

MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Wednesday & Thursday
May 27-28, 2009

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

The Maryland State Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday and Thursday, May 27-28, 2009, at the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. The following members were in attendance: Mr. James H. DeGraffenreidt, Jr., President; Mr. Blair G. Ewing, Vice President; Mr. Dunbar Brooks; Dr. Charlene M. Dukes; Dr. Mary Kay Finan; Ms. Rosa M. Garcia; Mr. Richard Goodall; Dr. Karabelle Pizzigati; Donna Hill Staton, Esq.; Ms. Kate Walsh; Mr. D. Derek Wu; and Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, Secretary/Treasurer and State Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Ivan Walks was absent.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

The President asked for approval of items listed under Consent Agenda.

Dr. Grasmick provided information on two requests for granting permission to publish proposed amendments to COMAR. She said that one deals with education programs in nonpublic schools and the other seeks approval to amend the records and reports regulations to provide for an updated *Financial Reporting Manual for Maryland Public Schools*. She invited Dr. Smeallie, Mr. Steve Brooks, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Business Services, and Mr. Bob Crawford, Branch Chief, Audit Office, to answer any questions from Board members.

In response to a question by Dr. Pizzigati, Mr. Crawford explained that the *Financial Reporting Manual* gives guidance to all twenty-four local education agencies on how to report and structure their finances and that although the regulations do reference a yearly supplement, major changes would require a revision of the document on a regular basis.

Dr. Grasmick explained that Department staff look at the dimensions of the local education agency Master Plans each year and evaluate their relevance taking into consideration feedback from stakeholders. She noted that Ann Chafin, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Student, Family and School Support, works very closely with Steve Brooks to monitor academic goals and