

# **Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education**

**Presentation to  
MABE Legislative Committee**

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Commission on Innovation and  
Excellence in Education**

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# 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 11<sup>th</sup> in per student expenditures
- Maryland is in the middle of the pack on NAEP scores
  - 29<sup>th</sup> in 4<sup>th</sup> grade math; 26<sup>th</sup> in 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading; 25<sup>th</sup> in 8<sup>th</sup> grade math; 18<sup>th</sup> in 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading
- Maryland spends 5% *less* on schools serving poor students than on schools serving wealthy communities
- Maryland is 9<sup>th</sup> most regressive state in funding equity
- Maryland has the nation's highest median household income

# What We Learned

- U.S. Rankings on PISA

<u>Year (<i>Countries Tested</i>)</u>	<b>U.S. Results</b>		
	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Math</u>	<u>Science</u>
2000 (32)	15	19	14
2003 (41)	18	28	22
2006 (57)	NR	34	28
2009 (65)	17	30	22
2012 (65)	24	36	28
2015 (72)	23	39	25

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...