

Maryland Association of Boards of Education

Legislative Committee

Donna L. Brightman, Chair

Agenda

February 10, 2014

10:00 A.M. – Noon

1.	Call to Order/Roll Call	Welcome & Introductions	Donna Brightman	5 min.
2.	Reports on local legislative initiatives from Member Boards	(Information & Discussion)	All	15 min.
3.	Legislative Luncheon Report	(Information & Discussion)	John Woolums	10 min.
4.	Leadership Meetings Report	(Information & Discussion)	Katie Groth, Shirley Brandman, Donna Brightman	10 min.
5.	Prekindergarten Legislation & Beyond - (SB 332/HB 297)	(Information & Discussion)	Guest Speaker: Clinton Macsherry, Director of Public Policy, Maryland Family Network	20 min.
6.	Bill Positions: - Prekindergarten (SB 332/HB 297) - IEP Parental Notice Requirements (HB 413) - Educator Evaluations & Student Growth (SB 676) - Education Evaluations & State Model (SB 911) - ESEA Waiver by Regulation (SB 910/HB 1001)	(Discussion & Action)	Donna Brightman/ John Woolums	30 min.
7.	2014 Bill Highlights	(Information & Discussion)	John Woolums/ GreenStreet Coalition	25 min.
8.	Adjournment	Closing Remarks	Donna Brightman	5 min.

Attachments/Handouts:

Item 6 – Action Bills Synopses & Bills

Item 7 – Bill Highlights Report

Bills for Discussion and Action

[Senate Bill 332/House Bill 297](#) – Prekindergarten Expansion Act of 2014

Establishing a new Preschool Expansion Grant Program to broaden the availability of prekindergarten and school readiness services in coordination with the currently mandated public school program, Judy Centers, and state accredited and approved private providers partnering with a local school system under an MOU. The grant program would use a new definition of “economically disadvantaged background” to mean a family whose income is no more than 300% of the federal poverty guidelines. (The current eligibility threshold is no more than 185% of the federal poverty guidelines.)

The bill provides that the Prekindergarten Expansion Grants may be used for the following:

1. Half–day prekindergarten for additional eligible children;
2. Full–day prekindergarten for eligible children under the currently mandated, targeted program, or additional eligible children as defined under the new eligibility standard; and
3. Judy Centers for the families of eligible children as defined under the currently mandated, targeted program, or additional eligible children as defined under the new eligibility standard who are located in Title I school attendance areas.

[House Bill 413](#)

Special Education – Individualized Education Program Parental Notice Requirements and Service Models List

Requiring that the school system provide the parents of a child attending their initial individualized education program evaluation meeting with a verbal and written explanation of their rights and responsibilities and a program procedural safeguards notice. Requiring each county board of education to develop and publish on its web site a list of special education service delivery models that includes a statement regarding how a child is placed.

[Senate Bill 676](#) – Teachers and Principals – Performance Evaluation Criteria – Use of Student Growth Data

Providing that educator performance evaluation criteria developed by the state or local school systems may not require student growth data based on state assessments to be used to make personnel decisions before the 2016–2017 school year. Further providing that the law may not be construed to require a local board to adopt the default model performance evaluation criteria developed by MSDE.

[Senate Bill 911](#) – Education – Performance Evaluation Criteria – Default Model

Providing that the “default” state model educator evaluation system would only take effect if the local school system and the employee organization fail to mutually agree on a locally developed educator evaluation system.

[Senate Bill 910/House Bill 1001](#) – Education – Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act – Waivers

Providing that if MSDE requests a waiver from USDE from provisions of ESEA, then MSDE must first adopt regulations establishing the provisions of the waivers before making the request.