

Closing of School Buildings

(Amended 1981, 1984, 1987, 1990, 1993, 1996, 1999; readopted 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017, 2020)

WHEREAS, Section 4-115 of the Education Article authorizes and empowers the county boards of education with the approval of the State Superintendent of Schools to determine when grounds, school sites, or buildings are no longer needed for school purposes; and

WHEREAS, from time to time legislation has been introduced which, if enacted, would have required the board of education to obtain the approval of the local government when school buildings are determined to be no longer needed and are to be transferred to the local government; and

WHEREAS, the present law governing the acquisition and sale of school grounds, sites, and buildings is satisfactory;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE) opposes any legislation that would change the current law which places the authority to determine when a school building is no longer needed for school purposes with the local superintendent of schools, the local board of education, and the State Superintendent of Schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that MABE opposes any effort by the state to require local subdivisions to reimburse the state for any existing debt service before a school is permitted to be conveyed to the local government.