

IN RE: ALLEGANY COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

* BEFORE THE
* MARYLAND
* STATE BOARD
* OF EDUCATION
* Order No. OR08-05

* * * * *

ORDER

On March 26, 2008, counsel to the State Board of Education received a letter from counsel to the Allegany County Public School System requesting a declaratory ruling from the State Board of Education on the meaning of a provision in the Public Information Act, Md. State Govt' Code Ann. § 10-601 et seq. (PIA).

As this Board has ruled in the past, the State Board is not the appropriate forum to hear disputes concerning the PIA. *See, e.g., Danner v. Carroll County Board of Education*, MSBE 02-45; *James v. Talbot County Board of Education*, MSBE 02-04. Moreover, the State Board's authority to issue declaratory rulings on the intent and meaning of the law is limited to the "provisions of the [the Education] Article that are within its jurisdiction. Md. Educ. Code Ann. §2-205(e).

Because this Board has no jurisdiction to opine on the intent and meaning of the Public Information Act, the State Board declines to issue a declaratory ruling and hereby dismisses the request. It is so Ordered.

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
By:



Dunbar Brooks
President