# THE MSDE PULSE

## A Monthly Insight in to the Happenings at MSDE

## Volume 1 Issue 17

### In this issue:

* [November 2018 Employee of the Month](#_EMPLOYEE_OF_THE)
* [State Board Actions: October](#_State_Board_Actions:_1)
* [Maryland Charity Campaign](#_Keeping_you_informed)
* [Recognizing Excellence](#_MARYLAND’S_MILKEN_EDUCATOR)
* [Say Hello](#_Say_Hello_>>>)
* [Best Wishes](#_Best_Wishes_>>>)
* [Customer Service Heroes](#_Customer_Service_Heroes)

# Employee of the Month

**MSDE proudly recognizes our November 2018**

**Employee of the Month, Stephanie Biggus**

Stephanie Biggus is a Computer Network Specialist in the Juvenile Services Education Program and was nominated by Ken Cheney.

Below is a summary of the nomination for Stephanie and why she was selected for this award:

Stephanie continues to impress with her willingness to always work hard and work until the task is done.

Stephanie is always a positive influence on her coworkers and leads by example. Working with the Juvenile Services Education Program provides its own special challenges and Stephanie always is the key that unlocks the doors at the facilities she serves with her smile and compassion.

Stephanie benefits MSDE because of her ability to get work done, no matter what. Stephanie has spent the last few years traveling around the State of Maryland to the local JSE schools without complaint. This provides great inspiration to others on the team. The job is challenging, and Stephanie meets it head on and the work she does helps advance the mission of the JSE program to provide education to youth in the State facilities.

Thanks for all of your hard work, Stephanie! Well deserved!

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# State Board Actions: October

### *The following actions were taken at the October 23, 2018 State Board of Education meeting:*

* Approved candidates for participation in the 2018-2019 Incentive Program for Certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.
* State Board’s motion failed to garner the required number of votes to override the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board’s (PSTEB) opposition to the establishment of new Regulation .06-1 Extraordinary Career Leader Certificate under Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 13A.12.01 General Provisions. This new regulation would have created the Extraordinary Career Leader Certificate for those individuals with an exceptional background and skills to be considered for a Superintendent position.
* Granted permission to repeal and replace Regulation .03 Superintendents under COMAR 13A.12.04 Administrators and Supervisors. The purpose of this action is to provide additional pathways for certification in the area of superintendent as well as to establish two, distinct superintendent certificates: Superintendent I for Deputy, Assistant and Associate Superintendents and Superintendent II for Superintendents.
* Granted permission to publish amendments to Regulations .01—.04 and .06 under COMAR 13A.04.07 Gifted and Talented Education. The purpose of these amendments is to provide local school systems with direction for identifying students and developing and implementing the gifted and talented education programs and services needed to develop these students’ full potential. These regulations establish the minimum standards for student identification, programs and services, professional learning, and reporting requirements.
* Granted permission to adopt amendments to Regulation .03 under COMAR 13A.14.06 Child Care Subsidy Program. The amendments update the child care subsidy income eligibility levels resulting in more low-income families and children being served.
* Authorized the State Superintendent to notify the Comptroller to withhold 10% of the November State Aid payment and each subsequent installment for any system that is not in full compliance with provisions set forth in §5-114 of the Educational Article.
* Approved summative score cut points for the assignment of stars for Maryland’s new accountability system and the criteria to be considered when making assignments. Under the selected option, “percent of points” are spaced to meet percent of points and band width considerations for making star assignments. Also, adopted the departments’ recommendation that Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) Schools should receive stars based on the percentile rank result.
* Adopted the recommended cut scores established for the Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA), which place student test scores into four performance levels: Exceeded Expectations, Met Expectations, Approached Expectations, and Partially Met Expectations.

## *The following Opinions and Orders were rendered:*

* In Re: Baltimore City Public Charter Schools Mandatory Fee – petition for declaratory ruling – Opinion No. 18-32
* Janis Sartucci, et al. v. Montgomery County Board of Education (Julius West Middle School and Albert Einstein High School) – installation of artificial turf fields – Opinion No. 18-33
* The Davinci Collaborative, LTD v. Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners – denial of charter school application – Opinion No. 18-34
* Turning Point Foundation, Inc. v. Prince George’s County Board of Education – petition for declaratory ruling/appeal – Opinion No. 18-35
* N. Z. v. Montgomery County Board of Education – early K entry – Opinion No. 18-36
* Keith and Venera J. v. Montgomery County Board of Education – student transfer – Opinion No. 18-37
* Joey and Kristin H. v. Charles County Board of Education – student transfer – Opinion No. 18-38
* Angela S. v. Harford County Board of Education – student transfer – Opinion No. 18-39
* Janis Sartucci v. Montgomery County Board of Education (Richard Montgomery High School) – installation of artificial turf fields – Order No. OR18-08
* Matthew Feldman v. Montgomery County Board of Education – teacher termination – Order No. OR18-09

Meeting materials, Opinions, and Order can be found by following [this link](http://marylandpublicschools.org/stateboard/Pages/default-2023.aspx).

# Maryland Charity Campaign

### “Give A Little– Help A Lot”

The annual Maryland Charity Campaign (MCC) is in full swing! MSDE staff and divisions have worked so hard to come up with creative ways to give back!

The campaign kicked off with a wonderful event featuring unique charities from across the state and allowed employees to meet with charity representatives face-to-face. Our annual Division Pumpkin Challenge was once again a hit, proving just how innovative and artistic our staff can be! Congratulations to the winners of this year’s challenge, the Division of Curriculum, Instructional Improvement and Professional Learning.

The Division of Student Services, Academic Enrichment and Educational Policy also held the Grateful Eats Luncheon, which featured an array of tasty soups and salads for everyone to enjoy and a delicious opportunity for staff to donate to the MCC!

The Maryland Charity Campaign runs now through December 18!

[DONATE TODAY, Follow this link!](https://mcc.maryland.gov/)

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## MARYLAND’S MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARD WINNER

### HELPING 4TH-GRADERS CONQUER MATH EARNS BRIAN QUINN A $25,000 MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARD

### *Maryland teacher motivates students to make their own rules—and their own success—at East Silver Spring Elementary*

The gymnasium of East Silver Spring Elementary School erupted with cheers and applause this month as Maryland’s newest Milken Educator was announced. Brian Quinn, a 4th-grade math teacher, received the prestigious Milken Educator Award for his leadership in math instruction, overall growth and innovative ways of engaging students.

Mr. Quinn is a true role-model for the East Silver Spring Elementary community and involves himself to the fullest extent. For a recap of the exciting announcement, [follow this link.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVkbywWg7kE&t=17s)

# PRIORITIZING SAFE TRANSPORTATION FOR MARYLAND SCHOOLS

## CONGRAULATIONS, GABRIEL!

*Providing leadership, assistance and motivation to the Nation's school transportation community****.***

Gabriel Rose, MSDE’s Director of Pupil Transportation/ Emergency Management, was recently selected as the Director of the Northeastern Branch of the [National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services](http://www.nasdpts.org/) (NASDPTS) Board of Directors.

The NASDPTS was established in 1968 and serves all 50 states, with the goal of providing safe, secure, efficient, economical, and high-quality transportation to school children on trips to and from school.

In this new role, Gabriel’s duties will include representing the Northeast in matters relating to school buses at the national level. The Board of Directors assists in publishing position papers that are disseminated across the nation and tend to be a driving source of change in the school bus industry.

MSDE CLASSIFIEDS: A MONTHLY INSIGHT INTO THE HAPPENINGS AT MSDE

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### Say Hello >>>

Who’s new to MSDE? Check back each month for an updated list!

* Samantha Bader, Staff Specialist III (Office of School and Community Nutrition Programs)
* Holly Barrett, Program Manager II (Maryland Center for School Safety)
* Tara Bartosz, Administrative Officer III (Division of Early Childhood)
* Kenneth Blackman, Research Statistician V (Division of Early Childhood)
* Amera Davis, Child Care Licensing Specialist Trainee (Division of Early Childhood)
* Jessie Ferrio, Staff Specialist I (MSDE/DORS/Easton Office)
* Jennifer Heavener, Office Secretary III (Juvenile Services Education)
* Arthur Iwanicki, Academic English Teacher (Juvenile Services Education)
* Brittany James-Womack, Academic Resource Teacher (Juvenile Services Education)
* Shafonda Oliver, V.R. Specialist II (MSDE/DORS/Office of Blind and Vision Services)
* Ann Margaret Joseph, Child Care Licesing Specialist Trainee (Division of Early Childhood)
* Katerinan Passa, Lead Data Analyst/Coordinator (Division of Assessment, Accountability and Information Technology)
* K. Vanessa Plante-McDonald, Fiscal Services Administrator V (Division of Business Services)
* Rosalyn Stephens, Office Secretary III (Juvenile Services Education)
* Nicole Troy, Child Care Licensing Specialist Trainee (Division of Early Childhood)
* Andrew Turner, Program Manager II (Maryland Center for School Safety)
* Blaire White, Education Program Specialist I (Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services)
* Vanessa Williams, Education Program Specialist I (Division of Curriculum, Instructional Improvement, and Professional Learning)

### Best Wishes >>>

Sharing staff members that have recently retired! Best Wishes!

* Cynthia Schaefer, Office of the Deputy for School Effectiveness

# Customer Service Heroes

Kelly MeadowsDivision of Educator Certification

“Kelly Meadows was extremely quick and competent in everything she assisted me with. Kelly returned my e-mails promptly and was very knowledgeable and friendly. I would strongly recommend the service she provides to anyone.”

Tiara Booker-DwyerOffice of Leadership Development and School Improvement

“Ms. Dwyer was extremely helpful in setting up a call-in option for the conference, which made it possible for me to attend without having to travel. Much appreciated!!”

## Division of Rehabilitation Services

“DORS team is exceptional, especially L. Chaney, L. Andrews and P. Wimpigler”