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VOLUME 1  
ISSUE 5



A MONTHLY INSIGHT INTO THE HAPPENINGS AT

# THE MSDE PULSE

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

PREPARING WORLD CLASS STUDENTS

## Special points of interest >>>

- JULY EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
- STATE BOARD UPDATES
- MEET OUR MSDE INTERNS!
- CLASSIFIEDS

## WE WANT YOU!!!!!!

Have an event, suggestion, idea or photo you'd like to see in the next edition of **THE PULSE**? Send us your ideas— We are always looking for new and exciting pieces to add and your idea could be featured! Please note that all information must be submitted no later than the 10th of each month, please plan ahead for any time sensitive materials!

## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH!

MSDE is proud to announce our July 2017

Employee of the Month:

Grant Shoemaker!



Grant Shoemaker, July 2017

Grant is an *Instructional Assistant II* for the Savage Mountain Youth Center with the Juvenile Services Education System. Grant was nominated by Lou Ann McDonough, one of the program's School Guidance Counselors.

The nomination submitted on Grant's behalf highlighted the following:

*Grant works diligently to provide support and guidance to the youth of the Savage Mountain Youth Center. Grant goes above and beyond his job expectations by helping students to solve problems, complete assignments and learn.*

*He also offers words of encouragement and shows that he genuinely cares for their overall well-being. Grant even makes an effort to support his students outside of the classroom. He has attended students' ball games to continue to cheer them both on and off the field. Grant never gives up on any of the students he works with. In the last 3 months Grant has demonstrated a willingness to step in and help out with other duties as needed.*

*Grant is responsible for assisting students with individual assignments and in small work groups. He administers informal tests to students and serves as a role model in professionalism and responsibility. Grant has traveled to different facilities in order to support students in developing the skills they need in order to have greater job opportunities. His dedication to this program is truly inspirational. Congratulations Grant!*

CONTACT SAMANTHA FOLEY

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS OUR EMPLOYEE NOMINATION FORM](#)

# State Board Meeting Actions: June 27, 2017



The following actions were taken at the June 27, 2017 meeting of the Maryland State Board of Education:

- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) - Decisions were made regarding: (1) calculating scores and differentiating among schools; (2) updates to selected measures; (3) English Learner proficiency; and (4) identification of CSI and TSI schools. These decisions were included in the most recent ESSA plan, pages 25-28. For an overview and the entire draft plan, please visit <http://marylandpublicschools.org/ESSA>.
- Granted permission to publish amendments to regulations under COMAR 13A.04.16 Programs in Fine Arts to incorporate the new National Core Arts Standards that focus on the artistic process of creating, presenting, responding and connecting.
- Granted permission to adopt amendments to regulation .01 under COMAR 13A.02.01 Local Boards of Education. These amendments remove the language, Rules for Executive Session, since it is now covered in the Open Meetings Act.
- Granted permission to adopt amendments to regulations .03 and .14 under COMAR 13A.05.02 Administration of Services for Students with Disabilities. These amendments replace “Local coordinating council (LCC)” with “Local care team (LCT)” under terms defined and update statutory and regulatory references.
- Recognized the 2016-2017 Milken National Educator of the Year, Thomas Dennison. Mr. Dennison is a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Havre de Grace Elementary School in Harford County.

The following Opinions were rendered on June 27, 2017:

- *Erin C. v. Montgomery County Board of Education – student transfer – Opin. No. 17-21*
- *Jamaarr M. v. Montgomery County Board of Education – student suspension – Opin. No. 17-22*
- *James Curtis v. Prince George’s County Board of Education – employee termination – Opin. No. 17-23*
- *Antoinette D. v. Montgomery County Board of Education – student suspension – Opin. No. 17-24*

Meeting materials, Opinions, and Orders can be found at:

<http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/stateboard/Pages/default.aspx>

The July meeting of the Maryland State Board of Education was held on Tuesday, July 18, 2017, at the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building,

200 West Baltimore Street,  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room,  
Baltimore, MD, 21201.

Appropriate accommodations for individuals with disabilities will be provided upon request. Eight business days notice prior to the event is required.

Please contact Charlene Necessary at (410) 767-0467 or TTY at (410) 333-6442 so arrangements can be made.



Check This Out >>>

## Meet Our MSDE Interns!

Continues on Pg. 4

*This summer MSDE hosted a wonderful group of interns who helped keep things up and running across MSDE! Our interns served MSDE across the board and made the perfect addition to our MSDE team. Read on to find out more information on our talented interns. (Corresponds with picture from left to right)*

*Devquan Alston* came to MSDE from the Baltimore Youthworks Summer Program and will be a senior this coming fall at City Neighbors High School. He plans to attend Bowie State University and pursue a degree in either Graphic Design or Musical Engineering and enjoys playing football in his free time. He currently works with the Division of Library Development Services at the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Branch as an Office Assistant.

*Jose Dixon* comes to us from Morgan State University where he is a junior majoring in Computer Science. Jose works with the Office of Information Technology and this is his second year with MSDE! In his free time Jose enjoys computer programming, watching TV, and playing video games. Through his internship with MSDE Jose hopes to take advantage of advice and IT certifications that will help further his career.

*Jazmin Simms* currently works with the Division of Library Development Services at the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Branch as an Office Assistant. Jazmin is in the process of transferring to Morgan State University from Bowie State University and is an Accounting major. During her free time Jazmin loves to spend time at the gym or with her friends!

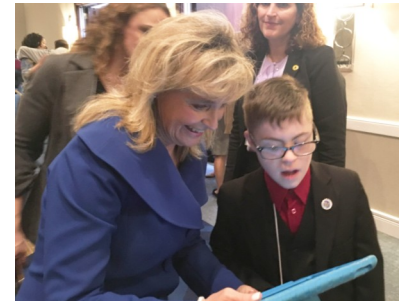
*James Johnson* also came to MSDE from the Baltimore Youthworks Summer Program. James will be a senior this fall at Reginald F. Lewis High School where he plays football and lacrosse and is also a member of the band. He plans on attending college and hopes to pursue a degree in Musical Engineering. James works with the Division of Student, Family, and School Support in the Program Improvement and Family Support Branch and has enjoyed meeting new people and learning about MSDE!

*Janae Covington* will be a sophomore in the fall at Bard High School. Janae plans on attending college and hopes to pursue a degree in Visual Arts or Psychology. This is also Janae's second year with MSDE and she currently works in the Division of Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability, Instructional Assessment and Teacher Effectiveness as an Office Assistant!



# Check out some highlights from our Accomplishments: Strengthening Education in Maryland!

In June MSDE released its bi-annual Accomplishments Document: Strengthening Education in Maryland January—June 2017. This document highlighted all of the wonderful efforts our Offices and Divisions have taken in order to continue strengthening education in Maryland!



Each Office and Division submitted photographs and key accomplishments that were completed over the last six months all in the name of Strengthening Education in Maryland! Please enjoy some of the featured pictures from Strengthening Education in Maryland. To view the full document follow this link : <http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/about/Documents/OCP/Publications/MSDEMidYearReport062017.pdf>



# MSDE CLASSIFIEDS

## WHAT'S NEW?

### Say Hello >>>

*Who's new to MSDE? Check back each month for an updated list!*

**Marcia Cooper-Stokes**, HR Officer II  
(Office of Human Resources)

**Richard Dean**, Office Clerk II (Disability  
Determination Services)

**Michael Dodson**, Principal (Juvenile  
Services Education)

**Matthew Eggleston**, Principal (Juvenile  
Services Education)

**Hazel Hamond-Terry**, Office Secretary III  
(Division of Student, Family, and School  
Support)

**Felicia Lanham Tarason**, Education  
Program Specialist (Office of Leadership  
Development and School Improvement )

**Katrina Malone**, Management Associate  
(Juvenile Services Education)

**Catherine McCarden**, Fiscal Services  
Officer I (Juvenile Services Education)

**Michael Muempfer**, Education Program  
Specialist II (Division of Student, Family, and  
School Support)

**Shadrack Ndi**, Teacher Conditional ELL  
(Juvenile Services Education)

**Adrienne Poole**, Education Program  
Specialist I (Division of Curriculum,  
Research, Assessment and Accountability)

**Jeffrey Robinson**, Principal (Juvenile  
Services Education)

**Kristen Roller**, Education Program  
Specialist I (Division of Curriculum,  
Research, Assessment and Accountability)

**Tabatha Ryan-Hayes**, Teacher APC +60  
Social Studies (Juvenile Services Education)

**Monisha Samuels**, Fiscal Accounts  
Technician II (Division of Business Services)

**Julie Smith**, HR Officer I (Office of Human  
Resources)



## Meet Our Interns CNT'D

**Justin Tyner** comes to MSDE from the University of Maryland University College where he is a junior studying Computer Networks and Cyber Security. Justin is an OIT Summer Intern and came to MSDE for the opportunity to learn from people with extensive knowledge in IT and hopes to gain working experience in an IT position. Justin says his favorite part of interning at MSDE has been meeting MSDE staff!

**Leah Rowell** came to MSDE as a part of the Governor's Summer Internship Program! She is currently a junior at Bowie State University where she majors in Government History and minors in Pre-Law. She hopes to eventually attend law school at her dream school, Georgetown University. Leah works with the Division of Student, Family, and School Support/Academic Policy and has learned a lot about the next steps she would like to take in her career!

**Dominique Joy** is a 2017 graduate of Edmonson Westside High School and will be a freshman at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in the fall! Dominique is interested in pursuing Veterinary Sciences because she loves animals. She currently works with the Office of the Chief Operating Officer in the Office of Human Resources as an Office Assistant and has enjoyed learning about professionalism and about the great work MSDE does!

*We are so happy to host such a talented and intelligent group of interns who are clearly on the path to a bright future! Thank you for becoming an outstanding part of the MSDE team!*

### Best Wishes! >>>

*Sharing staff members that have recently retired! Best Wishes!*

**Patricia Alvey** - Juvenile Services Education

**Cheryl DeAtley** - Division of Early Childhood

**Charles Duckworth**- Division of Rehabilitation Services

**Miles Fitzgerald**- Division of Rehabilitation Services

**James Kolar** - Division of Business Services

**Ruby Wilson** - Division of Early Childhood

**Debra Williamson**- Division of Rehabilitation Services/ Office for Blindness & Vision Services