

January 22, 2019

[Agenda](#)

Members in attendance included: Board President J. Hartings, Vice President S. Iszard, Board Members V. Greene, J. Halle, R. Li, J. McCarthy, M. Phillips, W. Sumpter, D. Steiner, and Student Member, B. Awono. It was noted that Board Member C. Finn, would not be present.

MABE Treasurer, Nancy Reynolds (Harford) and MABE Board of Directors member, Shebra Evans (Montgomery) were introduced by Board President Hartings.

Consent Agenda

The State Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda consisting of the December 4, 2018 State Board Minutes, [Personnel Items](#), and [Budget Adjustments](#) for December, 2018, and the [2018-2019 Identification of “Comprehensive Needs Schools” for Purpose of Awarding Quality Teacher Stipends](#).

Public Comment

Public Comment was offered to the State Board by various organizational representatives urging additional advocate representation on the new State Board Student Discipline Taskforce and suggesting that changes to the student discipline regulations are unwarranted. Several individuals provided comments on the COMAR regulations on the State Board agenda.

Kindergarten Readiness Results

The State Board received a report and a PowerPoint explaining the statewide results of the most recent Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA). It was reported by Steven Hicks and that the KRA is administered by all Maryland school systems either on a census basis (all students tested) or a representative sample basis (identified sample of students tested). The report also presented the results of a statewide survey of kindergarten teachers regarding all aspects of the KRA and its administration and implementation of test results.

Various Board members asked questions about effectiveness of public and private Pre-K programs and the availability of longitudinal data to track Maryland student’s long term to gage the efforts of Maryland schools to close learning gaps for all students.

[Handout](#)

Educator Preparation Programs: Standards and Competencies

The State Board received a report from the Sarah Sprouse to review the current state of teacher preparation in Maryland and recommended changes to ensure that teachers in Maryland are prepared to be effective in the classroom. The intention of the report is to help equip the State Board to determine the entrance and exit requirements for educator preparation programs, clinical experience expectations, and the standards and competencies to be used for teacher education program approvals. The report considers the in-state pathways

leading to initial Maryland Certification as well as the pathways for out of state teacher candidates as Maryland imports 47% of its teachers from other states.

The presentation shared the current Entrance Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs (EPP) and those entrance requirements are currently determined separately by each of the Maryland Institutes of Higher Education (IHE). MSDE presented recommendations on a series of uniform entrance requirements for both traditional and alternative EPPs. The State Board expressed consensus approval for MSDE to develop formal EPP Entrance Requirements in line with the recommendations presented.

The report next took up the current Exit Requirements for EPPs leading to Maryland Teacher Certification. Again, the current exit requirements in Maryland EPPs are determined by the each IHE. MSDE presented recommendations on a series of uniform exit requirements for both traditional and alternative EPPs. The State Board expressed consensus approval for MSDE to develop formal EPP Exit Requirements in line with the recommendations presented.

The State Board report considered both current and recommended requirements for Clinical Experience and Standards/Competencies leading to Maryland Certification. MSDE presented recommendations on a series of Clinical Experience and Standards/Competencies for both traditional and alternative EPPs. The State Board expressed consensus approval for MSDE to develop formal EPP Clinical Experience and Standards/Competencies requirements in line with the recommendations presented.

The State Board, by consensus, granted MSDE permission to develop regulatory language in the following areas:

- For alternative approved educator preparation program pathways,
- For performance review program pathways, and
- For nonpublic experience pathways.

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Update on Prince George's County Public Schools' Action Plan

The State Board heard a presentation from the Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) in response to the independent audit of PGCPS Graduation Rates ordered by the State Board. PGCPS was represented by its Interim Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Monica Goldson, and new Chair of the Prince George's County Board of Education, Dr. Alvin Thornton. Members of the State Board asked questions about the detailed January 11, 2019 letter to State Superintendent Salmon from Dr. Goldson responding to specific questions raised by State Board members and the formal response to the independent performance audit of graduation and grading practices. State Board President Hartings expressed the State Board's appreciation for the change efforts being demonstrated by PGCPS leadership.

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State Board Member Reports and Comments

Board members received updates on numerous areas of involvement of individual State Board members in both State Board committees and outside workgroups. This included discussions about various committees or workgroups included brief reports, and in several cases there was an assignment of replacement Board members to groups as needed. Among those committees and workgroups mentioned were the Kirwan Commission, Online Learning Committee, Discipline Taskforce (first meeting on January 24, 2019), School Safety Committee, Adult

Learning Taskforce, P-20 Council, Mental Health Committee, IDEA Workgroup, Strategic Planning Committee, Policy Committee, and New Member Orientation Committee.

COMAR Changes

The State Board next approved Permission to Publish a Repeal of COMAR 13A.06.05 *School Supplies and Equipment* and Replace it with [COMAR 13A.06.05 Purchase and Use of Accessible Teaching and Learning Materials](#), approved Permission to Publish a Repeal of COMAR 13A.05.05.02 *School Counseling Program* and Replace it with new [COMAR 13A.05.05.02 School Counseling Program](#), approved Permission to Publish a Repeal of COMAR 13A.05.05.04 *School Psychology Program* and Replace it with new [COMAR 13A.05.05.04 School Psychology Program](#), approved Permission to Publish Amendment to [COMAR 13A.12.02.23 Blind/Visually Impaired](#), approved Permission to Adopt Amended [COMAR 13A.12.01.05 General Requirements for Professional Certificates](#), approved Adoption and Promulgation of [COMAR 13A.12.01.08-1 Adjunct Certificate](#), and approved Adoption of [COMAR 13A.01.05 Appeals to the State Board](#).

Calendar Waiver Requests

The State Board considered requests from Dorchester and Garrett County Public Schools to grant a calendar waiver to be open on February, 18, 2019, President's Day. The State Board also considered a request to grant authority to the State Superintendent to approve any additional requests from local school systems to open school on February 18, 2019, President's Day as a snow make-up day. The State Board unanimously approved those waiver requests.

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Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Report Card Update

The State Board 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 on the rollout of Maryland Report Card in December, 2018, identified lessons learned, updated the State Board on upcoming enhancements for next year, and described the appeal process.

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2019 Legislative Session Overview

Tiffany Johnson Clark provided the State Board with a written legislative update consisting of a Legislative Informational Briefing for those members new to the process, Issue Papers on the 2019 Legislative Session, and presentations on a number of pending bills that would be of particular interest to the State Board and MSDE.

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Legal Opinions

Opinions and Orders were announced in the following cases by the State Board:

- Opinion No. 19-01 – Karina D. v. Montgomery County Board of Education, affirming the denial of a request for Change of School Assignment.
- Opinion No. 19-02 – Shantell D. v. Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners, affirming the denial of a specific requested school assignment for a student returning from an extended suspension on the basis of a safety threat, but remanding the case solely to determine whether the student missed any educational services and, if so, to devise an appropriate remedy.

- Opinion No. 19-03 – Jennifer Hoover v. Montgomery County Board of Education, affirming the local board decision to dismiss a claim for workplace bullying brought by an employee.
- Opinion No. 19-04 – Leslie P. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education, granting the school transfer request of the student appellant based upon new evidence, not presented before the local board, and directing the local board to determine the appropriate alternative school placement taking into account the stated preference of the appellant.
- Opinion No. 19-05 – Parents of Student A. v. Howard County Board of Education, affirming the administrative transfer of an elementary school student to protect the health and safety of another elementary student; because the decision of the local board is not arbitrary, unreasonable, or illegal.
- Opinion No. 19-06 – Colin and Lori W. v. Frederick County Board of Education, affirming the local board dismissal of an appeal of an administrative transfer of a student returning from extended suspension for failure of the Appellant to submit required documentation and written arguments to the support their appeal before the local board.
- Opinion No. 19-07 – Allison York v. Prince George’s County Board of Education, adopting the ALJ’s Proposed Decision to dismiss the Appellant’s appeal of her termination for incompetence because her lack of prosecution of the right to appeal the Superintendent’s decision to terminate acted as a waiver of her appeal rights.