

MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday
January 25, 2011

Maryland State Board of Education
200 W. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

The Maryland State Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, January 25, 2011 at the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. The following members were in attendance: Mr. James H. DeGraffenreidt, Jr., President; Dr. Charlene M. Dukes, Vice President; Dr. Mary Kay Finan; Dr. James Gates, Jr.; Ms. Luisa Montero-Diaz;; Mr. Gayon Sampson; Mrs. Madhu Sidhu; Mr. Guffrie M. Smith, Jr.; Donna Hill Staton, Esq.; Dr. Ivan Walks; Ms. Kate Walsh and Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, Secretary/Treasurer and State Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Sayed Naved was absent due to a flight cancellation.

Elizabeth Kameen, Esq., Assistant Attorney General, and the following staff members were also present: Dr. John Smeallie, Deputy State Superintendent for Administration; Mr. Steve Brooks, Deputy State Superintendent for Finance and Mr. Anthony South, Executive Director to the State Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion by Dr. Gates, seconded by Ms. Sidhu, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the consent agenda as follows: (In Favor – 8; several members arrived late due to traffic conditions)

- Approval of Minutes of December 14 -15, 2010
- Personnel (copy attached to these minutes)
- Budget Adjustments for December, 2010

NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

Dr. Grasmick reported that Maryland has exceeded the average number of schools selected as Blue Ribbon Schools in the country. She said, "The leaders of these schools have done a phenomenal job. Leadership matters." She also reported that the principal of one of the Blue Ribbon Schools, Thomas Evans, Principal of Eastern Technical High School in Baltimore County was awarded the prestigious Terrell Bell Award for Outstanding Leadership.

Dr. Darla Strouse, Executive Director, Partnerships and Development, MSDE, introduced the following principals and provided information on why the schools were selected to receive this award:

- Thomas Evans – Eastern Technical High (Baltimore County)
- Karen Burnett – Northern Middle (Calvert County)
- Cindy Alvarado – New Market Elementary (Frederick County)
- Michael Goins – Ellicott Mills Middle (Howard County)
- Kirby Bryson – Northwestern Elementary (Wicomico County)

President DeGraffenreidt and Superintendent Grasmick presented each principal with a citation and photos were taken.

The principals thanked the Board, the State Superintendent and their supporters and noted that this award validates what the teachers and students do every day.

Dr. Strouse thanked the Board, Dr. Grasmick and various corporate sponsors for their support of the Blue Ribbon Schools recognition program.

RACE TO THE TOP (RTTT) UPDATE

Dr. Grasmick invited Dr. Jim Foran, Project Manager for RTTT, to provide the Board with an update on the RTTT progress. She noted that the monthly RTTT Program Reports to the United States Department of Education (USDE) have been placed on the Department's website.

Dr. Foran said that the USDE has reviewed the MSDE's Scope of Work and although approval hasn't been forthcoming yet, there have been very positive reactions from USDE. He reported that he received a mailing outlining how to make amendments to the grant and is awaiting a monitoring guide. He noted that the Department has adopted a computer program entitled *Microsoft Project* which will be very helpful in monitoring the RTTT projects and that Dr. Grasmick plans to provide the Board with a presentation on this program at an upcoming meeting. He told the Board that the next monthly report to MSDE will be a combined December/January report and noted that in addition to these reports, monthly conference calls are held with monitoring staff of USDE.

RTTT FEATURED PRESENTATION: PROGRAM EVALUATION

Dr. Grasmick reported that the RTTT application included an ongoing evaluation process for feedback on the RTTT projects. She said that the University System of Maryland (USM) was selected to conduct the ongoing program evaluation and introduced Dr. Brit Kirwan, Chancellor, University System of Maryland (USM); Dr. Ray Lorion, Dean, College of Education, Towson University; and Dr. Nancy Shapiro, Associate Vice

Chancellor for Academic Affairs, to describe the key elements of the evaluation to be conducted.

Dr. Kirwan congratulated the Board and Dr. Grasmick and her staff for winning the RTTT grant. He said he is very pleased with the strong partnership between K-12 and higher education and noted the accolades Maryland has received for its educational program. Dr. Kirwan reported that an evaluation center (Center for Applications and Innovative Research in Education CAIRE) has been established at Towson University to assess the progress being made on the RTTT projects. Dr. Kirwan provided the Board with a PowerPoint presentation outlining the assessment process.

Dr. Lorion said, "This is a really unique opportunity. It is a transformative event for higher education and Maryland education across multiple levels of the State."

Dr. Grasmick thanked the presenters and said, "This is going to be extraordinarily valuable to us."

In response to a question by Dr. Gates, Dr. Lorion said that the assessment staff of the local school systems will be included in the assessment process and that an inventory will be completed of what is currently being done in the local school systems.

In response to a request by Dr. Gates for a gap analysis, Dr. Lorion said that an analysis will be done on a regular basis and provided to the Board.

In response to a question by Ms. Sidhu, Dr. Lorion said that there were originally seventy-nine projects in the RTTT application that were reduced to fifty-four which explains why the project numbers do not match those in the presentation. He noted that this activity is "an evolving phenomenon."

In response to a question by Ms. Staton about whether this evaluation collaboration will have applications beyond RTTT, Dr. Shapiro responded in the affirmative and said that it is laying the foundation for a continuing relationship and will provide every school in Maryland access to and use of the State's higher education resources.

In response to a question by Ms. Staton, Dr. Grasmick said that funding for the evaluation is built into the RTTT application and Dr. Foran explained that there will be a Memo of Understanding (MOU) written and signed by the partners which will outline specific deliverables. Assistant Attorney General Kameen said that an Intellectual Property Clause will be included in the MOU.

In response to another question by Ms. Staton, Dr. Lorion said that he hopes to involve students as important contributors. He said a mechanism for informing parents of the progress being made will also be included.

In response to a concern expressed by Ms. Diaz about funding beyond 2014 to continue this project, Dr. Lorion said that by creating an absolutely unique evaluative capacity not

seen in other states, Maryland will be viewed as extremely competitive when submitting applications to other sources of funding. Dr. Kirwan explained that the USM's Strategic Plan includes a goal of increasing college graduation from 44 percent to 55 percent and it is, therefore, in the best interest of USM to continue this important partnership.

In response to a question by Dr. Dukes, Dr. Kirwan said that this system will provide an immediate feedback to USM's teacher preparation programs.

Dr. Gates cautioned on the accessibility of data stored in the warehouse of the Longitudinal Data System (LDS). Dr. Lorion said they are acutely aware of the need to protect the security of this system.

In response to a question by Ms. Walsh, Dr. Lorion reported that the first year's budget will be approximately \$330,000 and that the maximum, after four years, will be between \$4.5 and \$5 million. In response to another question by Ms. Walsh, Dr. Shapiro said that the technical assistance from the University System will be a separate set of opportunities from the evaluation assistance described today and that this will be very clearly delineated in the MOU.

Mr. DeGraffenreidt thanked the group for their thorough presentation and upon motion by the President, seconded by Mr. Smith, and with unanimous agreement, the Board accepted the RTTT Evaluation Plan. (In Favor – 11)

SEED SCHOOL – CHANGE IN ADMISSIONS POLICY

Dr. Grasmick explained that the SEED School is a statewide residential education boarding school for at-risk Maryland students for which the State Board is the oversight body. She introduced Jerry Kountz, Head of the SEED School; Jallon Croskey, Director of Academics; and Nedra Davis, Admissions and Parent Relations Manager, to answer any questions about the following two proposed changes to the admissions policy for the SEED School:

1. Lower the family income standard from 300% of the poverty level to 250%; and
2. Implement strategies designed to increase student participation from more school systems.

The State Superintendent recommended Board approval of the proposed changes.

Mr. Kountz explained that, as a result of research done in this area, the first proposed change will help to ensure that the most neediest students have a greater opportunity to be accepted for enrollment in the school. He said that the change will not have a dramatic effect and will not affect currently enrolled students. He explained how the second proposal would affect students from counties that are currently underrepresented at the school. Mr. Kountz explained that students feel more comfortable if they have a second

student accompanying them to the school and that this change would allow for more counties to send two students to the school.

In response to a question by Ms. Montero-Diaz, Mr. Kountz said that the first proposal would give more students in need the opportunity to apply to the school. He explained that the school averages two hundred applicants for entrance into the sixth grade and that last year eighty-three students were admitted through the lottery system.

In response to a question by Ms. Staton, Mr. Kountz said that there was pressure from the General Assembly to change the admissions policy to serve the greater population in Maryland.

In response to a question by Dr. Gates, Dr. Grasmick said these changes will continue to ensure that the SEED school is a statewide school for at-risk students. She expressed her support of these changes.

Upon motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. DeGraffenreidt, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the proposed changes to the SEED School admissions policy. (In Favor – 11)

Mr. DeGraffenreidt invited Mr. Koontz and his colleagues to return to the February meeting of the State Board to provide a more comprehensive report to State Board on the operations of the SEED School and the progress made in meeting its goals. He suggested that the presentation include but not be limited to staff turnover, student attrition, preparation for and results of the Maryland School Assessments (MSAs) and what has been learned over the past three years. The presenters agreed to provide an in-depth review for the Board at its next meeting.

BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (BCPSS) ANNUAL REPORT

Dr. Grasmick reminded Board members of the requirement in State Law for the BCPSS to submit an annual report to the Board. She reported that the statute also includes a requirement that the State Board and State Superintendent review the report and comment on the progress made towards achieving both managerial and educational goals. She noted that this commentary must be submitted prior to the General Assembly's adoption of the 2010 budget. She noted that legislation has been introduced in this year's session of the General Assembly to repeal this statute. She introduced Dr. Andres Alonso, CEO, BCPSS, to provide highlights of the report.

Dr. Alonso thanked the Board and Superintendent for their excellent support saying, "This has been an amazing collaboration." He said that the challenges are immense but there have been signs of great progress in the schools. He noted that pre-K has been expanded and that central control has been reduced giving schools more authority to govern their activities and noted that these changes are working in a positive way. He said, "We have encouraged competition and pushed hard for choice." Dr. Alonso

reported on remarkable reductions in the drop-out rate for students which, in turn, has lead to a reduction in the rate of juvenile crime. He noted the end of the special education lawsuit and said the parties are working to settle any differences without further court intervention. Dr. Alonso also noted the importance of the recently signed agreement with the teachers' union. He noted, however, that the Governor has introduced a budget that reduces funding for BCPSS schools while enrollment increases this year.

In response to a question by Ms. Staton about what strategies have been most effective in strengthening schools, Dr. Alonso said that school choice and accountability are very important elements. He said that school leaders were told that if they lose students they lose money, stating, "If kids are not in school, how can you expect significant progress?"

In response to a question by Mr. DeGraffenreidt, Dr. Alonso said that the reactions from school personnel, students and the communities to the vast changes have been very positive and that a correlation has been demonstrated between students dropping out of schools and the number of youth in jail.

Dr. Walks praised Dr. Alonso for his leadership and his acknowledgement of all of the stakeholders and support provided to education in Baltimore City. He said, "Your leadership should be modeled."

Dr. Alonso said, "I have a great team. The City is quite unique."

Ms. Walsh congratulated Dr. Alonso on the successes in Baltimore City schools and asked for his definition of "college ready." Dr. Alonso responded that he has hired a new Chief Academic Officer who will begin work in March noting the huge challenges since the administration of high school exit criteria. He said that they have safeguarded ten professional development days for teachers in the midst of the economic downturn. He noted that good teachers, good principals and the creation of supports for students will go a long way in helping students become college ready. He reported that although Advanced Placement (AP) courses have doubled in the City schools, the students' SAT scores are not up to standard and that they are working on this challenge.

Dr. Gates said that he found Dr. Alonso's annual reports to be very helpful to the Board and asked whether it would be possible to have Dr. Alonso provide periodic updates even though they may no longer be required by statute. Dr. Alonso said he would be pleased to do this.

In response to a question by Mr. Sampson about the City's previous zero tolerance policy, Dr. Alonso said that the schools are now looking at what causes the behavior of certain disruptive students.

CHARTER SCHOOL REVIEW

Dr. Grasmick introduced Marietta English, President of the Baltimore Teachers' Union (BTU) and Vice-President of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), and Clara

Floyd, President of the Maryland State Education Association (MSEA). She indicated that the two association presidents were here today to provide their observations and positions on charter schools and Maryland's charter school law.

Ms. English reported on the decrease in the student drop-out rate in Baltimore City and noted that the recently-signed teachers' contract creates a career ladder for Baltimore City teachers. She explained that the BTU has reached out to charter schools through MOUs and said that charter schools are a part of the success seen in Baltimore City schools. Ms. English stipulated that the charter school law is a model for success and should not be changed.

Ms. Floyd reported that currently 44 public charter schools service more than 12,000 students in Maryland. She said that the framework of the charter schools requires stakeholders to work together. She said that the framework seems to be fair and transparent and that it is essential to maintain the integrity of this framework and allow for flexibility and innovation. Ms. Floyd noted that financing facilities is a challenge and that the local school systems have been collaborative in allowing charter school applicants to use unoccupied public school buildings. She said, "Maryland's public school law is a model for the nation."

In response to a question from Dr. Gates, Mr. Randy Mickens of the MSEA, said that since charter schools are formed out of a need from the community, the counties that do not have charter schools may not have those specific needs. He said that he is unaware of any hostility between local school systems (LSSs) and charter schools.

Dr. Dukes noted that the review of Maryland's RTTT application by the USDE was very negative on Maryland's charter school law. She asked the presenters how the collective bargaining environment impacts the partnership with charter schools.

Ms. English said that Baltimore City provides an MOU when a charter school is approved.

Mr. Mickens said that there are LSSs that accommodate charter schools through a negotiated agreement addendum or through an MOU.

Dr. Gates commended Ms. English on the ratification of the "notable achievement" of the new teachers' contract and said, "The push for charter schools will not go away."

The President said that funding for facilities seems to have been a real impediment to charter school growth in Maryland and asked the presenters to give their views on what changes should be made to the charter school law surrounding this challenge.

Ms. English said she would need to give this issue some further thought before responding and Ms. Floyd said she is open to conversations from all stakeholders about the issue.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to §10-503(a)(1)(i) & (iii) and §10-508(a)(1),(7), & (8) of the State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and upon motion by Dr. Dukes, seconded by Dr. Gates, and with unanimous agreement, the Board moved into closed session on Tuesday, January 25, 2011, at 12:15 p.m. (In favor – 11). The Board met in Conference Room 1, 8th floor of the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. All board members were present except Sayed M. Naved. In attendance were Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, State Superintendent of Schools; Dr. John Smeallie, Deputy State Superintendent for Administration; Steve Brooks, Deputy State Superintendent for Business Services; and Tony South, Executive Director to the State Board. Assistant Attorneys General, Elizabeth M. Kameen and Jackie La Fiandra were also present.

The State Board approved seven Opinions and four Orders for publication.

- *Global Gardens Public Charter v. Montgomery County Board of Education* - charter school application - Opin. 11-01
- *Jennifer Matthews v. Prince George's County Board of Education* - bus driver termination - Opin. 11-02
- *Lisa McKelvie v. Prince George's County Board of Education* - employee termination - Opin. 11-03
- *J. Christopher Sponyoe v. Frederick County Board of Education* - student transfer - Opin. 11-04
- *Washington County Board of Education v. Washington County Teachers Association* - teacher evaluations – Opin. 11-05
- *Carroll Creek Montessori Public Charter School v. Frederick County Public Schools* – waiver request – Opin. 11-06
- *Crossway Community, Inc. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* - charter school application - Opin. 11-07
- *Grace H. v. Howard County Board of Education* - student transfer - Order No. OR11-01
- *Hil & Teresa R. v. Allegany County Board of Education* - request for reconsideration - Order No. OR11-02
- *Ronald S. v Montgomery County Board of Education* - student transfer - Order No. OR 11-03
- *Wayne and Michelle J. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education* - student transfer - Order No. OR11-04

The Board deliberated one case.

- *Argiro K. v. Anne Arundel Board of Education* - residency

The opinion in that case will be published at a future Board meeting.

The State Board received legal advice concerning the actions of the AELR Committee and possible options under the law.

Dr. Grasmick and the Board discussed management and personnel issues related to the possible merger with the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

All staff left the meeting at 2:00 p.m. and the Board discussed Dr. Grasmick's evaluation.

The Executive Session ended at 2:30 p.m.

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 2:40 p.m.

PROPOSED REGULATION ON EVALUATION OF PROFESSIONALLY CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

Mr. DeGraffenreidt asked for a motion to approve the transmission of a letter to the Governor from the Board regarding a regulatory proposal related to the evaluation of professionally certificated personnel. Upon motion by Ms. Staton, seconded by Mr. Smith, and with unanimous agreement, the Board voted to transmit the letter. (In Favor – 10; Dr. Walks was not present for vote.)

Dr. Grasmick said that the Maryland Council on Educator Effectiveness (MCEE) will receive interim reports from its committees no later than March 15th and plans to integrate the information in a report to the Governor at that time.

STATE LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET UPDATE

The Superintendent introduced Renee Spence, Executive Director, Governmental Relations, and Steve Brooks, Deputy State Superintendent for Finance, to brief the Board on legislation and the Governor's budget proposal.

Ms. Spence explained that the General Assembly begins its sessions by having State agencies provide briefings and noted that Dr. Grasmick spoke to the new members of the legislature and explained that RTTT funding is dedicated funding that aligns with the RTTT application. Ms. Spence reported that budget hearings will continue throughout February and early March. She noted that one of the main conversations taking place in Annapolis relates to the proposed merging of the Maryland Higher Education Commission and the Maryland State Department of Education. She also noted that there have been conversations about drafting a bill to return the GED program back to the Department because of a large waiting list and complaints from the public. Ms. Spence briefly discussed several bills that have been drafted and that are being tracked by her and her staff.

Ms. Brooks said, "This is a very significant budget" explaining that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) dollars that were provided by the federal

government was short-term money that helped Maryland do some very important things. He explained, however, that the loss of that funding has left Maryland with a \$2 billion hurdle to overcome. He provided information on the various proposed cuts to education in the Governor's Budget.

Mr. Brooks reported on the changes in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act (BRFA) from FY 2011 to FY 2012 having to do with the per pupil funding figure.

Upon a motion by Ms. Staton, seconded by Mr. DeGraffenreidt, and with unanimous agreement, the Board voted to oppose HB 127 State Board of Education—Financial Literacy Curriculum – Graduation Requirement. (In Favor 11)

In response to a request by Dr. Walks, Mr. Brooks agreed to provide him with the impact of the portion of the Governor's Budget reductions dealing with school-based health programs.

Upon motion by Mr. DeGraffenreidt, seconded by Dr. Dukes, and with unanimous agreement, the Board voted to support SB 98 – Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners – Annual Report Requirement – Repeal. (In Favor – 11)

There was brief discussion about SB 53/HB 44 – Education – Waiver from Maintenance of Effort Requirement – Process and Factors. Ms. Spence said she will keep the Board apprised of the actions on this bill.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dr. Grasmick introduced Debra Lichter, Department Coordinator and Federal Legislation Liaison, to provide an update on federal legislative issues.

Ms. Lichter provided the Board with an updated list of the House and Senate Education Committees and noted that the President's State of Union Address will be televised tonight. She reported that the President will be calling on Congress to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and that the Senate will release language in the spring and a vote will be taken prior to the August recess. Ms. Lichter explained that the budget picture is very bleak and that the President will call a five-year freeze on discretionary spending. She said that there may be a bill introduced later this week proposing that FY 2011 funding be held to FY 2008 levels. She also said that beginning next year, Congress may try to reduce funding to FY 2006 levels.

Ms. Lichter discussed a law passed in December entitled, The Healthy Hunger-Free Children's Act, which affects funding for school food programs.

Dr. Grasmick introduced Donna Mazyck, Chief of the School Health Section at MSDE, to discuss the very successful School-Based Health Center Program in Maryland.

Ms. Mazyck explained that 64 school-based health centers serve 71 schools in Maryland. She said the centers served the mental as well as physical health needs of more than 71,000 students last year which has shown amazing success in keeping students in school.

Dr. Walks asked to have further discussion of this important issue with Ms. Mazyck after the meeting and to address questions about the lack of school-based health centers in many school districts. Dr. Grasmick said that new school construction often includes a dimension to provide a school-based health center which can even be used by the adults in the community.

In response to a question by Dr. Walks, Ms. Mazyck said that the Maryland Medicaid law was recently amended to allow for Medicaid to cover the costs of student visits to the health centers. She said there are difficulties associated with billing of these services to Medicaid.

REQUEST FROM A LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM FOR A CALENDAR MODIFICATION

Dr. Grasmick distributed a letter from the Superintendent of Schools in Garrett County, requesting an amendment to the school year calendar to allow the Garrett County Public Schools to hold classes on April 25th, which is now scheduled as a school holiday. She requested that the Board approve the request and grant her the authority to approve similar requests submitted by the local school systems for this school year.

Upon a motion by Mr. DeGraffenreidt, seconded by Dr. Finan, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the Superintendent's recommendations. (In Favor – 11)

Ms. Walsh suggested that the Board amend the current State regulations to allow the State Superintendent to act on requests such as the one approved today to make amendments to the school year calendar in response to weather emergencies.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to §10-503(a)(1)(i) & (iii) and §10-508(a)(1),(7), & (8) of the State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and upon motion by Dr. Dukes, seconded by Dr. Finan, and with unanimous agreement, moved to go into Executive Session on Tuesday, January 25, 2011, at 3:45 p.m. (In favor – 11) The Board met in the Board's 7th floor State Board conference room of the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. All board members were present except Sayed M. Naved. In attendance were Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, State Superintendent of Schools; Dr. John Smeallie, Deputy State Superintendent for Administration; Steve Brooks, Deputy State Superintendent for Business Services; and Tony South, Executive Director to the State Board. Assistant Attorney General, Elizabeth M. Kameen, was also present.

The Board received legal advice concerning the teacher evaluation regulations and the letter to the Governor.

The Executive Session ended at 3:55 p.m.

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 4:00 p.m.

Upon motion by Mr. DeGraffenreidt, seconded by Ms. Sidhu, and with unanimous agreement, the Board voted to hold until March the letter to the Governor regarding its regulatory proposal related to the evaluation of professionally certificated personnel. (In Favor – 11)

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Grasmick reported on the following items:

1. She stated that since Maryland has been deemed #1 in the nation by Education Week for three years in a row, and with the State's current focus on becoming #1 in the world, that it was an appropriate time to change MSDE's logo. She held up an exhibit of the modified logo with the new wording "Preparing World-Class Students". She asked the Board if they approved of the proposed change. Mr. DeGraffenreidt, hearing no dissent, indicated that the new logo was quite appropriate.
2. Dr. Grasmick reported that the USDE is publishing a "Dashboard" online and that Maryland's is one of the best in the nation.
3. She distributed the Department's annual "Fact Book" and noted that it is also available online.
4. Dr. Grasmick reported that she attended an accreditation visit at McDaniel College recently.

Ms. Sidhu told Dr. Grasmick, "We are very proud to be working with you. You are a great leader."

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. DeGraffenreidt explained procedures by which the Board hears public comment. The following individual provide comment: Dr. Jeff Passe who spoke on behalf of the Maryland Council for Social Studies.

OPINIONS

Ms. Kameen announced the following Opinions:

- 11-01 *Global Gardens Public Charter v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – Charter School Application (reversed and remanded back to the local board)
- 11-02 *Jennifer Matthews v. Prince George's County Board of Education* – bus driver termination (affirmed the local board's decision)
- 11-03 *Lisa McKelvie v. Prince George's County Board of Education* – employee termination (affirmed the local board's decision)
- 11-04 *J. Christopher S. v. Frederick County Board of Education* – student transfer (affirmed the local board's decision)
- 11-05 *Washington County Board of Education v. Washington County Teachers Association* – teacher evaluations (Declaratory Ruling)
- 11-06 *Carroll Creek Montessori Public Charter School v. Frederick County Public Schools* – waiver request (denied in part)
- 11-07 *Crossway Community, Inc. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – charter school application (reversed and remanded back to the local board)


Ms. Kameen announced the following Order:

- 11-01 *Grace H. v. Howard County Board of Education* – student transfer (dismissed)
- 11-02 *Hil and Teresa R. v. Allegany County Board of Education* – request for reconsideration (dismissed)
- 11-03 *Ronald S. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – (dismissed)
- 11-04 *Wayne & Michelle E. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education* (dismissed)

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy S. Grasmick
Secretary, Treasurer

NSG/rms

APPROVED: 2/22/11

**MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PERSONNEL APPROVALS FOR THE January 25-26, 2011 BOARD MEETING**

I. Appointments Grade 19 and above:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY GRADE</u>	<u>DIVISION/OFFICE</u>	<u>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</u>
Heck, Kathleen D.	Education Program Specialist II, Lead Low Incidence Disability	22	Special Education/Early Intervention Services	TBD
Lauritzen, Katherine G.	Education Program Supervisor, Reading/English Language Arts	22	Instruction	TBD
Mack, April M.	Education Program Specialist I, Library Grants Coordinator	21	Library Development and Services	TBD
Marty, Karla M.	Education Program Supervisor, Student Support	22	Special Education/Early Intervention Services	TBD

II. Appointments Grade 18 and below:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY GRADE</u>	<u>DIVISION/OFFICE</u>	<u>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</u>
Kvach, Erin M.	Staff Specialist II, Nutrition Compliance Specialist	16	Business Services, School and Community Nutrition Programs Branch	01/26/2011
Okeke, Uchenna	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist II	13	Rehabilitation Services, Region V	01/12/2011

III. Other Actions:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY GRADE</u>	<u>DIVISION/OFFICE</u>	<u>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</u>
None				



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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January 25-26, 2011

BOARD LIST

The following professional appointment is submitted for approval by the State Board of Education:

Name: Kathleen D. Heck

Position: Education Program Specialist II,
Lead Low Incidence Disability Resources Specialist

Division: Special Education/Early Intervention Services

Salary Grade: 22 (\$59,140 – 94,961)

Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

A Master's Degree or equivalent 36 credit hours of post-baccalaureate course work in Education, Special Education, Education Administration/Supervision or a closely related field.

Experience:

Five (5) years of professional, administrative or teaching experience in or affiliated with special education programs; experience coordinating a special education program or working with children or youth who are deaf and hard of hearing is desirable.

NOTE: Two additional years of experience as defined may substitute for the Master's Degree.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

This is a professional position responsible for providing lead technical assistance and support to all Local Infants and Toddlers Programs, Local School Systems, Public Agencies, Maryland School for the Deaf and Maryland School for the Blind for improving outcomes for children and youth with low incidence disabilities.

Kathleen D. Heck
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Qualifications:

Howard University (Washington, D.C.) 2006 – Doctorate in Communication, Science and Disorders

Hampton University (Hampton, Virginia) 1984 – Master of Arts in Communication Disorders;
1980 – Bachelor's Degree in Communication Disorders

Experience:

Charles County Public Schools (LaPlata, Maryland)

2009 – Present: Speech-Language Pathologist

Psychological Assessment Solutions, LLC (Washington, D.C.)

2008 – 2009: Director of Speech-Language Services

Howard University (Washington, D.C.)

2007: Adjunct Assistant Professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders
(Part-time)

Comprehensive Services/PreK Incentive Program (Washington, D.C.)

2006 - 2007: Speech-Language Pathologist/Consultant

Prince Georges County Public Schools (Upper Marlboro, Maryland)

1998 – 1997 & Speech-Language Pathologist/Special Educator

2001 – 2006:

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:

New Hire



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street · Baltimore, MD 21201 · 410-767-0100 · 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

January 25-26, 2011

BOARD LIST

The following professional appointment is submitted for approval by the State Board of Education:

Name: Katherine G. Lauritzen
Position: Education Program Supervisor, Coordinator of Reading and English/Language Arts
Division: Instruction
Salary Grade: 22 (\$59,140 - \$94,961)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

A Master's Degree or equivalent 36 post baccalaureate credit hours of course work in Education, Education Administration/Supervision, or a closely related field.

Experience:

Six (6) years of related experience in coordinating or administering education programs or services. Minimum of one (1) year of supervision of professional education program staff is required. Experience with instruction program preferred.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

This is a professional position serving as the Coordinator of Reading/English Language Arts, responsible for providing direct content-specific leadership, conceptualization and implementation of Reading/English Language Arts curriculum programs, projects, and initiatives in the Division of Instruction.

Katherine G. Lauritzen
Page two

Qualifications:

Loyola College (Baltimore, Maryland) 1978 – Master's Degree in Reading

University of Maryland (College Park, Maryland) 1971 – Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education

Experience:

Maryland State Department of Education (Baltimore, Maryland)

2008 – Present: Education Program Specialist I, Reading/English Language Arts (Contractual)

2006 – 2008: Education Program Specialist I, Professional Development (Contractual)
Part-time

Harrison County Public Schools (Clarksburg, West Virginia)

2004 – 2008: Independent Consultant (Part-time)

Goucher College (Baltimore, Maryland)

2001 – Present: Adjunct Instructor (Part-time)

Anne Arundel County Public Schools (Annapolis, Maryland)

1994 – 2003: Regional Reading Resource Teacher

1986 – 1993: Reading Resource Teacher

1993 – 1993: Acting Early Childhood Resource Teacher

1971 – 1986: Elementary School Teacher

Loyola College (Baltimore, Maryland)

1978: Supervising Teacher of the Reading Practicum

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:

New Hire



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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January 25-26, 2011

BOARD LIST

The following professional appointment is submitted for approval by the State Board of Education:

Name: April M. Mack
Position: Education Program Specialist I, Library Grants Coordinator
Division: Library Development and Services
Salary Grade: 21 (\$55,419- \$88,976)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

A Master's Degree or equivalent 36 credit hours of post-baccalaureate course work. A Master's Degree in Library Information Science from a college or university accredited by the American Library Association (ALA) or closely related field is preferred.

Experience:

Four (4) years of administrative or teaching experience in, or affiliated with an educational program with varied professional library experience. Experience that includes grant writing and management is preferred

NOTES: (1) Two additional years of experience directly related to the position may be substituted for the required Master's Degree (2) Possession of a doctorate in a field related to the position may be substituted for one year of the required experience.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

This is a professional position responsible for providing leadership and technical assistance for grant administration and coordination in accordance with the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). Also this position is responsible for the development of technological solutions for library-related initiatives both within MSDE and Maryland's libraries.

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April M. Mack

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Qualifications:

Emory University (Atlanta, Georgia) 2008 – Master of Arts in Theological Studies

American University (Washington, D.C.) 2003 – Master of Arts in Public Administration

Syracuse, New York (Columbus, Ohio) 1983 – Bachelor's Degree in Policy Studies

Experience:

Howard University School of Divinity (Washington, D.C.)

2008 – Present: Grants Manager

Independent Consultant (Washington, D.C.)

2004 – Present: Resource Development Consultant

Greenhope Services for Women (New York, New York)

2003: Assistant to the Deputy Director

United Communities Against Poverty (Capitol Heights, Maryland)

2002: Director of Development

Housing Authority of the City of Atlanta (Atlanta, Georgia)

1996 - 1997: Resident Services Coordinator

Housing Authority of Kansas City (Kansas City, Missouri)

1995 - 1996: Executive Assistant to the Executive Director

Corporation for National Services (Washington, D.C.)

1995: Program Office, HOPE VI

Council on Foundations (Washington, D.C.)

1994: Program Associate, Philanthropy and the Public Sector

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:

New Hire



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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January 25-26, 2011

BOARD LIST

The following professional appointment is submitted for approval by the State Board of Education:

Name: Karla M. Marty
Position: Education Program Supervisor, Student Support
Division: Special Education/Early Intervention Services
Salary Grade: 22 (\$59,140- \$94,961)
Effective Date: TBD

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

A Masters Degree or equivalent 36 credit hours of post-baccalaureate course work in Special Education, Education, or a related field.

Experience:

Five (5) years of professional supervision, administrative, or education experience in or affiliated with a special education program. Experience in coordinating or administering programs for students with disabilities or special needs is preferred.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

This is a professional position serving as the Section Chief for the Student Support Section responsible for the supervision and oversight of instructional support, administration of federal and State-Part B Discretionary grants, technical assistance and programming issues related to the achievement of students with disabilities.

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www.MarylandPublicSchools.org

Karla M. Marty
Page two

Qualifications:

Pennsylvania State University (University Park, Pennsylvania) 2002 – Master’s Degree in Curriculum and Instruction

Ohio State University (Columbus, Ohio) 1983 – Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology

Maryland State Department of Education (Baltimore, Maryland) – Advanced Professional Certificate in Elementary Education 1-6 and Middle School, Generic Special Education 1-8, and Reading Specialist

Experience:

Maryland State Department of Education (Baltimore, Maryland)

2010: Education Program Specialist, Educational Programming and Developmental Specialist (Contractual)

The Kennedy Krieger School Programs (Baltimore, Maryland)

2002 - 2009: Mentor/Lead Teacher

Altoona Area School District (Altoona, Pennsylvania)

2001 - 2002: Substitute Teacher

The Summit Tennis and Athletic Club (Altoona, Pennsylvania)

1993 - 2003: Co-Owner/Group Exercise Director

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:

New Hire

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CLOSED SESSION

On this 25th day of January 2011, at the hour of 12:16 pm am/pm, the Members of the State Board of Education voted as follows to meet in closed session:

Motion made by: Dalton

Seconded by: Edwards

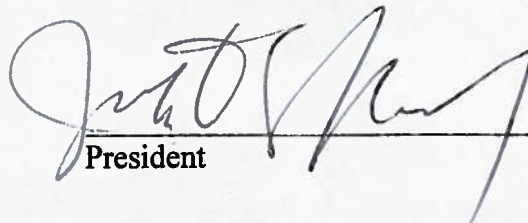
In Favor: 16 Opposed: 1 Member(s) Opposed: 1

The meeting was closed under authority of §10-503 (a) (1) (I) and §10-508 (a) of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland for the following reason(s): (check all which apply)

- (1) To discuss: (I) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or (ii) any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.
- (2) To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals with respect to a matter that is not related to public business.
- (3) To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.
- (4) To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State.
- (5) To consider the investment of public funds.
- (6) To consider the marketing of public securities.
- (7) To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.
- (8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.
- (9) To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations.
- (10) To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans.
- (11) To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination.
- (12) To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct.
- (13) To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.
- (14) Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

The topics to be addressed during this closed session include the following:

1. Discuss 1 legal appeal.
2. Review 5 draft opinions.
3. Consider 4 expedited appeals.
4. Receive legal advice on proposed regulations.
5. Discuss 2 internal Board management matters.
6. Discuss 2 personnel items



President

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
CLOSED SESSION

On this **25th** day of **January 2011**, at the hour of 3:45 ~~am~~/pm, the Members of the State Board of Education voted as follows to meet in closed session:

Motion made by: D. Duke

Seconded by: D. Finer

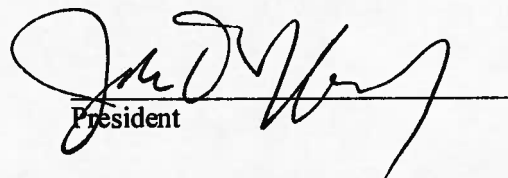
In Favor: All Opposed: _____ - Member(s) Opposed: _____

The meeting was closed under authority of §10-503 (a) (1) (I) and §10-508(a) of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland for the following reason(s): (check all which apply)

- (1) To discuss: (I) the appointment, employment, assignment promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or (ii) any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.
- (2) To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals with respect to a matter that is not related to public business.
- (3) To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.
- (4) To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State.
- (5) To consider the investment of public funds.
- (6) To consider the marketing of public securities.
- (7) To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.
- (8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.
- (9) To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations.
- (10) To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (I) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans.
- (11) To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination.
- (12) To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct.
- (13) To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.
- (14) Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

The topics to be discussed during this closed session include:

To obtain legal advice on proposed regulations regarding evaluation of professionally certified personnel.



President