

MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday
June 23, 2009

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

The Maryland State Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, June 23, 2009, at the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. The following members were in attendance: Mr. James H. DeGraffenreidt, Jr., President; Mr. Dunbar Brooks; Dr. Charlene M. Dukes; Dr. Mary Kay Finan;; Mr. Richard Goodall; Dr. Karabelle Pizzigati; Ms. Kate Walsh; and Mr. D. Derek Wu. Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, Secretary/Treasurer and State Superintendent of Schools, was also present. Donna Hill Staton, Esq. and Dr. Ivan Walks arrived late. President DeGraffenreidt announced that Mr. Blair G. Ewing, and Ms. Rosa M. Garcia resigned from the Board due to health and work related reasons respectively.

Filling in for Elizabeth Kameen, Esq., Assistant Attorney General and Principal Counsel, was Assistant Attorney General and Deputy Counsel, Elliott Schoen, Esq. The following staff members were also present: Dr. Ronald Peiffer, Deputy State Superintendent for Academic Policy and Mr. Anthony South, Executive Director to the State Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

The President asked for approval of items listed under Consent Agenda.

Upon motion by Dr. Dukes, seconded by Dr. Pizzigati, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the following Consent Agenda items: (In Favor – 8; Ms. Staton and Dr. Walks had not yet arrived)

- Approval of Minutes of May 27-28, 2009
- Personnel (**copy attached to these minutes**)
- Budget Adjustments for May, 2009
- Permission to Publish:
 - COMAR 13A.11.01, 13A.11.02, 13A.11.08 (Amend)
Programs for Adults with Disabilities
- Selection of National Board Candidates

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Dr. Grasmick explained that she would like to recognize the outstanding work of two employees who provide essential services to the citizens of Maryland beyond that of public education. She

invited Mr. Robert Burns, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Rehabilitation Services, to introduce the two employees. Both employees had been recently recognized by the Social Security Administration and awarded Commissioner Citations of Excellence.

Mr. Burns introduced Dr. George Albright, Chief Medical Advisor, Maryland Disability Determination Services (DDS), and Ms. Suzanne Page, Director, Maryland DDS. He reported that Dr. Albright is highly regarded by the staffs of disability agencies throughout the country. Mr. Burns said that Ms. Page has worked for the Department since 1974 and has worked at every job at DDS. He explained that as Director of DDS, "she has put together a fabulous team."

Ms. Page said that she is receiving this recognition on behalf of all of her staff and expressed her appreciation of their work.

Dr. Albright said, "I am pleased to receive it (the award) but I am receiving it to do what I am paid to do." He explained that there are significantly increasing numbers of disability applications due to the effects of the financial crisis in America and said, "I give them credit for this award as well."

Ms. Page said that this year DDS will clear approximately 62,000 applications out of 68,000 received.

NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPAL AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Dr. Grasmick explained that every year the Maryland Association of Elementary School Principals (MAESP) selects an elementary school principal and assistant principal to recognize as exemplars for their professions. She introduced Ms. Debbie Drown, Executive Director, MAESP, to provide a background on this competition and introduce this year's winners.

Ms. Drown said that each year the MAESP selects a nationally distinguished principal who will attend a gala in their honor in Washington, D.C. on October 22-23, 2009. She introduced this year's winner, Dr. Dana McCauley, Principal, Crellin Elementary School in Garrett County. Ms. Drown also introduced Dr. Wendell Teets, Superintendent of the Garrett County School System, who was present to support and recognize Dr. McCauley. Ms. Drown explained that 74 percent of the students who attend Crellin Elementary School receive Free and Reduced Meals (FARM) due to economic disadvantages. She noted that in 2008, 100 percent of the third, fourth and fifth graders scored either proficient or advanced on the Maryland School Assessments (MSAs). Ms. Drown also noted that Dr. McCauley teaches classes as well as supervises the entire school.

Dr. McCauley recognized and thanked Mary Cary, Assistant State Superintendent, Division for Leadership Development; the State Board; and Dr. Teets for their on-going support of her and her school. She said "It is an honor to be recognized."