

## ELECTED, APPOINTED & HYBRID BOARDS OF EDUCATION

### MABE POSITIONS

The Maryland Association of Boards of Education, representing all local boards of education in Maryland:

- **Takes no position** on whether boards of education should be elected or appointed. There is no research-based evidence that either elected boards or appointed boards are more effective or accountable.
- ✗ **Opposes** bills expanding initial board appointment authority to local governments. Local boards of education are entities of the State, not the county government. Because local boards are fiscally dependent on local governments, it is appropriate that local boards remain an independent voice for the school system and that a “check-and-balance” relationship continues between local boards and their respective local governments.

### BACKGROUND

Of Maryland’s 24 local boards of education: eighteen are comprised entirely of locally elected members; five are hybrid boards comprised of both appointed and elected members; Anne Arundel County is transitioning from an all-appointed to all-elected board; and as a hybrid board the majority of Baltimore City School Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor.

The following nineteen boards are elected:

Allegany County	Kent County
Anne Arundel County <sup>1</sup>	Montgomery County
Calvert County	Queen Anne’s County
Carroll County	St. Mary’s County
Cecil County	Somerset County
Charles County	Talbot County
Dorchester County	Washington County
Frederick County	Wicomico County
Garrett County	Worcester County
Howard County	

The following five boards are hybrid boards comprised of both elected and appointed members:

Baltimore City <sup>2</sup>	Harford County <sup>5</sup>
Baltimore County <sup>3</sup>	Prince George’s County <sup>6</sup>
Caroline County <sup>4</sup>	

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<sup>1</sup> The Anne Arundel County Board began the transition in 2018 to an elected board, with staggered terms through 2024 when all members stand for election (HB 716, 2017).

<sup>2</sup> The Baltimore City Board, effective in the 2022 election, is a hybrid board comprised of 9 members appointed by the Mayor of Baltimore and 2 members elected at-large (HB 558, 2016).

<sup>3</sup> The Baltimore County Board began the transition in 2015 to a hybrid board comprised of 4 appointed members and 7 members elected by district, effective in the 2018 election (SB 290, 2014).

<sup>4</sup> The Caroline County Board began the transition in 2011 to a hybrid board comprised of 2 appointed and 3 elected members (SB 964, 2009).

<sup>5</sup> The Harford County Board began the transition in 2010 to a hybrid board comprised of 3 appointed and 6 elected members (SB 629, 2009); the County Executive appoints the 3 appointed members effective in 2022 (HB 603, 2022).

<sup>6</sup> The Prince George’s County Board was modified in 2013 to add 4 appointed members to its 9 elected members; 3 members are appointed by the County Executive and 1 by the County Council (HB 1107, 2013); beginning in 2024 the board will become an all elected board (HB 355, 2022).