

**New School Board Member Orientation**

(Adopted 2002; readopted 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014; amended 2017; readopted 2020)

WHEREAS, boards of education are committed to and accountable for establishing and maintaining excellent public schools in the districts that they serve; and

WHEREAS, the complexity as well as the import of the decisions that local boards must make have increased significantly in response to public expectations for the performance of public school students; and

WHEREAS, effective board service requires deep understanding of myriad complex issues and uncommon analytical and interpersonal skills to serve the public well; and

WHEREAS, boards of education are called upon to lead by example and to promote the value of continuous learning by adults as well as children; and

WHEREAS, the Maryland Association of Boards of Education provides a continuum of professional development for board members beginning with a comprehensive new board member orientation; and

WHEREAS, most new board members do enroll for new board member orientation and other professional development program opportunities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Association do hereby affirm the responsibility of every board member to participate in a new board member orientation program.