

February 27, 2018

## [Agenda](#)

State Board held a meeting of on February 27, 2018 and called the meeting to order at 9:00am with the adoption of the [Agenda](#). Board President A. Smarick, Board Members S. Iszard, M. Guyton, R. Li, J. Hartings, and Student Member, K. Smith were present. It was noted that Board Vice President C. Finn, and Board Members M. Phillips, and D. Steiner would not be in attendance; a quorum was present. MABE President Chuck McDaniels (Baltimore Co.) and MABE Secretary Martha James-Hassan (Baltimore City), were in attendance and recognized at the beginning of the meeting by State Board President Smarick.

## **Consent Agenda**

The State Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda consisting of the January 29 and 30, 2018 State Board Minutes; [Personnel Items](#); and [Budget Adjustments](#) for January, 2017.

## **Public Comment**

Public Comment from five individuals was received by the State Board.

## [Bridge Accountability Recommendations](#)

The State Board received a report from Dr. Dara Shaw who presented a PowerPoint explaining the Bridge data collection system in place and the differences between the old and new Bridge programs. She disclosed that the current data system contains some shortcomings that make full evaluation of the Bridge data difficult to determine. In response to a question from the Board it was pointed out that is a gap in Bridge data exists because for several years there was a lack of a state graduation required test that would have generated a need for a Bridge program to graduate. In 2017-2018 students will have the option of taking a substantially revised Bridge that is remedial in nature and is aligned with College and Career Ready Standards and the PARCC Test. The first time that high school completers will provide Bridge data to evaluate will be in the 2018-2019 school year. State Board members asked numerous questions about the Bridge Program and Dr. Shaw provided responses as possible. It was also reported that there will be additional MSDE proposed Bridge data collection requirements forthcoming. Dr. Salmon agreed that MSDE would evaluate the old Bridge data as requested by some State Board members to see the correlation with successful post high school careers. The Board then approved Option A for the type of analysis of the collected transactional Bridge data to be used in the future. The explanation of the options considered are spelled out on Page 9 of the PowerPoint presentation.

## [Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\) State Plan Update](#)

The State Board next received an update on the timeline for the approved State Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Plan by Dr. Mary Gable and Dr. Dara Shaw, who shared a written report and a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed Maryland School Report Card; including Overall, Academic Achievement, Graduation Rate, English Language Proficiency, Readiness for Post-Secondary Success, School Quality

or Success, Comparing Academic and Non-Academic Measures, and Student Group – Achievement and Graduation. Additionally, a detailed ESSA Timeline was disclosed indicating planned MSDE actions.

### **Early Childhood Education**

The State Board heard a report and saw a PowerPoint presentation from Dr. Stephen Hicks about Maryland's efforts to build a High-Quality Early Childhood Education System. The report explained Maryland's unique governance structure for programs for Birth to Grade 3 and shared the multiple early childhood settings in which these educational services are provided within the State. Maryland is ranked 14<sup>th</sup> in the nation by the National Institute for Early Education Research and the basis for that ranking was shared. State PreK and Child Care Quality Requirements were set forth along with ongoing expansions in early learning initiatives as the State seeks to build on the recommendations of the existing PreK Workgroup.

### **State Board Business Items**

The Policy Review Committee of the State Board reported on proposed Board administrative process policy recommendations which are to be forthcoming in a public document not yet shared.

The Board's Mental Health Subcommittee reported on their ongoing efforts in this area.

The Board's High School Diploma Taskforce has three committees Content, Assessment, and Graduation Rates and reported on the activities of the Taskforce.

The Board's Committee on Superintendent Certification also provided a report, and specifically plan to add provisions for qualifications of individuals from support personnel backgrounds such as guidance counselors, in addition to a teaching backgrounds, and plan for a waiver of qualifications for individuals with two year of service as a Superintendent in another state.

Agenda planning for the March State Board meeting schedule will include no work session on Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>; and the regular State Board meeting on Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, will take place as scheduled.

### **State Superintendent's Report**

Judy Centers – The Washington County Judy Center was highlighted in a PowerPoint presentation and the operations of the Center were shared along with information about their Partners, Friends, and Communities served.

MCAP – Dr. Salmon informed the State Board about the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP). MCAP assesses Maryland College and Career Ready Standards and all Maryland State assessments including the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment, High School Assessments in social studies, science, government, and biology, as well as fifth and eighth grade science assessments.

Intra-District Transfers – A report was received from all Maryland school systems at the request of the State Board to determine how the volume of intra-district transfer requests throughout the State compared to the volume of such requests that are appealed to the State Board. The data showed that the vast majority of intra-district transfer requests are granted by local boards throughout the State and an extremely small number are appealed to the State Board.

Local Grading Policies – Dr. Salmon shared an analysis of Local Grading Policies and shared a recommendation that the relevant COMAR regulations on grading be strengthened, and noted that proposed new regulations will be forthcoming at a future State Board meeting.

Prince George's County Graduation Audit – Dr. Salmon is sending a letter to Dr. Maxwell, Prince George's CEO requesting: that the district reply to the aspects of the audit findings that were not provided when the district presented at the last State Board meeting, demonstrate that there will be compliance with the Corrective Action Plan, and noting that a full time MSDE staff member will be appointed to oversee the Prince George's corrective plan measures.

ESSA Waivers – Dr. Salmon along with assistance of Dr. Mary Gable reported that ESSA waivers in science, math, and for some middle school students for alternate assessments from the U.S. Department of Education in line with our accountability system.

**Legislative Update** – Patrick Fleming provided the State Board with a written legislative update on items of interest to the State Board including the computer science bills, the Protect our Students Act, and the Kirwan Commission legislation pending. It was noted that the State Board and MSDE are still only providing information to the legislature and not taking positions on pending education legislation.

**COMAR Changes** - The State Board next approved Permission to Publish changes to [COMAR 13A.12.01.08-1 Adjunct Certificate](#). The State Board voted to grant Permission to Adopt [COMAR 13A.07.08 Incentive Program for Certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards](#).

**Calendar Waiver Requests** – The State Board considered requests from Baltimore City to grant a waiver from the requirement to hold school on the Monday after Easter for an inclement weather makeup day. Also a waiver request from Garrett County was made to allow a calendar with pupil attendance prior to Labor Day for the 2018-2019 school year. The State Board unanimously approved the waiver requests.

## **Opinions**

The State Board issued legal opinions in the following cases:

- Sepeideh K. and Paul C. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education, allowing the local board decision to deny a request for a student intra-county transfer to stand, as a result of a 4-4 split by the State Board with 4 votes to affirm and 4 abstentions.
- Susan Ballinger v. St. Mary's County Board of Education, dismissing an appeal from the local board teacher termination decision for untimeliness.
- Lee Thomassen v. Baltimore County Board of Education, dismissing a complaint against the local board alleging discrimination under the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) for lack of jurisdiction and untimeliness.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05pm.