

MABE Calendar

September

- 4 - Labor Day, MABE office closed
- 6 - MABE Board of Directors Meeting
- 11 - [Legal Services Association](#) Meeting
- 18 - [Legislative Committee](#) Meeting
- 19 – [Maryland State Board of Education](#) Meeting
- 28 - Conference Program Committee Meeting

October

- 4-6 - MABE [Annual Conference](#)
- 9 - Columbus Day, MABE office closed
- 11-13 - Workers' Compensation Fund Retreat
- 16 - [Legislative Committee](#) Meeting
- 16 - MABE Ad Hoc Committee on School Funding Adequacy
- 27 - Risk Managers Meeting
- 31 - Group Insurance Pool Meeting
- 31 - OPEB Trust Meeting

For a complete calendar with details, please visit the [MABE website](#).

President's Message

Greetings!

I hope you all have had a restorative and re-energizing summer and are ready to welcome students back to school. This year's kindergarten class will graduate in 2030 – the year the State Board has identified as the “end-point” for meeting their proposed long-term goal for student proficiency in the current accountability system.

With that challenge ahead, and others we face as a new school year begins, our [Annual Conference](#) in October is important on two levels. First, the conference provides critical professional development for members of Boards of Education, and secondly, ensures the continued relevancy, effectiveness, and strength of MABE.

Strengthening Your Service

MABE's conference equips members with the information and tools necessary to carry out our work at the local level and to advocate on behalf of our students, schools and communities. Keynoters, knowledgeable presenters, panelists, and board colleagues come together to provide members with the most up-to-date information on recent legal and legislative developments, emerging trends, best practices, and strategies. You'll receive updates on possible changes in state education funding, the public school construction program, as well as items in the ESSA state education plan – all issues that will drive the work of your school system.

Strengthening MABE

The Annual Business Meeting on the first day links all of our members to the direction and work of MABE. Members will hear updates on the achievements and advocacy accomplished over this last year. Members will also have the opportunity to make decisions that will guide the work and governance of the organization going forward. Your voice and input is important in ensuring MABE continues to be responsive to the needs of the membership and effective in fulfilling our mission.

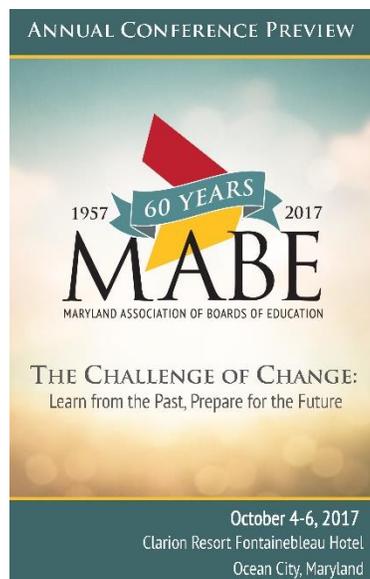
A Strong Finish, A Solid Beginning

The Annual Conference provides us with the opportunity to reflect on and evaluate the sum of our efforts in the last year, as well as to set the foundation for the work that lies ahead. I am looking forward to ending my year as President, having worked alongside each of you, our hard-working staff, and our dedicated Board of Directors, to ensure MABE remains on a continued path of growing stature and strength. I am excited at the prospect of coming together next month to fortify our sense of purpose in moving forward to achieve more of our shared goals.

See you in Ocean City,

Joy Schaefer, President

Annual Conference Just Around the Corner



Join us! Check out all the important information:

[Conference on the Website](#)

New This Year! [Online Registration](#)

[Schedule at a Glance](#)

[Conference Hotel](#)

[Exhibitor Opportunities](#)

[Sponsor Opportunities](#)

New Open Meeting Requirements and Training Impacting Local Boards

During the 2017 Legislative Session, the Maryland General Assembly passed the new Open Meetings Act training requirements for public bodies ([HB 880 of 2017/ SB 450 of 2017](#)). Public bodies, including local school boards, must comply with the new requirements by October 1, 2017.

As part of these new requirements, **at least one member of each local Board of Education must be designated to take a training class on the Open Meetings Act. The designated local board member has 90 days after the designation to take the class.**

MABE is now, for the first time, a designated provider of this course. MABE will offer Open Meetings Act training on the following dates:

September 14, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: MABE Office
621 Ridgely Avenue, Suite 300
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

To register for the September 14, 2017, please visit,
<https://www.regonline.com/openmeetingsactseptember>

November 3, 2017, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Location: MABE Office
621 Ridgely Avenue, Suite 300
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

To register for the November 3, 2017, please visit,
<https://www.regonline.com/openmeetingsactnovember>

MABE's training, led by Steve Bounds, MABE Director of Legal and Policy Services, will focus on the unique role of local school board members. A more general training class can also be taken [online](#) through the Office of Attorney General and the University of Maryland's Institute for Governmental Service and Research. Courses are also available by MACo through the Academy for Excellence in Local Governance or the Maryland Municipal League (MML).

PLEASE NOTE: When going into closed session after October 1, a public body must either have a least one designated and trained member present or alternatively, follow and complete the [Compliance Checklist for Meetings Subject to the Open Meetings Act](#) developed by the Office of the Attorney General. If the checklist option is used, the checklist must be included in the meeting minutes.

If you have any questions regarding the new Open Meetings Act requirements, please contact Steve Bounds, Director of Legal and Policy Services at MABE at 410-841-5414 or sbounds@mabe.org.

Legislative Committee Begins 2018 Session Meetings

MABE is gearing up for the 2018 Legislative Session with upcoming Legislative Committee meetings on September 18, 2017 and October 16, 2017. Both meetings are slated to include prominent guest speakers on the major funding and policy issues being deliberated by "blue ribbon" commissions.

On September 18, MABE will welcome Bob Gorrell, Maryland's Public School Construction Program Director, who will share his vision for building and maintaining fiscally sustainable school facilities.

On October 16, 2017, MABE is pleased to announce that Dr. William "Brit" Kirwan, Chair of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, will be sharing his thoughts on the work of the Commission.

Future meetings are scheduled for November 13, 2017 and December 18, 2017.

In addition, each year MABE commences the Association's legislative work by meeting at the Annual Conference, Oct. 4-6, to approve Continuing Resolutions on issues ranging from school funding to student health and fitness; and holding a Legislative Committee Breakfast to launch the discussion of priorities and positions for the 2018 Session.

For updates on the progress of the “Kirwan” Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, “Knott” Commission on 21st Century School Facilities, or the State Board’s recently adopted Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Accountability Plan, go to MABE’s [Priority Issues Page](#).

Welcome to New Board Members & Superintendents

Colin Reinhard was selected by the School Board Appointment Commission to fill an unexpired term on the Anne Arundel County Board of Education. Reinhard and his wife own Paradise Doughnuts in Linthicum. Before opening that shop eight months ago, Reinhard gained more than a decade of experience in public education, working in both Montgomery and Anne Arundel County. He worked most recently as the department chair for mathematics at North County High School. Reinhard also has two children in Anne Arundel County Public Schools, a rising second grader and a rising third grader.

Donna Wiseman was appointed in August to fill an unexpired term on the Prince George’s County Board of Education. Wiseman is Dean of the College of Education at the University of Maryland and professor in the Teaching, Learning, Policy and Leadership Department. At the University of Maryland, she served as a member of the University’s Committee on Diversity and was the College of Education’s equity officer. She is a past Chair of the President’s Commission on Women’s Issues; served on the Vice President’s Advisory Council for Curriculum and Courses; and the University’s International Advisory Committee.

Emory Young was appointed to fill an unexpired term on the Baltimore County Board of Education. Emory Young is an engineer with Verizon and holds Bachelor of Science degrees in electrical and computer engineering from North Carolina State University and a Master of Science degree in electrical engineering from Johns Hopkins University. As a community volunteer, Mr. Young has been deeply involved with the Boy Scouts of America (Baltimore Area Council) and the PTA Council of Baltimore County. Until his appointment to the Board, he served as president of the PTA Council. He and his wife have two children.

This past spring, the Caroline County Board of Education officially named **Patricia Saelens** superintendent of schools. Saelens, who had been serving as interim superintendent, began a four year term on July 1 of this year. She has worked in public schools on the Eastern Shore for 25 years, the first 14 in Dorchester County Public Schools as a teacher, assistant principal, principal and coordinator, and the past 11 in Caroline County. Her most recent position prior to the superintendency was assistant superintendent for instruction.

Board Members Welcome at Upcoming Robotics Competition

Raymond Gerstner, Head Mentor and Teacher Advisor at Glenelg High School in Howard County has requested MABE extend an invitation to our members to attend the Maryland Robotics Alliance (MRA) annual Robotics Competition: the [Battle O' Baltimore \(BoB\)](#).

BoB will take place on **September 23rd at McDonogh School in Owings Mills**, Maryland.

High schools from across the state have FIRST Robotics Competition teams made up of students and volunteer professional community mentors. BoB is an off-season “friendly” FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC). More than 20 Maryland teams will be at BoB; those schools are listed on the website.

Of note, this event directly relates to [HB115](#), a bill that passed in 2016 to provide grants to after school robotics programs throughout Maryland.

Mr. Gerstner stated, “It’s truly a unique and unforgettable experience, and we would be thrilled to have MABE member participation. They can see for themselves how FIRST inspires students and stimulates their thirsts for knowledge in STEM and supporting disciplines. If anyone may be attending the event, they should let me know so we can arrange for a student ambassador to show you around and answer their questions. They can contact me by email at raymond_gerstner@hcpss.org or by phone [410-313-5528](tel:410-313-5528) if there are any questions or if I can provide any additional information. I hope many will be able to join us in supporting these diverse, motivated, and innovative leaders of tomorrow.”

Successful Orientation for New Board Members

This month, MABE conducted two New Board Member Orientations, one for student members, and one for adult members appointed in 2017. Both groups dealt with the basics of board service, including roles and responsibilities, the board’s legal and policy roles, the budgeting process, and legislation impacting school systems. According to one new member, “The day was a good overview of responsibilities, and demonstrated the complexity of the role.”

