, coordination and technical assistance to programs, projects, and activities that promote family involvement in schools.

Qualifications:

Education:

Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, Maryland) 2004 – Graduate Certificate in Administration and Supervision

Lancaster Bible College (Lancaster, Pennsylvania) 2004 – Master’s Degree in Ministry-Leadership

University of Hawaii (Honolulu, Hawaii) 1985 – Master’s Degree in Asian Studies

Goucher College (Towson, Maryland) 1094 – Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science

Experience:

Howard County Public Schools (Ellicott City, Maryland)

2007 – Present: Family Involvement Specialist (On loan to MSDE)

2002 – 2007: International Family Outreach Specialist

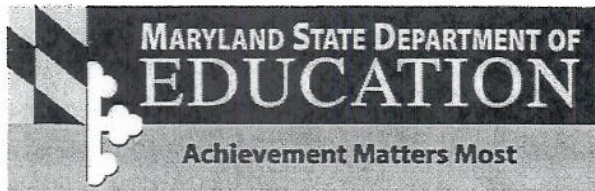
1999 – 2002: ESOL Community Liaison

Korean American Church of Philippi (Columbia, Maryland)

1997 – 2002: Director of Children’s Ministries

Employment Status

New Hire



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State Superintendent of Schools

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September 23-24, 2008

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Virgen L. Perez
Position: Assistant Principal
Division: Career Technology and Adult Learning
Juvenile Correctional Education
Salary Grade: IEPP (\$78,030 - \$89,891)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

A Master's Degree in School Administration and Supervision or Master's Degree plus the required 18 graduate credits in School Administration and Supervision and Administrator I Certificate. Administrator II Certificate Preferred.

Experience:

Five years of satisfactory teaching experience. Previous juvenile services/alternative education experience preferred.

DESCRIPTION:

This position serves as Assistant Principal responsible for assisting to the principal with the supervision, management, and leadership of the education program within a juvenile services detention facility.

Qualifications:

Education:

Coppin State University (Baltimore, Maryland) 2005 – Master’s Degree in Adult Education; 2002 – Master’s Degree in Special Education; 1999 – Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice

Currently holds a Maryland State Department of Education Advanced Professional Certificate with Administrator I/II, Generic Special Education 1-8; and Superintendent endorsements.

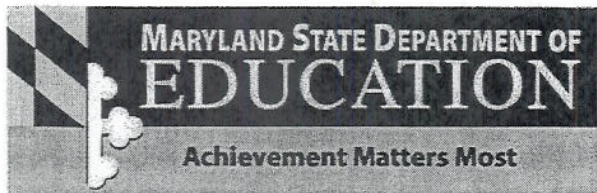
Experience:

Baltimore City Public Schools (Baltimore, Maryland)

2007 – Present:	Coordinator of Professional Development for Special Education
2005 – 2007:	Assistant Principal
1999 – 2005:	Special Educator

Employment Status

New Hire



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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September 23-24, 2008

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Kimberly B. Pogue
Position: Principal
Division: Career Technology and Adult Learning
Juvenile Services Education Program
Salary Grade: IEPP (\$94,029 - \$98,734)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education and Experience:

A Master's Degree in School Administration and Supervision or Master's Degree with 18 graduate credits in School Administration and Supervision plus five years of satisfactory teaching experience and eligible for a Maryland Administrator II or Principal Certificate. Principal Certificate is preferred.

DESCRIPTION:

This position serves as Principal responsible for providing leadership in the administration of education and library programs for residents of detention programs at the Baltimore City Juvenile Justice Center.

Qualifications:

Education:

Trinity College (Washington, D.C.) 2003 – Master’s Degree in Educational Administration

Catholic University (Washington, D.C.) 1997 – Master of Science, Library and Information Science

Howard University (Washington, D.C.) 1992 – Bachelor of Fine Arts

Currently Holds a Maryland State Department of Education Advanced Professional Certificate in Administrator I/II and Library Media Specialist

Experience:

Maryland State Department of Education (Baltimore, Maryland) – Baltimore City Juvenile Justice Center

- 2008 – Present: Acting Principal
- 2007 – 2008: Teacher Supervisor
- 2004 – 2007: Library Media Specialist

District of Columbia Public Schools (Washington, D.C.)

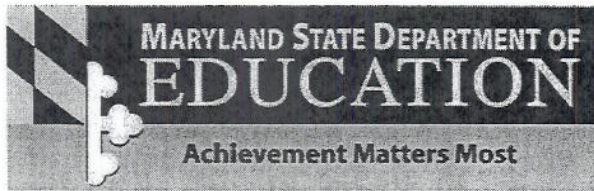
- 1999 – 2004: Library Medical Specialist

George Washington University – Jacobs Burns Law Library (Washington, DC)

- 1997 – 1999: Serials Librarian

Employment Status

Promotion



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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

September 23-24, 2008

BOARD LIST

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

Name: Kausar Syed
Position: Accountant Manager II
Division: Business Services, Accounting Office
Salary Grade: 20 (\$52,950 - \$77,359)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or a Bachelor's Degree with 30 credit hours in Accounting and related courses including or supplemented by 3 credit hours in Auditing. Possession of a CPA Certificate is desired.

Experience:

Six years of professional experience examining, analyzing and interpreting accounting systems, records and reports by applying General Accepted Accounting Principles. Three years of the required experience must have been in direct supervision of other professional employees. Experience with FMIS and ADHOC reporting is desired.

Note:

1. Applicants may substitute possession of a certificate as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or a Master's Degree in Accounting for one year of the required experience.
2. Applicants may substitute one year of professional budgeting or auditing experience for one year of the required experience.

DESCRIPTION:

This position serves as Chief of the General Accounting Section, responsible for providing leadership and technical expertise in ensuring that financial transactions are verified, recorded and reported to management in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and in compliance with state and federal laws, regulations, and practices.

Qualifications:

Education:

Towson University (Towson, Maryland) 2002 – Bachelor’s Degree in Accounting

Maryland State Board of Accountancy – Certified Public Accountant (Issued 6/19/07)

Experience:

Salisbury Management, Incorporated (Baltimore, Maryland)

2003 – 2008: Senior General Ledger Accountant

Best Choice Video (Ontario, Canada)

1993 – 1999: Owner/Manager

Wal-Mart Formerly known as Woolco (Canada)

1988 - 1993: Customer Service Representative

Employment Status

New Hire