

February 26, 2019

[Agenda](#)

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

MABE President Elect Martha James Hassan was introduced by Board President Hartings.

Public Comment

Public Comment was offered to the State Board by a representative from the Baltimore County Gifted and Talented program who provided comments on COMAR 13A.04.07 on the State Board agenda. Also commenting was a group of Maryland students from Laurel High School offering against standardized testing. Advocate for Children and Youth (ACY) representative commenting on Board Student Discipline Taskforce and the lack of community, student and parent involvement and lack of an equity perspective. Also a parent and educator discussing the gaps in teacher certification and mathematics. A representative of the Baltimore City Black Teacher Retention and Recruitment Workgroup commented on the gap in racial equity in city schools.

Consent Agenda

The State Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda consisting of the January 22nd and 23rd minutes, personnel actions, and [January budget announcements](#).

Reports to the State Board for Discussion and/or Action

[Recognition of Milken Award Recipient](#)

The board presented Brian Quinn, Milken National Educator Award winner from East Silver Spring Elementary School in Montgomery County, with an official citation.

[Handout](#)

ESSA Accountability Implementation Update and Data Analysis Results

Dr. Dara Shaw, Mary Gable, and Chandra Haislet, updated the board on the reporting calendar, School Report Card student group results, appeals process, possible modifications to points and ratings assignments, and general data analysis. The board engaged the panel in raising questions about fast-tracking the appeal process so that results are final when published to the website, and other questions related to enrollment and attendance data. Board President Hartings stated that he would like to see consistent standards to avoid re-norming. He asked which indicators are most correlated with overall outcomes, and what is the distribution of scores from each indicators?

The Board and panel discussed the 5-star rating system in the context of what the Protect Our Schools Act requires and allows, noting that the comments from stakeholder agree that they want the overall star system aligned to objective criteria to the extent the law will allow. Regarding growth indicators, the color coded arrows will be added to the report card system in year 2 will indicate school improvement. This system will be presented to the Board in April.

[Handout](#)

Educator Certification: Out-of-State Pathways

The Board Members heard a variety of draft regulatory pertaining to in-state pathways leading to Maryland teacher certification. The regulatory language provided is aligned to MSDE's comprehensive plan to increase the rigor and accountability of educator certification and teacher preparation programs in Maryland.

The State Board received a report from the Sarah Spross to discuss pathways for individuals from out of state to teach in Maryland. MSDE recommends five out of state pathways including:

- Out-of-State Approved Program + Valid Out-of-State Certificate + Maryland Equivalent Tests
 - Discussion included clarification that it would include equivalent test scoring, not equivalent tests.
 - Consensus: Staff to draft regulations
- Out-of-State Approved Program + Maryland Tests
 - Discussion included clarification that the test can be administered in any state. The difference between 1 and 2 is the aspect of the certificate.
 - Consensus: Staff to draft regulations
- Out-of-State Certificate + Experience
 - Discussion was about current experience policy of 3 years, which is on average, more than other states. Finn felt it outsources it 100% to other states and Maryland doesn't have any impact on the teacher and ultimately have lower quality. Another view (Iszard) is a lot like any other job's background check and the state will do its due diligence to insure the past employer won't just check a box stating they have been successful. The local jurisdiction needs to insure the individual is meeting their standard for teaching. Halle – MD doesn't know other states testing alignment, qualifications, etc. Sumpter has seen this used in military situations and if the teacher isn't doing their job, they won't keep it – there is a series of checks and balances in place.
 - Consensus: Staff to draft regulations
- Out-Of-State Certificate + Maryland Tests
 - Discussion included how the certificate was received in other states (10 states use transcripts analysis, MD does not).
 - Consensus: Staff to draft regulations despite PSTAB not recommending this option.
- National Board Certification
 - No discussion
 - Consensus: Staff to draft regulations

MSDE does NOT recommend the following options:

- Out-of-state approved program + Out-of-state certificate + Out of-state tests
- Out-of-state approved program + Expired out-of-state certificate + Experience
- Transcript Analysis

The board discussed the narrow funnel for educator training and how to rectify that challenge. The subcommittee has been discussing online options for teacher in classroom supervised experiences.

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Curriculum Vetting Regulation (Supporting School Improvement)

The board received a presentation from MSDE about the ESSA Consolidated Plan which requires schools identified as CSI to complete specific actions to support school improvement. From the lessons learned, it was learned the needs assessments need to be completed by a team. The second key shift was around curriculum, which has to be

aligned to standards, but now the schools will need to demonstrate alignment. The third shift is around key learning experiences – the ‘one size fits all’ does not fit all.

A discussion was had about whether the recommendations are required or ‘strongly recommended’.

Next month, the Board will hear the revisions.

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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

[In-State Pathways to Obtain a MD Teacher Certificate](#) was discussed.

The Board discussed [13A.04.07 Gifted and Talented Education](#) which to be changed from: “A universal screening process shall be used to identify at least 10 percent of students in each school as early as possible but no later than Grade 3.” to: “A universal screening process shall be used to identify students in every school and at least 10 percent in each local school system, as early as possible, but no later than Grade 3.” It was discussed that schools may not want to report G&T because they would have to offer services, ultimately creating an equity concern. President Hartings expressed concern about not being comfortable saying 10% of either school or district at this time. C. Finn suggested using the word ‘significant’ instead of 10% of each school.

The State Board approved Permission to Publish with discussed amendments to make changes that include significant number of students in each school system, reporting requirement, allow Superintendents make exemptions.

Calendar Waiver Requests

The State Board considered requests from Garrett County Public Schools to grant a calendar waiver to be open on for an instructional day on April 22, 2019 (conditional). Alleghany County also requested to open on April 22, 2019. The State Board voted unanimously to give Dr. Salmon the ability to approved or deny those waiver requests.

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State Superintendent’s Report

2018 Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Results

Dr. Dara Shaw provided the requested information to the State Board of Education regarding the demographics of Advanced Placement exams taken in 2018. A discussion was had around finding out why students didn’t take AP testing.

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Graduation Cohort Data

Dr. Dara Shaw provided a presentation on behalf of the Office of Accountability about the 4-year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR) which provides a measure of the percent of students that successfully complete high school in 4 years with a regular high school diploma.

[Handout](#)

2019 Legislative Session Updates

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.

The board discussed sending a letter in opposition for HB 1019 - State Board of Education - Public High School Students - Assessments and Graduation Requirements. They will also send a letter of opposition for HB 948 – Education – Advanced Placement Examination Fees – State Payment based on funding challenges. A letter will be drafted in opposition to SB 617 - Free College, Career Skills, and Youth Apprenticeship Act of 2019 despite agreeing with the bill in part.

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Committee Reports

The Board heard a brief report from the Strategic Planning Committee and the Discipline Task Force.

Legal Opinions

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

Frederick Classical Charter School, Inc. v. Frederick County Board of Education: denied the request for reconsideration because there is no indication that the State Board's decision resulted from a mistake or error of law or that new facts.

Latin Schools of America, LLC v. Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners: Request for reconsideration denied.

Samuel R. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education: remand the case to the local board so that it can provide a rationale that addresses the issues set forth herein.