

MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Wednesday  
March 11, 2009

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

The Maryland State Board of Education met in special session on Wednesday, March 11, 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. Mary Kay Finan; Ms. Rosa M. Garcia; Dr. Ivan Walks; Ms. Kate Walsh; and Mr. D. Derek Wu. Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, Secretary/Treasurer and State Superintendent of Schools, was also in attendance. Dr. Charlene M. Dukes, Mr. Richard Goodall, and Dr. Karabelle Pizzigati were absent.

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

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

President DeGraffenreidt explained that this special meeting was convened for the Board to discuss the Governor's long-term vision to transform what is now the number one state public education system into a truly world class public education system. He listed the Governor's key strategic areas as follows:

- Measure Maryland student performance against international measures
- Establish single PreK—20 longitudinal data system
- Close the college readiness gap
- Improve Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education
- Strengthen and expand career and technology education
- Improve recruitment and retention of teachers and principals
- Seek federal competitive grants

He asked Superintendent Grasmick to discuss each area and provide the Board with the next steps in formulating a plan for their implementation.

Dr. Grasmick provided the Board with a comparison of the education priorities of the Governor and the U.S. Secretary of Education and noted the tremendous overlap. She explained that she will provide the Board with the current status, the challenges involved and the next steps for each strategic area.