The promise of a bright future

By listening to the input from our students, educators, parents and community—and having those insights inform our strategies on an ongoing basis.

By collaborating with legislators and government agencies to craft effective solutions that align with national initiatives.

By broadening our reach through partnerships with other Maryland organizations also serving educators and learners.

By championing technology and innovation—staying abreast of new trends and themes happening across the globe—and integrating practices that facilitate learning in bold, effective ways.

We blend these insights to forge a clear vision, strategy, standards and policies that are effective, actionable and best support students, educators and administrators in their everyday lives.

But it doesn’t stop there. At MDSE, we’re constantly evolving to best serve our students, schools and districts across Maryland.
Maryland—by nature—is wonderfully diverse. Situated next to our nation’s capital, Maryland brings a powerful mix of urban and rural communities that span coastlines, mountains, and cities—and is home to people with diverse backgrounds and cultures.

### Enrollment

**879,601 Students in 2015**

#### Increasingly Diverse

- **34.4%** African American
- **15.5%** Hispanic
- **6.3%** Asian
- **0.3%** American Indian
- **0.1%** Hawaiian Pacific Islander
- **4.3%** 2 or more races
- **39.1%** White

### School Staff

- **117,238** instructional staff members in Maryland public schools, with another 36,525 employed as non-instructional staff.
- **65%** of Maryland teachers hold an Advanced Professional Certificate, while **27%** hold a Standard Professional Certificate.
- **13th** in the nation for number of educators certified by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards.
- **3** Maryland Teachers of the Year selected as National Teachers of the Year, and **5** selected as finalists during the last ten years.

### Maryland at a Glance

- **24** public school systems.
- **49** charter schools, enrolling more than 16,200 students across six local school systems.
- **1,447** public schools: 783 elementary, 215 middle, 189 high, 93 combined & 165 other.
- **10,000** transitioning students with disabilities have been served by MSDE’s Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS).
- **100,000** students ages 6-21 are served through Maryland’s special education program—almost 20,000 students through early intervention and related services before kindergarten begins.
- **5,000** students per year are educated through MSDE’s Juvenile Services Education program.

### Increasingly Diverse

- **448,606** male students (2015)
- **425,908** female students (2015)
- **33,000+** new students joined Maryland’s public school system.
- **46%** of Maryland students are eligible for free or reduced price meals, the federal determination for poverty. That’s up from **40%** just five years ago.
- **7.4%** of Maryland students are eligible to receive Limited English Proficient Services, up from **5.6%** five years ago.
- **11.2%** of Maryland students are eligible to receive Special Education Services, a figure that has remained steady.

### Athanasia Kyriakakos

**2016-17 Maryland Teacher of the Year, Baltimore City**

**2016 National Teacher of the Year Finalist**
INNOVATION

As the world leaps forward, we’re big on embracing innovation to best serve our students. Maryland:

• is an early adopter of a robust Career and Technology Education (CTE) program to prepare high school graduates to succeed in high-skill, high-demand jobs.

• believes in accessibility to all students and has embraced the innovative #GoOpen movement to make high-quality educational resources available for all schools.

• is the first state in the nation to reach its recruitment goal for the PROMISE initiative—connecting 2,000 students to Supplemental Security Income—students who need it most.

• is committed to the innovative P-TECH model merging education, work experience and college into a single program.

• is focused on early learning—offering public pre-K to all economically disadvantaged four-year-olds, full-day kindergarten, and is enjoying a 45% increase in pre-K enrollment since 2002.

• empowers students to take college-level classes with credit going to both high school and college. Known as dual enrollment, this community-focused program promotes academic rigor and college-readiness.

So, how are we doing?

Compared to the National Average

The Maryland public school system has ranked in the top 5 in the nation over the past nine years by Education Week, a leading national publication.

Maryland tops all other states with the highest percentage of nationally ranked public high schools—per US News and World Report

#1 ranking in the nation for success on the AP exams.

Graduation rates

US 82%  MD 87%

2015 seniors were offered a record $1.3 billion in scholarships

Post Graduation

The Class of 2015 Data Summary

83% planned to attend college.
3.2% planned to join military
11% planned to enter work force
2.8% undecided
Libraries

Open access is our objective at MSDE. Our Division of Library Development and Services offers library services in 23 counties and Baltimore City—hosting nearly 30 million visits in 2015. Public libraries provide free public access to the Internet, with more than 5,200 public terminals connected. Maryland public libraries have more than 185 million holdings, including books, music, films, and other media.

Rehabilitation Services

Employment, economic-self sufficiency, and independence—these are the dreams of many Marylanders with disabilities. And these are the driving forces behind the Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS), an agency solely devoted to helping these individuals—over 100,000 in 2015—integrate into their communities in meaningful ways.

MSDE

How do we engage students in ways that will give lasting, positive results—regardless of age, background, or learning style?

This is the question we ask ourselves every day at the Maryland State Department of Education. We’re a dedicated team of educators, specialists, administrators, communicators, and collaborators—fused together by a single vision: to provide each learner with a strong foundation for his or her future.

- We see a **bright future** for Maryland.
- We see **inspired students** empowered to dream, make, and do.
- We see **educators sparking** the innate human desire that each of us possess—nurturing the creative, problem-solving curiosity that we believe every individual has at birth.
- We see **access and opportunity** granted to every student from birth to age 21—regardless of learning abilities, zip code, or background.
- We see **innovation and technology** furthering understanding, facilitating collaboration, providing hands-on expertise.
- We see **cross-sector collaboration** between government, business, community and education—resulting in true workforce preparedness like never before.

Most of all, we see the **promise and potential** in every one of Maryland’s students—and we are tireless in our quest to help them identify and reach that potential.

Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D., State Superintendent of Schools
Andrew Smarick, President, Maryland State Board of Education
Larry Hogan, Governor
Maryland State Department of Education
200 W. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201