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State Superintendent of Schools

TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
DATE: February 25, 2020
SUBJECT: 2020 Legislative Session Overview

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this item is to provide a status update of PreK-12 education-related bills that are currently before the 2020 Maryland General Assembly.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Members of the State Board of Education will be updated on significant legislation that has been introduced thus far during the 2020 legislative session.

ACTION:

For information only. No action required.

ATTACHMENTS:

Bill Synopsis as of February 24, 2020

Maryland State Board of Education
Legislative Synopsis
February 25, 2020

Bills for State Board Discussion:

Kirwan

SB 1000 (Commission) Blueprint for Maryland's Future – Implementation

Hearing: 2/17; Committee: EHE/B&T

Crossfile: HB 1300 (Commission)

Status: No movement as of 2/24.

- This bill does the following:

Accountability and Implementation Board

- Creates a 10 year, seven member Accountability and Implementation Board to adopt a comprehensive plan to implement the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.
- The Board would be appointed by the Governor, through a nominating committee process, and subject to Senate confirmation.
- Nominating committee consists of 6 people – Governor, Speaker, and President pick two individuals each.
- The Board is not subject to certain State procurement or personnel laws.
- MSDE must look at local school systems' implementation and recommend approval or disapproval.
- The Board is responsible for withholding at least 25% of the annual increase in the state share of the major education aid for each local school system.
 - Releasing this 25% is contingent on having an approved plan in FYs 22 through 24. From FY 25 on, release is contingent on the Board's satisfaction with how a local plan is being implemented.
- The Board is responsible for expert review teams to evaluate and make recommendations as to whether the Blueprint is being implemented and how to improve student performance.

Education Preparation and Licensure

- Contains the elements of teacher preparation and principal and teacher licensure programs.
- Requires passing a performance-based assessment to be a requirement for graduating from a teacher preparation program beginning on July 1, 2025.

Leadership Training Program

- MSDE, in collaboration with the A&I Board, is required to establish leadership training for the State Superintendent and State Board of Education, local superintendents and county board members, principals, and lead staff.
- Training must include: knowledge of research on how students learn, roles for school leaders in driving change, methods for organizing schools to achieve high performance, and an overview of ethical and transformative leadership, among other things.

Educator Career Ladder

- Includes career ladder provisions define and govern the role of National Board Certification (NBC) and the mandate that by 2023 each local board adopt a career ladder to transform teaching into a high-status profession. The bill links collective bargaining to the implementation of career ladders, and sets minimum amounts of time teachers spend in classrooms for teachers generally, lead teachers, and master teachers. MSDE must develop, and local school systems must implement, a new professional development program. In 2024, new minimum salary increases are required for teachers based on NBC and lead or master teacher status.

Individualized Career Counseling

- Requires each county board to enter into a local career counseling agreement with the local workforce development board, the community college that serves the county, and if appropriate an American Job Center.

Prekindergarten

- Directs the transition to expanded access to voluntary public and private provided full-day prekindergarten for income-eligible 3 and 4 year olds.
- Private providers are expected to meet 30% of the demand for additional slots in the 2020-2021 school year and 50% by the 2024-2025 school year.
- Expands voluntary, full-day prekindergarten for 3 and 4 year olds at or below 300% FPL (about \$77k for a family of four).
- Expands voluntary, full-day prekindergarten for 4 year olds between 300-600% FPL (about \$154,500 for a family of four).

Curriculum, Assessments, and Supports

- The State Board of Education, with the advice of teachers, must develop revised curricula and student assessments to ensure that students are acquiring the knowledge based on the standards in English, math, science, and history or social studies.
- Based on assessment results, MSDE must identify low-performing schools that expert review teams must visit and assist.

College and Career Readiness

- Adopts the goal that students enrolled in public school shall meet the CCR standard before the end of 10th grade and no later than the time the student graduates from high school. (Currently, it's at 11th grade)
- The CCR standard is based on English language arts, math, and when practicable, science that enables the student to be successful in entry level credit-bearing courses or postsecondary education training at a community college in the State.
- Requires an independent study to be commissioned to create a new CCR standard.
- Local school systems must develop programs of instruction for students not meeting the CCR standard by the end of 10th grade.

Behavioral Health

- Defines the responsibilities of local behavioral health services coordinators. Moves language that is currently in the Safe to Learn Act and changes “mental health coordinator” to “behavioral health coordinator”.

Gifted and Talented

- Requires local school systems must develop accelerated paths for gifted middle school students and high school students to achieve CCR before the end of the 10th grade.

Child Care Capacity and Workforce

- Increases funding for existing accreditation, credentialing, and other quality improvement programs by 10% each year and adds new tuition assistance programs for prospective and current child care professionals.

Family Support Services

- Defines services provided to children and families by family support centers, including: parental skills, health care counseling, adult education services, and employment counseling.
- Defines trauma-informed interventions, and wraparound services including linkages to Judy Centers.

Community Schools

- Reflects Commission recommendations and recent legislation defining the role of a community school coordinator roles, including the scope of services to be provided by community. (needs assessments and the coordination) of support programs to address out of school learning barriers.

Dual Enrollment

- Local school systems would be required to pay 75% of the cost of tuition for a public institution of higher education in the State for each dually enrolled student who is enrolled in a public school.

Career and Technical Education

- Establishes the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee, within the Governor's Workforce Development Board, and provides that beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, CTE programs must be aligned with the system implemented by the CTE committees, including CTE programs adopted by county boards, the State Board of Education, and community colleges. The key goal remains for each county board to reach the statewide goal that 45% of public school students achieve an industry-recognized occupational credential before they graduate.

Assessments

[SB 267 \(Administration\) AP Opportunities Act of 2020](#)

Hearing: 2/4; Committee: EHE

Crossfile: HB 348 (Administration)

No movement as of 2/24.

- This bill requires the State Board of Education to provide AP examination fee assistance for students whose annual household income is at or below 185 of the federal poverty level.
- Funding is to be required in the State budget.

[HB 348 AP Opportunities Act of 2020](#)

Hearing: 2/5; W&M

Crossfile: SB 267 (Administration)

No movement as of 2/24.

Innovative Schools

SB 275 (Administration) Education - Community and Local Accountability for Struggling Schools (CLASS) Act of 2020 - Innovation Schools

Hearing: 2/4; Committee: EHE

Crossfile: HB 347 (Administration)

No movement as of 2/24.

- This bill requires a county board of education to designate a school as an “innovation school” if that school has been given a one star rating under the accountability system for the two consecutive school years.
- This bill requires a county board to establish an Innovation Plan Committee for each innovation school to conduct an investigation for the causes of poor student performance and to develop an Innovation Plan.
- This bill requires a review and comment period be given to the county board and the State Board of Education in regards to the Innovation Plan. Teachers must also approve an Innovation Plan before the county board makes their final decision.
- The State Board is required to provide planning and implementation grants to eligible schools, provide technical assistance and support, collect and publish data and research, among other things.

HB 347 (Administration) Education - Community and Local Accountability for Struggling Schools (CLASS) Act of 2020 - Innovation Schools

Hearing: 2/19; Committee: W&M

No movement as of 2/24.

Curriculum/Graduation Requirements

SB 322 (Simonaire) Public Schools - Health Education - Gambling Dangers and Addiction

Hearing: 2/4; Committee: EHE

Status: Favorable with Amendments Report by EHE. Passed Senate Floor (44-2). In W&M.

- This bill requires MSDE to develop a program of education on the dangers of gambling and gambling addiction to be provided in public schools on or before July 1, 2020.
- This bill requires a county board of education to require each public middle and high school in the county to include the program developed in grades 6 through 12, beginning in the 2021-2022 school year and annually thereafter.

HB 284 (Szeliga and Kittleman) Education – Maryland High School Diploma – Civic Test Requirement

Hearing: 2/5; Committee: W&M

No movement as of 2/24.

- This bill requires a student to pass the naturalization test administered by the US Citizenship and Immigration Services in order to graduation from a public high school in the State beginning with the 2021-2022 school year.
- The bill requires the State Board of Education to determine a way to provide each high school student an opportunity to take the civics test before the first day of the 2021-2022 school year.

HB 508 (Walker and Anderton) – Education – Public High Schools – Financial Literacy Curriculum and Graduation Requirement

Hearing: 2/14; Committee: W&M

Status: No movement as of 2/24.

- This bill requires the State Board of Education to develop curriculum content for a half-semester-long course in financial literacy and requires each county board of education to implement the financial literacy curriculum content in every public high school in the county.
- This bill requires students to complete a course in financial literacy in order to graduate from a public high school.

HB 1499 (Parrott) Education – Public High Schools – Financial Literacy Curriculum

Hearing: 3/4; Committee: W&M

Status:

- This bill requires the State Board of Education to develop curriculum content for a semester-long course in financial literacy and to establish criteria for a student to demonstrate financial literacy competency.
- This bill requires each county board of education to implement the financial literacy curriculum content and to require students to demonstrate financial literacy competency in order to graduate from a public high school in the county.

SB 762 (Lam) Education - High School Graduation Requirements - Applications for Student Financial Aid

Hearing: 3/10; Committee: EHE

Status:

- This bill requires public high school students to complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to the U.S. Department of Education or the Maryland State Financial Aid Application (MSFAA) to the Maryland Higher Education Commission to graduate from high school, beginning in the 2021-2022 school year.
- This bill allows a student or the parent or legal guardian of a minor student to submit to a county board of education a statement that the student understands the FAFSA or MSFAA application and declines to complete and submit the application.

Certification

SB 533 (W. Smith) Education – Teacher Certification – Montessori Schools

Hearing: 2/18; Committee: EHE

Crossfile: HB 1344 (Ivey)

Status: No movement as of 2/24.

- This bill allows an individual to be eligible for a certificate to teach students in a public Montessori school if the individual holds a valid credential from a specified Montessori teacher preparation program and holds a bachelor's degree.
- The bill allows the State Board to require an individual to pass an examination, but beyond that examination, may not require individuals who want to teach at a Montessori school to meet any additional requirements.

HB 1344 (Ivey) Education – Teacher Certification – Montessori Schools

Hearing: 2/26; Committee: W&M

Crossfile: SB 533

HB 794 (Qi) Education - Educational Interpreters - Certification Requirements

Hearing: 2/21; Committee: W&M

Status: No movement as of 2/24.

- This bill requires the State Board of Education and the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board to develop rules and regulations for the certification of educational interpreters in public schools.
- The bill requires educational interpreters in public schools to obtain certification on or before July 1, 2027.
- The bill requires the State to “explore” opportunities for fiscal support for educational interpreters.

Juvenile Services Education

SB 798 (Kelley) Education - Juvenile Services Education System - Establishment, Powers, and Duties

Hearing: 2/18; Committee: EHE

Crossfile: HB 1513 (Luedtke)

Status:

- This bill repeals provisions regarding the Juvenile Services Education Program within the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and instead establishes a Board of Education for the Juvenile Services Education (JSE) System to oversee and provide for educational services to all juveniles who are in the custody of the Department of Juvenile Services, beginning July 1, 2021.
- The bill authorizes the JSE board to contract with a local board of education to provide educational services.
- By December 1, 2020, MSDE is required to submit to the General Assembly a report detailing plans for the transition of juvenile services educational programs to the JSE Board.

HB 1513 (Luedtke) Education – Juvenile Services Education System – Establishment, Powers, and Duties

Hearing: 3/4; Committee: W&M/JUD

Crossfile: SB 798 (Kelley)

Status:

Career and Technical Education

SB 302 (Rosapepe) Joint Committee on Workforce Development

Hearing: 2/13; Committee: FIN

Status: No movement as of 2/24.

- This bill establishes a legislative Joint Committee on Workforce Development to, among other things, review and evaluate the effectiveness of relevant programs, policies, and practices, including career and technology education (CTE) programs and apprenticeship programs.
- The committee has review over (1) CTE programs and must report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 31 each year.

HB 840 (Qi) Joint Committee on Workforce Development

Hearing: 2/18; Committee: ECM

Crossfile: SB 302 (Rosapepe)

Status: No movement as of 2/24.

SB 868 (Rosapepe) Apprenticeship Maryland 2030

Hearing: No hearing has been scheduled as of 2/24; Committee: EHE/B&T

Status:

- This bill removes CTE from MSDE by establishing a CTE Committee within the Governor's Workforce Development Board – the State Superintendent will be a member of the CTE Committee.
- This bill requires the CTE Committee to establish a goal that by 2030, 100% of high schoolers who complete a CTE course will have met certain goals.

School Calendar

HB 1270 (Hornberger) Education - Home-Based Instructional Days – Establishment

Hearing: 2/26; Committee: W&M

Status:

- This bill authorizes a county board to develop a policy for home-based instructional days during the school year – if a county board develops a policy, it must be submitted to the State Board for approval.
- This bill authorizes the State Board to develop a model policy on home-based instructional days and may issue guidance surrounding best practices.
- This bill requires the State Board to approve or deny policies for home-based instruction.

SB 562 (Gallion) Public Schools – Flexible Instructional Days – Policy Requirements

Hearing: 3/3; Committee: EHE

Status:

- This bill authorizes a county board of education to apply to the State Board of Education to implement a policy for the use up to five flexible instructional days during the school year.
- This bill requires the State Board to adopt guidelines and a model policy to assist a county board to develop a policy and to approve or deny county boards' application for flexible instructional days.

HB 1250 (McComas) Education – Length of the School Year – Declared State of Emergency (Kathryn Marie Carmello's Law)

Hearing: 2/28; Committee: W&M

Status:

- This bill authorizes a county board of education to decrease the length of the school year for each school day affected by a declared state of emergency for public schools without approval of the State Board of Education.
- This bill repeals a provision of law authorizing the State Board to open schools on holidays in the case of emergency.

HB 743 (Administration) Universal School Start Act of 2020

Hearing: 2/21; Committee: W&M

Status: No movement as of 2/24.

- This bill requires a county board of education to set the start date of the school year for schools in the county not earlier than the first Tuesday after Labor Day beginning in the 2020-2021 school year.
- This bill authorizes a county board to grant a school a waiver from for good cause as established by the State Board of Education.
- This bill requires the State Board to adopt related regulations.

SB 558 (Administration) Universal School Start Act of 2020

*Hearing: no hearing scheduled as of 2/24; Committee: Rules
Crossfile: HB 743 (Administration)
Status:*

Health and Safety

HB 1536 (J. Lewis) Primary and Secondary Education – Title IX – Policies and Procedures

*Hearing: 3/4; Committee: W&M
Status:*

- This bill requires the State Board of Education to develop policies, procedures, and regulations for reporting, administering, investigating, and resolving complaints related to incidents of sexual misconduct and Title IX.

Bills for Information:

HB 1 (Speaker) Built to Learn Act of 2020

*Hearing: 1/23; Committee: APP
Crossfile: SB 1 (Peters)*

Status: Favorable with Amendment Report by APP. Passed House Floor Passed 128-6. In B&T on 2/19.

- This bill authorizes the Maryland Stadium Authority (MSA) to issue up to \$2.2 billion in revenue bonds beginning in fiscal 2022 for public school construction projects in the State, including to support a possible public-private partnership (P3) agreement for Prince George’s County.
- *Amendments:*

SB 1 (Peters) Built to Learn Act of 2020

*Hearing: No hearing scheduled as of 1/24; Committee: B&T
Crossfile: HB 1 (Speaker)*

HB 338 (Administration) Building Opportunity Act of 2020

*Hearing: No hearing scheduled as of 1/24; Committee: APP
Crossfile: SB 276 (Administration)*

HB 575 (Johnson) Education – Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Program – Human and Sex Trafficking

*Hearing: 2/13; Committee: W&M
Status: No movement as of 2/24.*

- This bill requires that the age-appropriate education program on the awareness and prevention of sexual abuse and assault developed and implemented by the State Board of Education and each nonpublic school include, for students in grades 6 through 8, material promoting the awareness and prevention of human and sex trafficking.

HB 528 (Patterson) Education - Juvenile Services Education County Pilot Program - Workgroup Extension

Hearing: 2/14; Committee: W&M

Status: No movement as of 2/24.

- This bill extends, from December 1, 2019, to December 1, 2020, the date by which the JSES workgroup must report its concluding findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly.

SB 604 (Feldman) – Public and Nonpublic Schools - Medical Cannabis - Policy for Administration During School Hours and Events

Hearing: 2/18; Committee: EHE/FIN

Crossfile: HB 617 (Kipke)

Status: No movement as of 2/24.

- This bill requires the MSDE and the Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission to jointly develop guidelines for public schools on the administration of medical cannabis during school hours, school-sponsored after-school activities, and on a school bus to students who are qualifying patients.
- By December 1, 2020, MSDE and the commission are required to develop the guidelines, provide specified technical assistance to schools, develop a process to monitor the implementation of the guidelines, and share the guidelines with nonpublic schools as requested.

HB 617 (Kipke) Public and Nonpublic Schools – Medical Cannabis – Policy for Administration During School Hours and Events

Hearing: 2/19; Committee: HGO/W&M

Crossfile: SB 604 (Feldman)

Status: No movement as of 2/24.

SB 605 (Feldman) Public Schools - Medical Cannabis - Guidelines for Administration to Students

Hearing: 2/18; Committee: EHE/FIN

Crossfile: HB 331 (Lisanti)

Status: No movement as of 2/24.

- This bill requires the MSDE and the Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission to jointly develop guidelines for public schools on the administration of medical cannabis during school hours and school-sponsored after-school activities to students who are qualifying patients.
- By December 1, 2020, MSDE and the commission must provide specified technical assistance to schools and develop a process to monitor the implementation of the guidelines.

HB 331 (Lisanti) Public Schools - Medical Cannabis - Guidelines for Administration to Students

Hearing: 2/19; Committee: HGO/W&M

Crossfile: SB 605 (Feldman)

Status: No movement of 2/24.

HB 868 (W. Fisher) State and Public School Holidays - Designation and Observance

Hearing: 3/12; Committee: HGO/W&M

Status:

- This bill designates the day after Thanksgiving as American Indian Heritage Day and a public school holiday

- This bill requires public schools to devote part of at least one day to appropriate exercises for American Indian Heritage Day.
- This bill also designates September 17 for Constitution Day and Citizenship Day as a public school holiday, among other things.

SB 892 (Hester) Public Schools – Mathematics Credit – Computer Science or Computer Programming Course

Hearing: 3/3; Committee: EHE

Crossfile: HB 1153 (Rose)

Status:

- This bill authorizes a student who is enrolled at a public high school to satisfy a certain requirement to earn credits in mathematics by completing a credit in a computer science or computer programming course selected by the county board.
- This bill requires county boards to certify to the State Department of Education that the computer science or computer programming course may count toward the mathematics graduation requirement.

HB 1153 (Rose) Public Schools – Mathematics Credit – Computer Science or Computer Programming Course

Hearing: 3/3; Committee: EHE

Crossfile: SB 892 (Hester)

Status:

HB 1008 (Wilson) Education - Child Abuse and Sexual Misconduct Prevention - Hiring Emergent Employees

Hearing: 2/26; Committee: W&M

Status:

- This bill authorizes the hiring of employees by a county board of education or nonpublic school for a period not to exceed 60 days under certain conditions.
- This bill authorizes a county board or nonpublic school to rescind a job offer, dismiss the employee, or hire the employee within the 60-day period regarding an emergent employee under certain circumstances.

HB 1421 (Cain) Education - Advanced Courses - Automatic Enrollment

Hearing: 3/4; Committee: W&M

Status:

- This bill requires that a student who exceeds grade level standards on the Maryland School Assessment, is identified as gifted and talented, or has reached college and career ready benchmarks on the PSAT, SAT, or ACT shall be automatically enrolled in an advanced course for the corresponding subject area or areas for the following semester or school year, beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, unless the parent provides written consent for the student not to take the class.
- This bill requires county boards to submit information to MSDE regarding AP courses and requires MSDE to publish certain information.

Bills Voted Unfavorable

HB 19 (Adams) Education – Required Number of School Days or Hours

Hearing: 1/28; Committee: W&M

- This bill alters the requirement that public schools be open for at least 180 days **and** a minimum of 1,080 hours during a 10-month period in each school year to require that the schools be open for at least 180 days **or** a minimum of 1,080 hours during a 10-month period in each school year.