

May 2017

Coming Soon! 2017 [Annual Conference](#) Preview Brochure

*October 4-6, 2017 – Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel, Ocean City, Maryland
New this year – Online Registration*

Don't miss the benefits of attending Maryland's premiere conference for school system leaders:

- Training for effective and efficient school system governance
- Sharing of best practices and latest trends in education
- Access to quality speakers and presenters
- Networking among the 24 districts' board members and superintendents

Look for the conference preview brochure, coming to school board offices in June 2017.

Newly Scheduled Legislative Session Workshop

*Thursday, June 15, 2017
The 2017 Maryland Legislative Session: What Your Board Needs to Know*

The recently completed 2017 Maryland legislative session generated an unprecedented number of laws and newly required policy items impacting Maryland education. Join us for this extended session that will inform and prepare your board and senior staff regarding requirements in the areas of student discipline, employee relations, special education, and health and safety, among others.

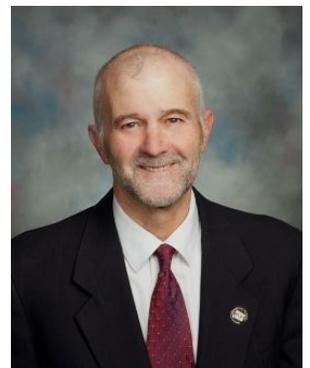
This workshop is recommended for board presidents/chairs or designees, and superintendents or designees.

[Registration Form](#)

Wayne Ridenour Appointed to MABE Board of Directors

Wayne Ridenour, Washington County board member, has been appointed by President Joy Schaefer to fill a vacant seat on the MABE Board of Directors. Presiding President-Elect Charles McDaniels, Jr., welcomed Wayne to the April meeting, and stated, "Wayne's tenure and experience on his local board will be of great benefit to the MABE board of directors."

Ridenour has served on the Washington board for 12 years. His service includes four years as president and one year as vice president.



MABE Welcomes New Staff Member

There's a new face at MABE's front desk, greeting members and other visitors since mid-April.

Tiara Feith comes to MABE from TPC Wealth Management where she worked as an executive assistant, office manager, and client relations manager. She was raised in Prince George's County and attended Laurel High School prior to moving to Missouri in her junior year. She currently lives in Anne Arundel County with her 16 month old son, Bryson.

Tiara has hit the ground running by populating MABE's new member database, and spearheading a project that uses surplus conference tote bags to provide supplies to children in need in surrounding counties.



Martha James-Hassan Elected to CUBE Leadership



Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners and MABE Secretary Martha James-Hassan has been elected to a three-year term on the National School Boards Association (NSBA) Council of Urban Boards of Education (CUBE). CUBE is guided by a steering committee that seeks to foster effective school board governance in urban school districts. The steering committee is comprised of 16 school board members elected by representatives of the school districts participating in the CUBE program.

Maryland Well Represented at National Conference

MABE leadership and Maryland board members journeyed to Denver to take advantage of the first-rate professional development and information provided at the National School Boards Association Conference. High quality keynote speakers and workshops on timely topics made for a worthwhile experience.

Prior to the start of the conference, MABE officers joined with other state association representatives for NSBA's Delegate Assembly which directs the work of the association in the coming year.

At Sunday's Opening Session, MABE President Joy Schaefer was introduced along with other state association presidents. She represented our members well, especially given that she proudly displayed the Maryland colors.



BoardDocs Ari Ioannides Presents Social Media Workshop

Ari Ioannides, CEO and founder of Emerald Data Solutions which developed and markets [BoardDocs](#), presented a lively and timely workshop on the topic of social media and how it enables board members and school systems to connect with their communities.

Ioannides discussed the demographics of social media, and how users are increasingly looking to the various platforms for news and information. He provided five suggestions for school systems to use in engaging their stakeholders:

- Focus on the “big” players – Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube
- “Socialize” online content – Have your social media links and “share” buttons on all of your website pages. Imbed video to better tell your story and bring your website to life
- Drive users to your homepage – Post links on Twitter and Facebook back to specific content on your website.
- Get a YouTube Channel – It’s free! Imbed exceptional content in your website.
- Keep content fresh – Your website content should be up-to-date and dynamic; social media should be updated daily.



Ari’s presentation slides can be [accessed online](#).

Maryland Student Survey Basis of Report Showing Bullying Has Decreased

“[According] to a [big new study](#) in the journal *Pediatrics*, bullying is down. In 2005, 28.5 percent of students surveyed reported experiencing at least one form of bullying. By 2014, that had dropped more than half, to 13.4 percent.

"Occasionally, there is some good news out there," says Catherine Bradshaw, a professor and associate dean at the University of Virginia, one of the study authors. "There are some things that are improving."

The study scrutinized the responses of nearly 250,000 Maryland students in grades 4 through 12 to an annual school survey. Students were asked if they had directly experienced behaviors such as pushing, slapping, threats, spreading rumors or negative online posts in the previous 30 days. There were significant declines across every category of behavior and in most grades, the researchers found.” [full article](#)