Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education

Presentation to
MABE Legislative Committee

Dr. William E. Kirwan, Chair
Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education

October 16, 2017
Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education

The 25-member commission created in the 2016 legislative session by the Governor and the General Assembly to:

- Review the current funding formula for the schools in Maryland
- Develop policies and strategies for Maryland’s school system that would enable students to perform at or above the level of the highest performing nations and states
Commission Membership

- 8 legislators - 4 Senators and 4 Delegates
- 3 State agency leaders – (Secretary of DBM, State Superintendent, USM Chancellor)
- 10 members appointed by their respective entity (e.g. MDPTA, State Board, MSEA, MABE, PSSAM, MACO, etc.)
- 3 members of the public (1 appointed by each of the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House)
- 1 member of the business community (nominated by the Chamber of Commerce and appointed by the Governor)
Commission Timeline

• Began meeting in Fall of 2016

• Final report and recommendations due by December 31, 2017

• Meeting materials can be found at: http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/Pubs/CommTFWorkgrp/2016-Innovation-Excellence-in-Education-Commission.pdf
Commission Consultants

Funding

- Augenblick, Palaich and Associates (APA)
- Work began in July 2014; final report was submitted on November 30, 2016. Report website:

http://marylandpublicschools.org/Pages/adequacystudy/index.aspx

Policy

- National Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE)
- NCEE has identified 9 building blocks for high performing school systems
The Building Blocks

• High quality early childhood education
• More resources for at risk students
• Abundant supply of highly qualified teachers and principals
• Coherent, rigorous instructional systems benchmarked to international standards
• College and career pathways aligned with higher ed and industry standards

http://ncee.org/what-we-do/center-on-international-education-benchmarking/9-building-blocks/
Gap Analysis

International
- Finland, Ontario, Shanghai, Singapore

US
- Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Hampshire
What We Learned

- Maryland ranks 11th in per student expenditures

- Maryland is in the middle of the pack on NAEP scores
  - 29th in 4th grade math; 26th in 4th grade reading; 25th in 8th grade math; 18th in 8th grade reading

- Maryland spends 5% less on schools serving poor students than on schools serving wealthy communities

- Maryland is 9th most regressive state in funding equity

- Maryland has the nation’s highest median household income

NAEP: National Assessment of Educational Progress (Nation’s Report Card)
## What We Learned

### U.S. Rankings on PISA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year <em>(Countries Tested)</em></th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Science</th>
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<tr>
<td>2000 (32)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>2003 (41)</td>
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<td>2006 (57)</td>
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<td>2009 (65)</td>
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<td>2012 (65)</td>
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<td>2015 (72)</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>25</td>
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PISA: Programme for International Student Assessment  
Source: National Center on Education and the Economy
Areas of Consensus

- Expand and improve early childhood ed
- Reform teacher ed
- Elevate the teaching profession
- Develop rigorous CTE pathways
- Address funding equity issues
- Tie increased funding to implementation of recommendations with accountability
Accountability

- Without strong system of accountability, public support unlikely
- Commission will likely tie significant portions of increased funding to evidence that recommendations have been implemented
- Important to balance local control with faithful implementation of reforms
Final Thoughts

- Confident in Commission’s ability to produce meaningful report and recommendations
- But will the State have the resolve to implement them?
- The Massachusetts example
- The “Grand Bargain”
- Critical moment for Maryland
- Our choices…