

**State Board of Education – Synopsis of Bills #2
Information Only**

SB 691 - Maryland After-School and Summer Opportunity Fund Program - Funding Requirement

- Establishes the After-School and Summer Opportunity Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund;
- Requiring the Governor's Office for Children to administer the Fund as directed by a specified committee;
- Requires the Governor to provide at least \$5,000,000 to the Fund in the annual State budget.
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HB 375/SB 403 - Education - Maryland Council on Advancement of School-Based Health Centers –

- Establishes the Maryland Council on Advancement of School-Based Health Centers that replaces the PAC.
- Council is to improve the health and educational outcomes of students who receive services from school-based health centers by advancing the integration of school-based health centers into: (1) the health care system at the state and local levels; and (2) the educational system at the state and local levels.
- Council will consist of 25 members to include the State Superintendent of Schools, or designee and one representative of the Public Schools Superintendents of Maryland.

SB 506 - Education - Health and Safety - School Wellness Committees –

- Requires each county board of education to establish a specified wellness committee to discuss issues relating to the physical, mental, and social health and well-being of students and make recommendations;
- Requires each meeting of specified wellness committees to be open to the public and to provide opportunity for public comment.

SB 672/HB 992 - Public and Nonpublic Schools - Student Diabetes Management Program –

- Requires the State Department of Education and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, in consultation with specified other organizations, to establish specified guidelines for the training of trained diabetes care providers;
- Requires each county board of education to require public schools to establish a Student Diabetes Management Program in the school.

SB 440 - Education - Expenditures of Revenues - Reporting by County Boards of Education –

- Requires all expenditures of revenues in the major budget categories to be reported by a county board of education to the State Department of Education at both the school level and the local education agency level.

SB 504 - Public Schools - Nutrition Standards - Vending Machines and Marketing –

- Requires a county board of education to develop and implement a policy that requires that all foods and beverages sold from a vending machine in an area of a public school that is accessible to students at any time during the day comply with specified nutrition standards and a wellness policy;

- Requires a county board of education to develop and implement a policy that requires that all oral, written, and visual marketing on a public school campus for foods and beverages comply with specified nutrition standards and a wellness policy.

SB 505 - Primary and Secondary Education - Health and Safety - Sugar-Free Schools Act –

- Requires that on or before August 1, 2016, each county board shall develop a plan for reducing students' total sugar intake per school meal based on recommendations from: (1) The American Heart Association; and (2) the workgroup established.
- Each county board shall convene a workgroup to: (1) study the best practices of other jurisdictions regarding methods of lowering students' total sugar intake per school meal; (2) consider whether the results of the best practices study would be appropriate to implement in the local school system; and (3) make recommendations to the county board based on the results of the best practices study; workgroup discussions and deliberations; and public testimony received at the workgroup's public hearings.
- The workgroup shall include parents, students, teachers, school administrators, medical professionals, and nonprofit organizations and the workgroup shall hold public hearings.

Maryland State Board of Education
February 22, 2015
Legislative Synopsis 3

Assessments

SB 497/HB 452 - Commission to Review Maryland's Use of Assessments and Testing in Public Schools –
(Senator Pinsky and Delegate Ebersole, et al.)

- Establishes the Commission to Review Maryland's Use of Assessments and Testing in Public Schools
- Membership appointed by Governor:
 - State Superintendent of Schools or designee;
 - Member of the State Board of Education;
 - Governor's designee;
 - One representative each of the MSEA, BTU, local education association, county board member, two county superintendents (at least one of whom is from a local school system with over 120,000 students);
 - A principal;
 - A national certified teacher;
 - Two parents.
- Two members of Senate and two members of House
- Commission to survey, assess, and review:
 - The amount of teach spent in each grade administering local, state, and federally mandated assessments;
 - Whether assessments are duplicative;
 - Attempt to develop statewide approach to administering assessments;
 - Whether schedules for administering assessments allot enough time between assessment and results to inform instruction;
 - Whether testing windows by local and state have a negative effect on instructions and school calendars;
 - Consider implications of ESEA.
- Commission to recommend improvements in process, more efficient way for assessments and instruction, and any other matters by April 1, 2016
- State Board and local boards must respond to the Commission recommendations/findings in writing by June 1, 2016

SB 699/HB 1137 - Primary Education - State Standardized Assessments – Moratorium – (Senator Jennings and Delegate Shoemaker, et al.)

- Requires the State Board of Education to place a moratorium on State standardized assessments in prekindergarten through grade 2 beginning in the 2015-2016 school year and through the end of the 2016-2017 school year.
- During the moratorium,
 - Public school may not be required to administer a State standardized assessment in prekindergarten through grade 2;
 - State Board of Education may pilot a State standardized assessment in kindergarten in conjunction with the report required on or before December 31, 2016.

- On or before December 31, 2016, the State Board of Education, in consultation with stakeholders, shall report on:
 - The local school system assessments currently used in prekindergarten through grade 2;
 - The instructional value of any current local school system assessment as compared to the instructional value of the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment for a teacher;
 - The overall value of any local school system or State assessment results to a teacher, student, and parent, respectively;
 - Whether an assessment is developmentally appropriate for students;
 - The efficiency of the administration of an assessment;
 - Methods to minimize a testing window for an assessment in order to minimize the impact on instruction;
 - Whether the technology needed to administer an assessment exists in all classrooms in the State; and
 - The quality and consistency of training provided to educators charged with the administration of any State standardized assessment in prekindergarten through grade 2

SB 806 – State Board of Education – High School Assessment – Government (Senator Simonaire, et al.)

- Requires each high school student to take a standardized government high school assessment
- Beginning in 2016-2017 school year, the assessment shall include at least 10 of the 100 questions from the civics portion of the naturalization test administered by U.S. Immigration.

Maintenance of Effort

HB 502 – State Department of Education – Financial Advisory Board – Establishment (Delegate Kaiser)

- Establishes a Financial Advisory Board (FAB) within MSDE
- Board consists of the Chief Financial Officer of MSDE, Director of SDAT or designee, and Secretary of DBM or Designee
- FAB will assist the State Board in making preliminary assessments of MOE waiver requests;
- FAB is required to:
 - Review documents submitted for a MOE waivers; and
 - Consider statutory factors for a MOE waiver when advising the State Superintendent
- FAB shall prepare a plain English version of the advice to the State Board which will be available to the public

SB 627/HB 1079 – Education – Maintenance of Effort Requirement – Alterations (Senator Eckardt and Delegate Shoemaker, et al.)

- Repeals requirement that if a county falls below education effort requirement then the required MOE of the county is adjusted
- Excludes leases from MOE calculation
- Prohibits State Board from denying a county’s request as a non-recurring cost if the cost is:
 - Necessary to meet a federal or state mandate, including accessibility requirements;
 - Occasional costs on a multi-year cycle such as audits and actuarial studies;
 - Start-up costs for PARCC including equipment

Charter Schools and Other Schools

SB 595/HB 486 – Public Charter School Expansion and Improvement Act of 2015

SB 683 – State Board of Education – Next General Schools – Established (Senator Ferguson and Delegate Rosenberg)

- State Board required to issue an RFP for the operator of 5 Next Generation schools before August 2015
- Next Generation school is:
 - Open to all students on a lottery basis;
 - Has innovative teaching and learning model such as a research or experience based learning model;
 - Has at least 35% of its students eligible for FRM;
 - Has no more than 55% of its students eligible for FRM.
- Teachers and any other professional personnel at a Next Generation school shall be be paid an annual salary that is at least equal to the salary received by public school teachers and professional personnel of similar training and experience in the county in which the school is located
- Teachers may form an exclusive employee bargaining unit for the purpose of collective bargaining

Curriculum, Other Program Requirements and Misc.

HB 383/SB 489 - Education - Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Program - Development and Implementation – (Delegate Luedtke and Senator King)

- Requires the State Board and each nonpublic school in the State to develop and implement a program of age-appropriate education on sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention which shall be taught by teachers who are trained to provide instruction on sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention.

HB 406 - Education - Implementation of the Common Core State Standards – Prohibition – (Delegates Long)

- Prohibits the State Board of Education and the local boards of education from establishing educational policies, curriculum guides, and courses that include or are based on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).
- Requires the State Board to take the necessary actions to rescind the State board’s adoption of CCSS and the State’s membership in the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) consortium by July 1, 2015.

SB 677/HB 1069 - Education - Professional Development for Teachers and Providers of Early Childhood Education - Master Plan – (Senator Ferguson and Delegates Rosenberg)

- Requires the State Department of Education, in collaboration with the Maryland Higher Education Commission, to develop a specified master plan that focuses on increasing the number of providers of early childhood education services.

SB 772/HB 942 – Apprenticeship Pilot Program – Apprenticeship Maryland (President and Speaker, Augustine Business Climate Commission Recommendation)

- Establishes a 2 year apprenticeship pilot program beginning in summer of 2016
- MSDE to establish criteria for 2 school systems to participate in the pilot program
- MSDE to collaborate with DBED, DLLR, and the business community to develop criteria and identifying eligible employers

- MSDE to select the 2 schools systems to participate in the pilot program
- Superintendents of the 2 school systems shall select 60 students with the district to participate
- Eligible employers approved by Apprenticeship and Training Council
- Student requirements:
 - may start in the summer or fall in junior or senior year;
 - complete at least 450 hours of work based training with an eligible employer;
 - receive at least 1 year of classroom instruction;
 - complete program before august 31 following graduation from HS.
- Each student must be paid minimum wage from the eligible employer
- MSDE and DLLR reporting requirement

HB 1033 – Public and Nonpublic Schools – Sexual and Physical Abuse Notification and Prevention

(Delegate Luedtke, et al.)

- Requires State Board to include information on the MSDE website about awareness and prevention of sexual abuse and assault and policies to protect students for abuse and assault
- Requires LEAs to make notifications after an arrest for a reportable offense
- Requires LEAs to conduct annual training on child abuse reporting

SB 183/HB 215- Education - Geographic Cost of Education – Requirement (Senator King and Delegate Luedtke, et al.)

- Requires the Governor to fund the GCEI in FY 2016 and each year thereafter.

SB 455/HB 389 Education – Beginning of school year – After Labor Day (Senator Mathias and Delegate Healey, et al.)

- Prohibiting public schools and publicly funded prekindergarten programs from opening for pupil attendance prior to the day after Labor Day.

SB 390/HB 344 Education – Due Process Hearings for Children with Disabilities – Burden of Proof

(Senator Montgomery and A. Washington, et al.)

- Requires LEAs to bear a specified burden of proof in due process hearings that are held to resolve a dispute relating to the provision of a free appropriate public education
- Burden of proof remains a parent or guardian seeking tuition reimbursement for a unilateral placement in a non-public school