

MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, December 7, 2020
Maryland State Board of Education
200 W. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

The Maryland State Board of Education met via videoconference on Monday December 7, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. The following members participated on the video conference call: Mr. Clarence Crawford (President); Ms. Jean Halle (Vice President); Mr. Shawn Bartley; Ms. Gail Bates; Mr. Charles R. Dashiell, Jr., Esq.; Dr. Susan Getty; Dr. Vermelle D. Greene; Dr. Rose M. Li; Dr. Joan Mele-McCarthy; Ms. Rachel McCusker, Ms. Lori Morrow; Brigadier General (BG) Warner Sumpter (Ret.); Dr. Holly Wilcox; Mr. Jason Wu, Student Representative; and State Superintendent Dr. Karen B. Salmon.

The following staff members also participated: Elliott L. Schoen, Assistant Attorney General; Dr. Sylvia Lawson, Deputy State Superintendent, Office of School Effectiveness; Amalie Brandenburg, Deputy State Superintendent, Office of Finance and Administration; Dr. Carol Williamson, Deputy State Superintendent, Office of Teaching and Learning; and Dr. Miya T. Simpson, Executive Director, Office of the State Board.

President Crawford called the meeting to order and asked Dr. Simpson to conduct the roll call. Mr. Schoen declared the presence of a quorum.

President Crawford explained the virtual meeting procedures.

President Crawford provided opening remarks regarding the State Board's priorities, as well as an update on the State Superintendent search.

STATE BOARD SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021 PRIORITIES

➤ Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) Updates

(Presenter: Dr. Jennifer Judkins, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Assessment, Accountability, and Information Technology)

Dr. Judkins provided updates and an overview of the MCAP, including changes from previous years, which assessments are administered, the timing for each general assessment, the Federal Peer Review and the Technical Advisory Committee, and future plans.

Board members inquired about differentiation between the MCAP ELA Math assessments, the assessment calendar and the remote administration plan, development of developmentally appropriate assessments, and assessing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic (related to closures and virtual learning).

***ACTION:** None. For information and discussion only.*

➤ **Waiver Request for Seniors Taking the American Government Assessment in the 2020-2021 School Year**

(Presenter: Mary Gable, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Student Support, Academic Enrichment & Educational Policy)

Dr. Salmon provided opening remarks and introduced Ms. Gable, who provided background information and clarification of graduation requirements for seniors, and presented the request for approval of a waiver of graduation requirements for 2020-2021 seniors who need to take the high school assessment in American Government in the 2020-2021 school year.

ACTION: Upon motion by Ms. McCusker and seconded by General Sumpter, the State Board approved the waiver request. (In Favor: 14; Opposed: 0; Abstained: 0.)

➤ **Maryland High School Graduation Task Force Recommendations**

(Presenter: Dr. Carol Williamson, Deputy State Superintendent for Teaching and Learning; Ms. Mary Gable, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Student Support, Academic Enrichment & Educational Policy)

Dr. Williamson provided an overview and background on the Maryland High School Graduation Task Force (Task Force) and reviewed the recommended changes to the high school graduation regulation. The Task Force was first convened in January 2018 at the request of the State Board and State Superintendent and charged to review the regulation and make recommendations focused on three areas: credit and program requirements (number of credits, subject areas, and other requirements), assessments, and options for awarding high school diplomas. The Task Force is comprised of twenty-four organizations and stakeholder groups invited to appoint a representative.

State Board members inquired about assessment logistics and timing, clarification of the college ready endorsement, how other states are using assessments and opportunities for comparisons, and the expected impact on high school staffing.

ACTION: None. For information and discussion only.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:23 pm.

Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
Secretary/Treasurer

Date: January 26, 2020

The information included here provides a summary of the agenda items presented and actions taken during the meeting of the Maryland State Board of Education. The video recordings of the meetings are the official record of the meetings and can be located at:

<http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/stateboard/Pages/meeting-agendas/2020/2020-06-23.aspx>

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

<http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/stateboard/Pages/Meetings-2020.aspx>

The next meeting of the Maryland State Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, December 8, 2020. 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.