

**For Immediate Release – October 18, 2017**

## **MCDANIELS ELECTED PRESIDENT AT MABE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**ANNAPOLIS, MD** – On Wednesday, October 4, 2017, more than 150 school board members and other education leaders from across the state gathered for the Maryland Association of Boards of Education Annual Conference. The conference program gave members the opportunity to attend workshops on topics such as the Every Student Succeeds Act, emerging school law issues, and the future of school funding in Maryland.

Ronald Ferguson, author and Harvard professor, opened the conference with an address on the importance of both excellence and equity to ensure the needs of all students are met. Keynoting on the second day of conference, Murray Banks engaged the audience on the topic of change and preparing for the future in education.

Karen B. Salmon, Maryland State Superintendent of Schools, engaged in a dialogue with board members and superintendents about various aspects of Maryland public education such as early learning and Career and Technology Education (CTE), and initiatives like the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

At the Presidents Dinner, 2016-2017 president Joy Schaefer was presented a plaque in honor of her dedicated service to MABE. The 2017 MABE Excellence in Education recipient Kitty Blumsack was recognized for her contribution to Maryland public schools through her work with board members.

During the Presidents Dinner, Charles McDaniels, Jr., member of the Baltimore County Board of Education, was sworn in as president of the association for 2017-2018. Other officers inducted with him were Tolbert Rowe, Caroline County, president-elect; Nancy Reynolds, Harford County, treasurer; and Martha James-Hassan, Baltimore City, secretary.

Local board members elected to the MABE board of directors were: Michael A. Durso, Montgomery County; Tammy Fraley, Allegany County; Michael Garman, Talbot County; Stacy Korbela, Anne Arundel County; Robert Lord, Carroll County; Virginia McGraw, Charles County; William J. Phalen, Sr., Calvert County; Phillip Rice, Dorchester County; Wayne Ridenour, Washington County; Laura Runyeon, Harford County; K. Alexander Wallace, Prince George's County; and Mary Washington, St. Mary's County.

At the business meeting, members adopted revisions to MABE's [Continuing Resolutions](#), which provide the foundation for the association's legislative and policy positions in the coming year. Among those revisions were updates to 16 of the association's 23 continuing resolutions, including substantial changes to resolutions on special education, technology, employee relations, and student health. The technology resolution was completely re-written and retitled as a resolution on Digital Learning that is rigorous, equitable, innovative and guided by instruction. The employee relations resolution was updated to highlight MABE's strong opposition to "grounds for discipline" legislation to remove the authority to discipline teachers for misconduct from the local board of education and allow outside arbitrators to make these important decisions.

In his first message to members, newly elected president Charles McDaniels, Jr., stated, “It is truly an honor for me to serve as MABE’s president, and I want to thank the membership for allowing me to have this opportunity. To impact the educational journey of our students is a tremendous responsibility that I approach very seriously. All of you should be complimented for your dedication to the work of our boards, and I look forward to working with you in the coming months.”

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Founded in 1957, the Maryland Association of Boards of Education is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to serving and supporting boards of education in Maryland. MABE is a leading advocate for public education in the state. All 24 Maryland boards of education are members of MABE.

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