

## Maryland Association of Boards of Education

**Legislative Committee**  
Donna L. Brightman, Chair

**Agenda**  
February 24, 2014  
10:00 A.M. – Noon

1.	Call to Order/Roll Call	Welcome & Introductions	Donna Brightman	5 min.
2.	Reports on Local Legislative Initiatives & Delegations from Member Boards	(Information & Discussion)	Donna Brightman/All	15 min.
3.	<p>Bill Positions: (Discussion &amp; Action)</p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 86</a> - Education - Maryland Seal of Biliteracy Act - Establishment</p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 639/Senate Bill 679</a> - Task Force on Community - Partnered School -Based Mental Health</p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 783/Senate Bill 717</a> – Task Force to Study School-Based Health Centers</p>	<p><a href="#">House Bill 893</a> - Education – Local School System Autonomy</p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 821</a> - Digital Equity for All Maryland Students Act of 2014</p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 822</a> – Early-In Early-Out Education Act of 2014</p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 1181</a> – Fairness in Negotiations Act – Sunset Repeal</p>	Donna Brightman/ John Woolums	50 min
4.	<p>Priority Bill Highlights</p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 1198/Senate Bill 779</a> - Education - Due Process Hearings for Children With Disabilities - Burden of Proof</p>	(Information & Discussion)	John Woolums/ GreenStreet Coalition	10 min.
5.	<p><b>Guest Speaker:</b> Jared Billings, Education Policy Advisor, Governor Martin O'Malley -</p>	(Information & Discussion)	Donna Brightman/ Francie Glendening	30 min.
6.	Adjournment	Closing Remarks	Donna Brightman	5 min.

Attachments/Handouts:

Item 3 – Action Bills Synopses & Bills

Item 4 – Bill Highlights Report

**Maryland Association of Boards of Education****Legislative Committee****February 24, 2014****Action Bills****[House Bill 86](#) - Education - Maryland Seal of Biliteracy Act - Establishment**

This bill establishes a Maryland Seal of Biliteracy Program to recognize public high school graduates, beginning with the graduating class of 2015, who have attained proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing one or more languages in addition to English. The purpose of the program is to promote linguistic proficiency and cultural literacy in one or more languages in addition to English and to provide recognition of the attainment of those skills by affixing a Seal of Biliteracy to the student's diploma or transcript at graduation. Participation in the program by a local school system is voluntary; however, if a local school system chooses to participate, an individual school may not opt out. The State Board of Education must adopt regulations to implement the program.

**[House Bill 639/Senate Bill 679](#) - Task Force on Community - Partnered School -Based Mental Health**

This bill establishes the Task Force on Community–Partnered School–Based Mental Health; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly.

Specifically, the Task Force is to study and make recommendations regarding:

- (i) policy initiatives to promote the expansion of community–partnered school–based mental health programs in the State;
- (ii) strategies to better equip mental health providers to partner with schools, including integration into existing multitiered systems of support, such as Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports;
- (iii) strategies for community behavioral health providers to help improve student safety, reduce disciplinary removals and school–based arrests, and facilitate pathways to early identification and intervention of violent behavior and serious mental illness;
- (iv) best practices for conducting quality assessment and improvement activities and measuring outcomes to document the impact of programming on mental health, behavior, and academic indicators;

## **House Bill 783/Senate Bill 717 – Task Force to Study School-Based Health Centers**

This bill would establish a Task Force to study and make recommendations on:

- (1) how to fully integrate School-Based Health Centers (SBHC) into the State and local plans to:
  - (i) enhance SBHC clinical capacity to support the State's work in improving access to essential health care services, especially in the areas of primary care, behavioral health, and oral health services;
  - (ii) enhance SBHC facility capacity through local partnerships;
  - (iii) assist the State in meeting network adequacy standards for managed care organizations and qualified health plans;
  - (iv) advance population and public health goals of State and local health officials; and
  - (v) advance State and local education policies and goals for ensuring all Maryland students are in school and ready to learn;
- (2) how to ensure the long-term sustainability of SBHCs;
- (3) how to ensure a coordinated interagency and intra-agency effort reflective of the interdisciplinary nature of SBHCs to provide the policy, technical assistance, and program support necessary to sustain quality SBHC efforts across State agencies;
- (4) an assessment of the resources needed by State agencies to implement the Task Force's plan; and
- (5) an assessment of if and how the mission and structure of the Maryland School-Based Health Center Policy Advisory Committee can be modified to assist the State in implementing the Task Force's plan.

## **House Bill 893 - Education – Local School System Autonomy**

This bill would provided that certain bylaws, rules, and regulations of the State Board of Education do not apply to a county board of education under certain circumstances; requiring a county board to provide a certain notice to the public concerning certain grant applications; requiring a county board to establish certain policies for the county school system; and generally relating to local school system autonomy.

## **Senate Bill 821 - Digital Equity for All Maryland Students Act of 2014**

Requiring all students to have specified access to digital technology in the classroom on or before the 2016-2017 school year; establishing a Technology Infrastructure Improvement Program to be administered by the Interagency Committee on School Construction; requiring the State to distribute grants from a specified source to county school boards; authorizing the grant amount to be apportioned between specified sources; requiring the Interagency Committee to make specified considerations when allocating a specified grant; etc.

**Senate Bill 822 – Early In Early Out Education Act of 2014**

Requiring that local school systems allocate per pupil funding received for students graduating early to support the expansion of their Prekindergarten program.

**House Bill 1181 – Fairness in Negotiations Act – Sunset Repeal**

Repealing the termination date of specified provisions relating to the Public School Labor Relations Board.

## Priority Bill Highlights

### [House Bill 1198/Senate Bill 779](#) - Education - Due Process Hearings for Children With Disabilities - Burden of Proof

Requiring local school systems to bear a certain burden of proof in due process hearings that are held to resolve a dispute relating to the provision of a free appropriate public education to children with disabilities; establishing that a certain provision of law is not intended to change certain record keeping requirements or what constitutes a free appropriate public education under federal law; and generally relating to the burden of proof in certain due process hearings.