

Maryland Association of Boards of Education

Legislative Committee

Joy Schaefer, Chair

Agenda

March 16, 2015

10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

1.	Call to Order/Roll Call	Welcome & Introductions	Joy Schaefer	5 min.
2.	Reports from Board Members: State and Local Advocacy Updates	Information & Discussion	Joy Schaefer/ All	20 min.
3.	Budget Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Budget Bill• Budget Reconciliation & Financing Act• Capital Budget	Information & Discussion	John Woolums/ All	10 min.
4.	Priority Bill Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Charter School Expansion Act• Post-Labor Day School Year Start Date• Burden of Proof Shift• Education Tax Credit	Information & Discussion	John Woolums/ All	35 min.
5.	Bill Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Special Education<ul style="list-style-type: none">- IEP Translations- IEP Trained Facilitators- Blind Mobility Assessments- Dyslexia Task Force• Health<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Diabetes Volunteer Health Aides- School Food Transparency- Wellness Committees- Reusable Water Bottles• Child Sex Abuse Bills on Education, Notice, and Background Checks	Information & Discussion	John Woolums/ All	35 min.
6.	New Bills <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Board Private Facility Financing Authority	Discussion & Action	John Woolums/ All	10 min.
7.	Legislative Committee Calendar <ul style="list-style-type: none">• March 30, 2015• (Sine Die April 13, 2015)• Apr. 27, 2015 - Session Wrap-Up	Information	Joy Schaefer	5 min.
8.	Adjournment	Closing Remarks	Joy Schaefer	

See Reverse for Meeting Materials

Meeting Materials

Budget Updates

- **Budget Bill ([SB 55/HB 70](#))** (Support with Amendments)
- **Budget Reconciliation & Financing Act ([HB 72/SB 57](#))** (Support with Amendments)
- **Capital Budget ([HB 71/SB 56](#))** (Support)

Priority Bill Updates

- **Charter School Expansion Act ([SB 595/HB 486](#))** (Oppose)
- **Post-Labor Day School Year Start Date ([SB 455/HB 389](#))** (Oppose)
- **Burden of Proof Shift ([SB 390/HB 344](#))** (Oppose)
- **Education Tax Credit ([SB 405/HB 487](#))** (Oppose)

Bill Updates

- **Special Education**

IEP Translations ([SB 314/HB44](#))

This bill authorizes the parents of a child with a completed individualized education program (IEP) or individualized family service plan (IFSP) to request that the IEP or IFSP be translated into the parents' native language. School personnel must provide the parents with the translated document within 30 days after the date of the request. (Oppose)

IEP Trained Facilitators ([HB 1060](#))

This bill requires each local school system to offer the services of an independent facilitator to the parents and school personnel meeting to discuss the identification, evaluation, or educational program or the free appropriate public education (FAPE) of a child with a disability. Parents or school personnel may request the participation of an independent facilitator in any team meeting. (Oppose)

Blind Mobility Assessments ([SB 538/HB 535](#))

This bill requires orientation and mobility (O&M) instruction to be included in the individualized education program (IEP) of a child who is blind or visually impaired, unless the IEP team for that child determines, after an initial O&M evaluation, that O&M instruction is not appropriate for the child. The initial O&M evaluation must be provided to the child who is blind or visually impaired if a member of the child's IEP team states that O&M instruction is not appropriate for the child. A child may not be denied O&M instruction solely because the child has some remaining vision. Each local school system must provide verbal and written notice at least annually to the parent of a child who is blind or visually impaired of the availability of O&M instruction. (Oppose)

Dyslexia Task Force ([SB 15/HB 278](#))

This bill establishes a Task Force to Study the Implementation of a Dyslexia Education Program. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) must provide staff support for the task force. The task force must determine current practices for identifying and treating dyslexia in students in Maryland public schools and in other states; determine the appropriate structure for establishing a dyslexia education program and make specified related recommendations; and develop a pilot program to initiate the implementation of the task force's recommendations in an appropriately limited geographical area. (Support with Amendment)

- **Health**

Diabetes Volunteer Health Aides ([SB 672/HB 992](#))

This bill requires the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), in consultation with other experts and stakeholders, to establish guidelines for the training of school employees to become trained diabetes care providers. Each local board of education must require each public school within its jurisdiction to establish a Student Diabetes Management Program that includes training for employee volunteers to provide diabetes care services to students. The bill requires a school nurse or trained diabetes care provider to be available during school hours and at school-sponsored activities. (Oppose)

School Food Transparency ([SB 278/HB1208](#))

This bill requires each local school system to create a menu for all food and drink items sold at breakfast, at lunch, and a la carte. Each local school system must post this information on its website. For a la carte items, each local school system must post specific product, nutrition, and ingredient information. If a la carte items differ from school to school within a local school system, each public school within the local school system must send, by regular mail at least once a month, a list of the specific a la carte items the public school sells to parents and guardians of children who attend the school. The bill takes effect July 1, 2015. (Oppose)

Wellness Committees ([SB 506/HB 1209](#))

This bill requires each local board of education to establish a wellness committee to (1) discuss issues relating to the physical, mental, and social health and well-being of students and (2) make recommendations to the local board based on committee discussions and deliberations. (Oppose)

Reusable Water Bottles ([SB 296/HB 1023](#))

This bill requires each public school to (1) make available free, unlimited, potable drinking water for each student throughout the school day; (2) include a reusable water bottle on the school supplies list for each student in kindergarten through grade 8. (Oppose)

- **Child Sex Abuse Bills**

Education Program ([HB 383/SB 489](#))

This bill requires the State Board of Education and each nonpublic school in the State to develop and implement a program of age-appropriate education on sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention. The program must be taught by teachers who are trained to provide instruction on sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention. (Oppose)

Public Notice ([HB 1033](#))

This bill requires that if an employee or an adult working on school property as a contractor, subcontractor, or a paid leader of a school activity is arrested for a reportable offense, the law enforcement agency making the arrest shall notify, depending on whether the employee or adult works for a local school system or a nonpublic school. Within business days after being informed of an arrest by a law enforcement agency, the county superintendent or the principal of the nonpublic school shall notify the following individuals of the arrest: (i) parents of students who attend any public or nonpublic school in the county where the accused individual worked during the school year in which the alleged incident occurred; and (ii) employees of any public or nonpublic school in the county where the accused individual worked during the school year in which the alleged incident occurred. (Support)

Background Checks ([HB 642/SB 508](#))

This bill prohibits nonpublic schools and local boards of education from hiring contractors or subcontractors, or allowing contractors or subcontractors to hire or retain individuals, who have been convicted of specified crimes. The bill also requires contractors and subcontractors in specified facilities who have direct, unsupervised, and uncontrolled access to children to submit to a criminal history records check. (Support with Amendments)

New Bill for Decision

- **Local Board Private Facility Financing Authority ([SB 924](#))**
Authorizing a county board of education to seek private financing, subject to specified limitations, to finance specified projects or capital leases. (HOLD)