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TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Nancy S. Grasmick *Nancy*
DATE: May 27-28, 2009
RE: Update on Estimated Graduation Status from Local School Systems

PURPOSE:

To update State Board of Education members on current information regarding the HSA requirement status of students expected to graduate from Maryland public high schools in the spring of 2009.

BACKGROUND:

The Class of 2009 is the first group of students needing to meet the HSA requirement in order to graduate with a Maryland diploma. In January 2009, the State Board requested that data be collected directly from schools reflecting the progress of 2008-2009 seniors toward meeting high school graduation requirements, with particular emphasis on the HSA requirement. The information used for this update will include the April test results just made available to school systems as well as information schools have relative to Bridge Plan completion as of May 1.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

At this date, students are still enrolled in their final courses that will give them their final credit requirements. From previous analyses we know that the vast majority of students have already met the HSA requirement, and according to local school systems, most of these students are also on track to complete their remaining credit requirements by the end of the school year.

In an effort to provide the Board with the most updated information available, school systems were asked to conduct another data collection directly from their schools. They were asked to provide their most current data on numbers of senior students meeting the HSA graduation requirement as of May 15, 2009. Some senior students not yet meeting the HSA graduation requirements are working on final Bridge projects and some will be eligible for waivers.

The data are due to MSDE the evening of May 22, 2009. After the local reports are compiled and analyzed, MSDE staff will present State Board members with a summary of findings by school and subgroup.

ACTION:

For information only. No action required.

