

MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday, October 25, 2022
Maryland State Board of Education
200 West Baltimore Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

The Maryland State Board of Education met in person on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at the Washington County Board of Education, 10435 Downsville Pike, Hagerstown, Maryland 21740. Mr. Clarence Crawford (President), Dr. Susan Getty (Vice President), Mr. Shawn Bartley, Esq., Ms. Gail Bates, Mr. Charles R. Dashiell, Jr. Esq., Ms. Merin Thomas, Ms. Chuen-Chin Chang, Dr. Vermelle Greene (Virtual), Ms. Jean Halle (Virtual), Dr. Joan Mele-McCarthy, Ms. Rachel McCusker, Ms. Lori Morrow (Virtual), Brigadier General (BG) Warner Sumpter, Ms. Holly Wilcox (Virtual), and State Superintendent, Mohammed Choudhury participated in the meeting.

The following staff members also participated: Elliott L. Schoen (Assistant Attorney General), Dr. Sylvia Lawson (Deputy Superintendent, Organizational Effectiveness), Dr. Deann Collins (Deputy Superintendent, Teaching and Learning), Mr. Krishnanda Tallur (Deputy Superintendent of Operations), Justin Dayhoff, (Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Financial Planning, Operations, and Strategy), Chandra Haislet, (Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Assessment, Accountability, and Performance Reporting), Marcella Franckowski, (Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services), Kelly Meadows, (Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Educator Certification and Program Approval), Mary Gable (Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Student Support, Academic Enrichment, and Educational Policy), Mike Hershenfeld (Senior Executive Director, Strategic Planning and Continuous Improvement), Phil Lasser (Executive Director, Office of the State Superintendent), Shawn Rushing, (Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology), Lora Rakowski (Senior Executive Director, Office of Communications and Community Engagement), Linsey Malig-Mayhew (Deputy Director of Community Engagement), Taadie Robinson (Community Engagement Coordinator), Damien Word (IT Coordinator) and David Mayes (IT Partner),

President Crawford called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Schoen called the roll and declared the presence of a quorum.

President Crawford provided opening remarks and welcomed members of the public and speakers.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- David Pecor – Inclusive Education
- Chery Bost, MSEA –ESP Bill of Rights
- Dr. Sonia Santelises, CEO of Baltimore City Schools – College and Career Readiness
- Alexandria McKone – Technology in the Classroom
- Allison Tsomos – Staff Qualifications
- Sharon Saroff – Special Education/Virtual Learning/Home and Hospital
- Bill Hudson – Regulations for Nonpublic Schools
- Genie Massey – Civic Education and Service Learning
- Margaret Barnes – Power Schools
- Kelly Bokoum – Unique difficulties students face in Washington County

NEW BUSINESS

- **Approval of the Consent Agenda**
 - Approval of September 27, 2022, Meeting Minutes
 - Personnel Actions
 - Budget Adjustments, September 2022

ACTION: The State Board granted approval by unanimous consent.

PRIORITIES

- **Blueprint Deep Dive: College and Career Readiness Pathways**
 - Apprenticeships Washington County (Part II)

(Presenter: Mohammed Choudhury, State Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Gary Willow, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Washington County Public Schools; Mr. James Aleshire, Supervisor of Career and Technical Education, Washington County Public Schools; Ms. Wendy Moore, Apprenticeship Coordinator, Washington County Public Schools)

Mr. Choudhury stated that the purpose of the presentation is to provide a briefing to the State Board of Education on data on the Youth Apprenticeship program in Washington County Public Schools. He stated that Washington County leads the pack in apprenticeships. He informed the Board members that the staff from the Washington County Public Schools will explain the history and expansion of their program, along with the details of the apprenticeship experience. The presentation provided information and data on the following:

- Apprenticeship Placements
- Employer Partners

Mr. James Aleshire informed the Board members that at the end of the 2022 school year, Washington County had a total of 90 apprenticeships, and they are on track to double that amount this year. He stated that the apprenticeships begin with strong Career Technology Education (CTE) programs within the high schools.

Ms. Wendy Moore explained to the Board members the process used by Washington County for growing the employer base through apprenticeships. They host and attend community events along with attending employer events. She stated that the recruitment is based on the student's interest. The CTE programs strive to give exceptional customer service to the employers by creating marketing materials for the student recruitment along with assisting the employer with the application process for the Maryland Department of Labor. They have a Career Technology website that helps to promote apprenticeships that are like their program.

Mr. Aleshire introduced three students who participate in the apprenticeship program, to talk briefly about their experience within the program.

- Wonder Herrera – Security Apprentice – Works at Meritus Health
- Arionna Barnett – Reading Tutor Apprentice – Works at Washington County Public Schools
- Justin Wingfield – HVAC Apprentice – Works at Total Comfort Heating & Air

Mr. Crawford commented that during the site visit on Monday, the Board visited Boyd Michael Technical High School. He was amazed with the cosmetology program and that 100% of the students were able to pass the test. The students took 1500 hours of instruction. The classes are taken during the evening or the summer. He stated that the students were also given the opportunity to take business courses which included learning how to do a business

plan. The Board members commended the leadership, staff, and students on the program.

ACTION: None. For information and discussion.

- **Maryland State Board of Education and Maryland State Department of Education Strategic Plan**

Release (Phase I)

(Presenter: Mohammed Choudhury, State Superintendent of Schools)

Mr. Choudhury informed the Board that the purpose of the presentation is to provide a briefing to the State Board of Education on the Maryland State Board of Education's and the Maryland State Department of Education's Strategic Plan. He stated that he was honored to be able to release the first part of the strategic plan in Washington County, which took almost two years to release. The presentation includes a discussion on:

- Introduction to the Strategic Plan
- The Blueprint for Maryland's Future
- Strategic Plan Development – Phase I
- Engaging with Stakeholders – Phase I
- Strategic Plan Components – Phase I
- Strategic Plan Development – Phase 2 & 3

Mr. Choudhury informed the Board members that you need a plan if you want to be a high functioning organization. He stated that developing a Strategic Plan creates an opportunity to identify the key priorities for transformative change and align organizational structures along with resources to accomplish those priorities. Mr. Choudhury stated that the Strategic Plan foundational elements is broken down into three phases.

- Phase 1

- Vision and Mission for transforming public education in Maryland.
- Values inform everyday practices and relationships
- Priorities must be achieved for a successful educational experience for every child.
- Enablers or instructional conditions with regard to data, resource allocation, and support systems that need to be in place to achieve priorities.

- Phase 2

- Goals and Metrics to track progress and to measure success.

- Phase 3

- Flagship strategies, initiatives, and programs outlining the work that needs to be completed for achieving the priorities.

Mr. Choudhury stated that the Blueprint was passed by the General Assembly in 2021 to transform public education in Maryland to a world class educational system. He stated that the State Board of Education and the Maryland State Department of Education are collaborating with the Accountability and Implementation Board along with other educational agencies to plan and implement the initiatives of the Blueprint.

Mr. Dashiell stated that in January, the State Board established a subcommittee to collaborate with the Maryland State Department of Education to develop the components to the Strategic Plan that were being released. He stated that the work would not have been successful without leadership and commitment from the State Board and MSDE. The subcommittee felt the need to have stakeholders engaged in every minute of the plans.

- **Data Deep Dive:**

- **Western Maryland Gallery Walk and Participant Reflections**

(Presenter: *Mohammed Choudhury, State Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Justin Dayhoff, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Financial Planning, Operations, and Strategy*)

Mr. Choudhury informed the Board that the purpose of the presentation is to provide a briefing to the State Board of Education on Western Maryland Local Education Agencies and schools. He informed the Board members that in addition to the presentation, members of the State Board and other attendees will have an opportunity to engage in an interactive gallery walk to dive deeper into the data after the presentation. Mr. Choudhury stated that the walk will provide data and information on students, teachers, program initiatives, funding, and achievements for the Western Maryland Schools. The presentation will include a discussion and posters on:

- Demographic and Financial Data
- Measuring Poverty in Education
- Student Outcomes
- Maryland Leads
- Strategic Plan Components

Mr. Choudhury stated that there are over 1400 schools in Maryland. The enrollment in Western Maryland has been steady, with a 5% drop in enrollment from 2020 to 2021 and projected to recover in the 2022-2023 school year. He informed the Board members that the Blueprint is a weighted student formula, which means that the formula provides resources to LEAs based on total student enrollment and on the enrollment of certain student subgroups.

Mr. Dayhoff informed the Board members that the resources associated with the Blueprint for Maryland's Future are not all provided in year one of the law but are phased in over time and this occurs in three separate ways.

- Changes to the target per-pupil foundation amount
- Changes to formula weights
- Changes to formula weight eligibility criteria

Mr. Dayhoff stated that there is enough per pupil money to provide an adequate education for the average student. He stated that the formula amounts per pupil will differ each year. He further explained to the Board members how poverty is measured in education. They use the count of students that are eligible for free and/or reduced lunch under the USDA National School Lunch Program. At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Choudhury informed the Board members and other attendees about the data walk.

ACTION: None. For information and discussion.

STATE BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS/UPDATES

Dr. Greene shared that the AAEEBB Summit in August was a great success. She has a video that was done, which Dr. Lawson will be putting on the website. AAEEBB has a web page. She stated that she is looking forward to another year and adding some additional pilot schools.

Ms. Morrow shared with the Board that the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) would be held this year from October 26, 2022, through October 29, 2022, in Phoenix, Arizona. She stated that the Early Literacy Work Group will be doing a tour at the Wildflower Academy in Goodyear, Arizona.

Ms. McCusker shared with the Board that the Maryland State Education Association (MSEA) Conference was held on October 21, 2022, through October 22, 2022, at the convention center in Ocean City, Maryland. She stated that Mr. Choudhury spoke at the convention and the new Maryland Teacher of the Year also gave a speech. She informed the Board members that she heard perspectives and priorities from teachers across the state.

Mr. Crawford thanked Washington, Allegany, and Garrett Counties for hosting the State Board of Education. He thanked everyone that was involved with making the event a success, so individuals could come and listen to get a better understanding of the Blueprint.

The State Board gave unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Executive Session

Pursuant to § 3-305(b)(7) of the General Provisions Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and upon motion of Senator Bates seconded by Dr. Getty and with unanimous approval, the Maryland State Board of Education met in closed session on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at the Washington County Board of Education. All board members were present. Ms. Halle, Dr. Greene, and Ms. Morrow attended by video. Also, in attendance were Superintendent Choudhury, Assistant State Superintendent, Justin Dayhoff, and Assistant Attorney General, Elliott Schoen. The Executive Session commenced at 10:45 a.m.

At that time, the State Board reviewed and approved two Opinions and one Order.

- *S.L. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education* – residency – Opin. No. 22-24. The Board affirmed the local board's decision.
- *Patrick McHugh v. Harford County Board of Education* – decertification of bus driver – Opin. No. 22-25. The Board affirmed the local board's decision.
- *Craig Dunkleberger v. Carroll County Board of Education* – request for reconsideration – Order No. OR22-12. The Board denied the request for reconsideration.

President Crawford briefly discussed a pending personnel matter.

The Executive Session ended at 11:15 a.m.

LEGAL OPINIONS AND ORDERS

Mr. Schoen announced the following Opinions:

- *S.L. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education* – residency – Opin. No. 22-24
- *Patrick McHugh v. Harford County Board of Education* – decertification of bus driver – Opin. No. 22-25
- *Craig Dunkleberger v. Carroll County Board of Education* – request for reconsideration – Order No. OR22-12

With no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mohammed Choudhury
Secretary/Treasurer

Date: December 6, 2022

The information included here provides a summary of the agenda items presented. The video recordings of the meetings are the official record and can be located at:

<https://marylandpublicschools.org/stateboard/Pages/Meetings-2022.aspx>

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

<https://marylandpublicschools.org/stateboard/Pages/Meetings-2022.aspx>

The next Maryland State Board of Education meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 6, 2022.

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

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PRESIDING OFFICER'S WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING ("CLOSING STATEMENT")
UNDER OPEN MEETINGS ACT (General Provisions Article § 3-305)

1. Recorded vote to close the meeting.

Date: October 25, 2022

Time: 10:40 am

Location: Washington County Public Schools, Center for Education Services Building, 10435 Downsville Pike, Hagerstown, MD 21740

Motion to close meeting made by: Ms. Bates

Seconded by: Dr. Getty

Members in favor: 14

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Absent: 0

2. The meeting was closed under authority of Section 3-305(b) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland (check all provisions that apply). This meeting will be closed under General Provision Art. § 3-305(b) only.

- ✓ 1. To discuss: (i) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or (ii) any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.
 - 2. To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business.
 - 3. To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.
 - 4. To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State.
 - 5. To consider the investment of public funds.
 - 6. To consider the marketing of public securities.
 - ✓ 7. To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.
 - 8. To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.
 - 9. To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations.
 - 10. To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans.
 - 11. To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination.
 - 12. To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct.
 - 13. To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.
 - 14. Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.
3. For each provision checked above, disclosure of the topic to be discussed and the public body's reason for discussing that topic in closed session.

Citation (insert # from above)	Topic	Reason for closed-session discussion to topic
§3-305(b)(1)	Personnel	Personnel matter
§3-305(b)(7)	Legal Advice	2 Appeals and 1 order

4. This statement is made by Clarence Crawford, Presiding Officer.