

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
200 W. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND TEACHER EDUCATION BOARD

April 5, 2018

The 423rd meeting of the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) was held at the Maryland State Department of Education, 200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201, on April 5, 2018. Dr. Alyssia James called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

The following members were in attendance: Dr. Mae Alfree, Ms. Jennifer Berkley, Ms. Linda Chinnia, Mr. Charles Hagan, Dr. Kandace Hoppin, Mr. Darren Hornbeck, Dr. Alyssia James, Ms. Maleeta Kitchen, Mr. Christopher Lloyd, Dr. John Mayo, Dr. Kristine McGee, Ms. Kelli Midgley, Ms. Karen Saar, Ms. Sandra Skordalos, and Ms. Sarah Spross.

The following members were absent: Ms. Debra Poesse and Ms. Geralda Thompson.

The following Maryland State Department of Education staff members were present:

Ms. Kelly Meadows, Ms. Ruth Downs (Recorder), and Mr. Derek Simmons, Esq., Attorney General's Office.

PRELIMINARY ITEMS

Recognition of Guests

Ms. Tina Dove, MSEA

Ms. Geraldine Duval, MSEA

Public Comment

No Public Comment.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of February Minutes

Dr. Alyssia James entertained a motion to approve the February minutes with suggested corrections.

MOTION: Mr. Christopher Lloyd/Ms. Maleeta Kitchen To approve the February 1 minutes with the corrections.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Approval of March Minutes

Dr. Alyssia James entertained a motion to approve the March minutes.

MOTION: Mr. Christopher Lloyd/Dr. John Mayo To approve the March 1 minutes.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Approval of Proposed Agenda Items for May

- Approval of Minutes
- State Board/Legislative Update
- Regulations
- Elementary Reading Update
- Certification Regulations

MOTION: Ms. Jennifer Berkley/Ms. Sandra Skordalos are listed.

To approve the May agenda with the items that

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

DISCUSSION

State Board

Dr. Miya Simpson presented a summary of the March 20th State Board Meeting. **The following items were presented:**

FOR ACTION:

➤ **Regulations**

- Granted permission to publish the promulgation of new Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 13A07.011 *Student Suicide Prevention and Safety Training*. Legislation was enacted that requires all certificated school personnel, who have direct contact with students on a regular basis, to complete training, on or before December 1 of each year, in: (1) understanding and responding to suicide risk; and (2) identifying professional resources to help students in crisis. The method would be determined by the local county board and is required to be delivered during an in-service program or professional development. The regulation also states that training cannot be construed to impose a duty of care on the certificated school personnel who complete the training. Further, a person cannot bring action against a county board for injury or wrongful death caused by an act resulting from lack of training or implementation of training. The proposed regulations under this new chapter include the language as required in the legislation. It also requires that the annual training for certificated school personnel to include understanding and responding to student mental health, student trauma, student safety, and other topics related to student social and emotional well-being.
- Granted permission to publish amendments to COMAR 13A.08.01.11 *Disciplinary Actions – Suspension and Expulsion*. This regulation came before the State Board in December for permission to publish. Following a question from a local school system, a clarification has been added to the regulation. The local school system requested guidance on the phrase “not more than 5 school days” and its meaning. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) was asked if the phrase meant not more than 5 cumulative school days in a school year or if the 5 school days referred to each incident. The language in the regulation has been revised to state that a student could be suspended up to “five school days per incident” if there was an imminent threat of serious harm to other students or staff that could not be reduced or eliminated through interventions and supports.

➤ **Calendar Waiver Requests**

- Denied the request from Baltimore City Public Schools for a one-day waiver of the 180-day instructional requirement for the 2017-2018 school year.
- Approved a request from Chesapeake Public Charter School in St. Mary’s County to open for pupil attendance prior to Labor Day for the 2018-2019 school year.
- Approved a request from The SEED School of Maryland to use State holidays, April 2, 2018 (the Monday after Easter) and May 28, 2018 (Memorial Day), as inclement make-up days for 2017-2018 school year, if needed.

➤ **FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION:**

- **ESSA Implementation and Timeline**
 - Update on the implementation of Maryland’s Draft Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Consolidated State Plan focused on two school quality/student success measures: the school climate survey and chronic absenteeism.
- **Recognition of 2018 State Superintendent of the Year**
 - Dr. D’Ette Devine, Cecil County Public Schools
- **State Superintendent Report**
 - Graduation Task Force Update
Update on the status of the work of the task force to include the committee’s charge, members, structure, timeline, and work to date.
 - Legislative Update
Overview and status of recent education-related legislation introduced in the 2018 General Assembly Legislative Session.

OPINIONS AND ORDERS:

- *Bash Pharoan v. Baltimore County Board of Education (II)* – 2018-19 School calendar – Opinion No. 18-07
- *Cindy Rose v. Frederick County Board of Education* – PARCC refusal policy – Opinion No. 18-08
- *M.S. v. Prince George’s County Board of Education* – expulsion – Opinion No. 18-09
- *T.G. v. Prince George’s County Board of Education* – student expulsion – Opinion No. 18-10
- *Veronica H. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education* – student suspension – Opinion No. 18-11
- *Teresa P. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education* – student expulsion – Opinion No. 18-12
- *Jonathan Wrublewski v. Charles County Board of Education* – teacher termination/timeliness issues – Opinion No. 18-13

Meeting materials, Opinions, and Orders can be found on the State Board website.

The next meeting of the Maryland State Board of Education will be held on April 24, 2018 at the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building, 200 West Baltimore Street, 7th Floor Board Room, Baltimore, Maryland 21201.

Legislative Update

Ms. Sarah Spross provided the PSTEB Board with a brief legislative update in Mr. Patrick Fleming’s absence.

HB 493/SB 638 - Teachers and Teacher Preparation Programs - Research-Based Reading Instruction - Neither bill has been brought up by either committee since the hearings. They are unlikely to bring them up this late in session. PSTEB wrote a letter of opposition at the March meeting.

HB823: Education – Public School Teachers – Preparation

In its’ third reading. The bill passed the house with amendments. A hearing date was on March 21, 2018. There has been no movement and no committee information.

HB966/SB1103: Voluntary Ethical Special Education Advocate Certificate Program

As like the last time, the Senate referred to education. There was a hearing and no further updates are available.

HB 1002/SB 1041 - Education - Teacher Certification - Montessori Schools

The House has not taken up HB 1002 and is not likely to do anything on the bill at this late in session. The Senate has voted SB 1041 unfavorably.

HB 1154 - Teachers and Teacher Preparation Program Programs – Bilingual Certification and Instruction

A hearing was held February 23, 2018. No further action was taken. PSTEB wrote a letter of opposition.

HB 1657 - Teachers and Teacher Preparation Programs - Maryland Reading Standards Matrix -

Established - This bill has not been taken up by the committee since it's hearing and they are unlikely to take this bill up this late in session.

HB 1415/SB 1092 – Education Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education – Bill passed in the house favorably with amendments.

BREAK

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Superintendent Certification Workgroup Update

Ms. Spross gave a brief update on the Superintendent Certification Workgroup. She stated that the workgroup is extremely focused, efficient and motivated. The workgroup has met four times, starting in November. A draft of the regulation will be sent out based on all the final recommendations. Ms. Spross stated that the group hoped to have a new superintendent regulation to PSTEB in May.

Certification Regulation Revision Review

Ms. Spross and Ms. Meadows gave a brief update on the Certification Regulation Revision Review. Several questions were presented to them for clarification and understanding. One of the main concerns was the organizational structure. Ms. Meadows told the Board members that she would review the pros/cons of both structures (paper format verses online format). Ms. Meadows will discuss this further at the May meeting.

Meeting Adjourned

Dr. Alyssia James entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Ms. Maleeta Kitchen/Ms. Sandra Skordalos To adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Meeting adjourned 12:05 p.m.