

THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes of the October 22, 2024 Meeting
200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

The Maryland State Board of Education met on October 22, 2024 at 9:02 am in the State Board room located within the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

The following Board members were present in the Boardroom:

Dr. Joshua Michael (Board President), Dr. Monica Goldson (Board Vice President), Ms. Rachel McCusker, Ms. Chuen-Chin Bianca Chang, Mr. Clarence Crawford, Mr. Nick Greer, Dr. Susan Getty (virtual), Mr. Abhiram Gaddam, Dr. Joan Mele-McCarthy, Mr. Samir Paul, Mr. Kenny Clash, Dr. Kim Lewis, Ms. Xiomara Medina, and Dr. Irma Johnson were in attendance.

State Superintendent Dr. Carey Wright, State Board Executive Director Zachary Hands, and Assistant Attorney General Elliott Schoen were also in attendance.

MEETING OPENING

President Michael called the meeting to order at 9:02am and led the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Schoen declared that a quorum was present.

Dr. Michael noted that an agenda item was added earlier this morning for a potential emergency regulatory action on COMAR 13A.08.01.17F Reportable Offenses Confidentiality of Information and Retention of Documents.

Dr. Michael offered opening remarks that included: (1) congratulating Dr. Wright on the completion of one full year of service; (2) the continuation of stewarding implementation of Maryland's once-in-a-generation investment in public education through the Blueprint for Maryland's Future; and (3) celebrating the School Principals of the Year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Nikki Woodward - Literacy Policy
2. Sharon Saroff - Special Education
3. Cary Cuiccio - Literacy Plan
4. Harold Tolbert - Comprehensive PreK-3 Literacy Program
5. Liz Zogby - Literacy Policy and Students with Disabilities
6. Gwendolyn Chapman - How to receive information regarding PreK preparation
7. Sharlimar Douglass - Culturally proficient teaching and teacher preparation

NEW BUSINESS

- Approval of the Consent Agenda
 - Approval of September 24, 2024 Meeting Minutes
 - Personnel Actions

- Budget Adjustments, September 2024
- COMAR 13A.05.09 Programs for Homeless Children (Permission to Adopt)

ACTION: Dr. Johnson motioned, Dr. Goldson seconded. The State Board granted approval by unanimous consent.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Wright reported that she spent some time with the Attorney General. They toured the Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS) and the Baltimore City Office of Child Care. The Attorney General spoke with staff to find out how the State is helping the most vulnerable children and adults. Dr. Wright commended the staff at DORS and Early Childhood on their dedication for those that they serve.

Dr. Wright reported that the United States Senate HELP Committee sent its Majority staff members to the Department for a discussion surrounding Blueprint legislation and federal school improvement requirements. The Committee has been reaching out to State agencies to help inform policy decision-making in Congress.

Dr. Wright had the privilege of delivering the closing keynote at the Raising the Bar Conference hosted by the Maryland Workforce Association. The conference brought together leaders in education and workforce development and also provided a great opportunity to strengthen the collaboration between those sectors.

Dr. Wright continues to work with the Governor's Children's Cabinet. She is a member of the Children's Cabinet. They are working on implementing the Governor's ENOUGH initiative which stands for Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households. The initiative is a first of its kind State-led place-based strategy to create poverty-fighting opportunities driven by communities' lived experience.

Dr. Wright spoke about attending the 34th Annual Teacher of the Year Gala on October 4th where Catlock Jones from Baltimore City Public Schools was named the 2025 Teacher of the Year.

Dr. Wright has met with a number of legislators to find out what their priorities are as we prepare for the 2025 legislative session. During those meetings she shared what the Board's priorities and interests are.

On October 16th MSDE hosted its second comprehensive support and improvement (CSI) convening virtually. More than 330 district and school leaders from CSI schools attended the meeting. MSDE offered more than 18 different sessions and all sessions aligned with the four domains of Rapid School Improvement. Topics ranged from using schoolwide enrichment

models to improve student outcomes to creating a responsive school culture through stakeholder input.

Dr. Wright shared that the test for Mandarin language has been approved as an official MSDE world language assessment. This means that students who learn Mandarin earn the Maryland Seal of Biliteracy.

Dr. Wright has been traveling the State visiting schools . She went to Western Maryland where she joined Dr. Michael and Dr. Goldson as they visited Garrett County and Allegany County schools.

COMAR 13A.08.01.17F *SCHOOL USE OF REPORTABLE OFFENSES/CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION AND RETENTION OF DOCUMENTS*(PERMISSION TO PUBLISH EMERGENCY AMENDMENTS)

Dr. Michael called on Dr. Wright to introduce staff to present this item. Before introducing staff, Dr. Wright said that each day our schools are entrusted with the safety of students, staff, and community members. MSDE is urgently and deliberately working to ensure that schools remain safe places to learn, teach and work.

Dr. Wright issued the following action, effective immediately:

- Local school system superintendents shall immediately inform the school principal and school security officer, where applicable, of a student who has been arrested for a reportable offense or an offense related to membership in a criminal organization.
- In addition, if the student was convicted, found delinquent, or the charge or petition is still pending, a local superintendent or school principal shall transmit the information obtained as a confidential file to the local superintendent of another public school system or to another nonpublic school in the state in which the student has enrolled or transferred.
- Additionally, superintendents shall ensure that all records have been sent as a confidential file for their students with reportable offenses who were enrolled since the start of the 2023-2024 school year and have since transferred to another school system or another nonpublic school in Maryland.

Dr. Wright called on Ms. Mary Gable. Ms. Gable explained that this regulation is being proposed as an emergency regulation because the regulation is necessary to amend COMAR 13A.08.01.17F *Confidentiality of Information and Retention of Documents* to ensure that reportable offense information is shared with another Maryland local education agency (LEA) or non-public school in the event that a student with a reportable offense transfers from the LEA

that was informed of the student's reportable offense. The adoption of a standard regulation, which requires a notice and comment period, cannot be completed in the timeframe required to ensure that information on reportable offenses is shared with the LEA/ school that a student attends. Thus, an emergency regulation is being proposed to address any gaps in information that an LEA/ school should have regarding students who are enrolled.

Mr. Paul thanked the staff for their work. Mr. Paul asked what changes are triggered in this language from discretionary to mandatory. In particular, what duty arises to learn what nonpublic school a student may transfer to? Does that require a change later in the regulations as well?

Ms. Gable explained the procedures surrounding attendance information. If a student is presently enrolled in a school system and that student is no longer going to attend that school system, then that student is withdrawn. That withdrawal comes with a code of what the reason is for the withdrawal. Then it is determined where the student is going to go. Under the compulsory attendance laws a student cannot withdraw under the age of 18 without somewhere to go. That information on where the student is going to go to continue his/ her education is reported.

Mr. Greer raised a question about the timeline for how long the regulations will be in place. Mr. Schoen responded that the emergency regulations will be in effect for 180 days. That will allow the agency time to promulgate the regulations. Mr. Greer asked if "shall" is meant to be an imperative. Ms. Gable responded that that is correct.

Dr. Johnson asked how the local superintendent is informed of the student's record from law enforcement. Ms. Gable responded that could be in a variety of ways. Dr. Goldson added that for larger education agencies law enforcement usually contacts the director of security services who then contacts the superintendent and principal.

Dr. Michael asked when we should expect to begin the full regulation process. Ms. Gable responded that that is going to happen simultaneously with the emergency filing.

ACTION: Dr. Wright is requesting that the State Board amend Regulation .17F under COMAR 13A.08.01.17 *School Use of Reportable Offenses* through emergency action and approve permission to publish. Dr. Lewis motioned, Ms. McCusker seconded. (In Favor: 14, Opposed: 0, Abstained: 0, Absent: 0)

ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY TASK FORCE AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Dr. Wright called Dr. Scott Marion and Mr. Geoff Sanderson. Dr. Marion chairs the Assessment and Accountability Task Force. Dr. Marion is also going to be chairing the Technical Advisory

Committee. Geoff Sanderson has been serving on the Assessment and Accountability Task Force.

In February 2024, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) announced the formation of the task force to examine the state's assessment and accountability systems to strengthen connections between school ratings and student achievement. The task force is being facilitated by the National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment (more commonly known as the Center for Assessment).

Nearly thirty educators and national and local testing experts convened on May 2, 2024, for the first Assessment and Accountability Task Force meeting. A total of eight full day sessions are scheduled to take place through December, 2024. The guiding priorities for this work include improving outcomes for all students, measuring what is important for improving student outcomes, using accountability to drive behavior, transparency in monitoring and reporting, and achieving the Blueprint for Maryland's Future call for all students to be college and career ready by the end of tenth grade. A final report with recommendations will subsequently be provided to the State Board for consideration.

In March 2024, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) issued a request for proposal (RFP) for assembling and facilitating a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to provide guidance on assessment design, development, and maintenance. The contract was subsequently awarded to the National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment.

The TAC provides objective and expert evaluation and advises the MSDE leadership team and assessment vendors on psychometric and related technical considerations to help create a common assessment system that can provide reliable results to inform valid instructional and accountability decisions. This includes but is not limited to psychometric procedures and characteristics of the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP), the Maryland Accountability System, and any existing or new testing programs that may be planned and/or administered.

Both the Task Force and the TAC will support the next-generation assessment and accountability systems in Maryland. The Task Force report will help frame the request for proposals for the next assessment system and will also provide a framework for updating the school accountability system. The TAC will support many of the technical design and implementation decisions and play a critical role in supporting many key technical assessment design and implementation decisions.

Dr. Johnson asked for clarification on how one assessment can measure accountability and student growth. Dr. Marion explained that because we have these assessments each year and we have these robust student information systems now, we are able to follow the progress of individual students through their educational career.

Mr. Greer thanked the staff for the presentation. He's been excited to receive this information for a while. He welcomed the addition and the focus on multi-English language learners. He said he understood that this body existed before here in Maryland. He asked (1) if there were findings or recommendations from that body that are being built upon here and where we are going to add them in; and (2) what's the status of the recommendations from the past? Dr. Wright explained that the TAC has not been functioning for a number of years. Knowing all of the concerns she has heard from superintendents and others in the field in Maryland around the credibility of the assessment, she thought this was a timely thing to put the Assessment and Accountability Task Force first. This will allow us to establish a strong assessment and accountability system.

Ms. McCusker thanked staff for the presentation. She asked if there has been any attention being paid to the idea that students process digital reading differently than print reading and how that would affect outcomes. Dr. Marion said it was never discussed or considered that there would not be a computer based test because of all of the ramifications surrounding that. Dr. Marion said he will look to see if there has been a study done on this particularly for young children.

Dr. Mele-McCarthy thanked Ms. McCusker for bringing her concerns up. Dr. Mele-McCarthy wanted to clarify that this is something that is relevant for not only young readers but for all readers. She referenced the seminar hosted by MSDE and Maryland Reads with Dr. Marianne Wolf about how we comprehend digitally versus on paper. She suggested to Dr. Marion that Dr. Wolf may be a good resource in this area.

Ms. Chang asked if there is a way to administer an assessment both digitally and on paper. Dr. Marion said that is something they are wrestling with. There is work going on in the field right now on how to maximize flexibility while still allowing us to make comparable determinations.

Dr. Michael called a break for 10 minutes.

COMPREHENSIVE PREK-3 LITERACY POLICY

Dr. Michael stated that the policy is a result of Resolution 24-01, which the Board passed in January calling for the statewide implementation of evidence-based reading throughout Maryland schools. In that resolution, the Board called on the Superintendent to bring forth a policy to shape early literacy practices in the state. The Superintendent and her team have worked extensively on refining this policy to ensure this first adopted version of the policy fits Maryland's students and families resulting in Version 3 delivered to the Board in September. As a Board, we have further deliberated, resulting in the version before us today. This process has resulted in the most public engagement we've received in recent years on a specific policy matter, including over 2000+ pieces of feedback from stakeholders, a dedicated public hearing, continued discussion in the press, and discussion in communities across Maryland.

He emphasized that the version the Board is considering is better for our Maryland students because of the level of public engagement and deliberation. He elevated for the public that whatever is passed today is a beginning – this reflects the policy that will be reviewed annually based upon implementation data and public feedback. And, the policy utilizes a phased in approach.

Dr. Wright went through the timeline of the proposed literacy policy. Since July 2024, the MSDE Office of Literacy Programs and Initiatives has drafted and presented three draft Comprehensive Literacy Policies to the State Board (SBOE). To date, the team has received over 1800 comments or stakeholder feedback with explicit suggestions for revisions. These suggestions along with recent feedback from the SBOE were considered as the team drafted the fourth version of the Literacy Policy for SBOE approval. The revisions made to this fourth iteration of the policy include:

- Clarification on the inclusion of all students;
- Clarification on guidance, technical assistance, and training provided by MSDE;
- Focus on Tier I/ Core Instruction;
- Focus on Multitiered Systems of Support (MTSS);
- Provision of multiple pathways for students to transition from grade to grade;
- Clarification of responsibilities for LEAs, MSDE, and the SBOE;
- More information on parental notification and additional supports; and
- Provision of an updated timeline.

Dr. Wright called on Dr. Deann Collins and Dr. Tenette Smith to present the fourth draft of the Comprehensive PreK to 3 Literacy Policy.

Mr. Greer thanked staff for their work. He expressed that MSDE push the literacy policy into guidance as we get into the implementation phase so that we are able to support educators.

Ms. Chang requested that the publication *A Family Guide to Student Success* be offered in different languages.

Ms. McCusker reported that the Education Policy Committee met on October 10th and discussed the literacy policy along with a few recommended amendments. The Committee voted to recommend adoption of the policy with amendments to the full Board.

Dr. Lewis, as a new Board member, thanked staff for taking the time to bring her up-to-date on the literacy policy.

ACTION: Ms. McCusker motioned, Mr. Paul seconded to adopt Version 4 of the Comprehensive PreK - 3 Literacy Policy. (In Favor: 11, Opposed: 1, Abstained: 2, Absent: 0)

There were three amendments to Version 4 that will be incorporated into the Policy. New additions to the policy document are identified in ALL CAPS below.

Amendment #1 (Page 15 – Section: D.3.b and D.3.b.v)

Section D.3.b

“If a student is not designated for promotion to 4th grade, the notification must inform the parent/ guardian of the process AND OPTIONS, which includes:”

Section D.3.b.v

“v. A document that captures the parent or guardians’ final decision REGARDING THE OPTIONS to: a) Consent to the designation of retention in 3rd grade, or b) Choose 4th-grade promotion and consent to their student enrolling and participating in a supplemental reading support program provided by the LEA and approved by MSDE at no cost to the parent or guardian.”

ACTION: Dr. Lewis motioned, Dr. Mele-McCarthy seconded to adopt Amendment #1 to Version 4 of the Comprehensive PreK to 3 Literacy Policy. (In Favor: 11, Opposed: 1, Abstained: 2, Absent: 0)

Amendment #2 (Page 15: Section D.3.b.iii)

Section D.3.b.iii

“iii. An explanation of the POTENTIAL risks AND BENEFITS of BOTH promotion and retention for a child who does not demonstrate reading proficiency by the end of 3rd grade.”

ACTION: Mr. Greer motioned, Dr. Lewis seconded to adopt Amendment #2 to Version 4 of the Comprehensive PreK to 3 Literacy Policy. (In Favor: 11, Opposed: 1, Abstained: 2, Absent: 0)

Amendment #4 (Page 10: Section B.5.b)

Section B.5.b

“b. Additional diagnostic tools should be identified and administered INCLUDING INFORMAL CURRICULUM BASED MEASURES, to support teachers with targeting instruction based on student needs.”

ACTION: Dr. Michael motioned, Ms. McCusker seconded to adopt Amendment #4 to Version 4 of the Comprehensive PreK to 3 Literacy Policy. (In Favor: 11, Opposed: 1, Abstained: 2, Absent: 0)

There were two amendments to Version 4 that failed to be adopted as follows.

Amendment #3 (Page 12: Section C)

Section C – Header and Title (to add at the beginning of the section)

REVISED TITLE OF SECTION C: STUDENT READING IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND PARENT/ GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION AND OPTIONS

1. IF A STUDENT IS IDENTIFIED FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT IN EARLY LITERACY, TARGETED, RESEARCH-BASED SCIENCE OF READING INTERVENTIONS WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE STUDENT THROUGH A STUDENT READING IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SRIP). IF A STUDENT IS NOT READING ON GRADE LEVEL BY THE END OF THIRD GRADE, RESEARCH-BASED SCIENCE OF READING INTERVENTIONS MUST CONTINUE TO BE PROVIDED TO THE STUDENT AND THE FOLLOWING SOLUTIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS/ GUARDIANS:
 - a. STUDENT IS IDENTIFIED FOR RETENTION
 - b. STUDENT RECEIVES A “GOOD CAUSE EXEMPTION” AND IS NOT RETAINED
 - c. PARENT CAN CHOOSE 4TH GRADE PROMOTION AND PROVIDE CONSENT TO TARGETED READING INTERVENTION IN 4TH GRADE.

ACTION: Dr. Mele-McCarthy motioned, Mr. Greer seconded to adopt Amendment #3 to Version 4 of the Comprehensive PreK to 3 Literacy Policy. (In Favor: 7, Opposed: 3, Abstained: 4, Absent: 0)

Amendment #5 (Page 14: Section D.2.a.iii-iv)
Section D.2.a.iii-iv

- iii. “Students with disabilities who participate in the statewide English Language Arts assessment and who have an IEP or a Section 504 plan that reflects that the student has received intensive reading intervention for at least two years, but still demonstrates a reading difficulty, or was previously retained for one year in Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, or 3rd grade.”
- iv. “Students who were previously retained for one year in kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, or 3rd grade. No student shall be retained more than once as a result of this policy.”

ACTION: Dr. Mele-McCarthy motioned, Dr. Lewis seconded to adopt Amendment #5 to Version 4 of the Comprehensive PreK to 3 Literacy Policy. (In Favor: 2, Opposed: 6, Abstained: 6, Absent: 0)

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM UPDATE

Dr. Wright called on Ms. Donna Gunning and Mr. Krishna Tallur. Ms. Gunning and Mr. Tallur provided an update on the Financial Reporting System implemented by the MSDE in coordination with the Accountability and Implementation Board to monitor the local education agency compliance with the minimum school funding requirements established under the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future.

Mr. Gaddam asked if the public access will include the 2025 data that will be available in 2026. Mr. Tallur said that is correct. Mr. Gaddam went on to ask if in future years the public access will be behind the current year. Mr. Tallur explained that it takes the full fiscal year for the data to be recorded. The end-of-the-year data is not available until the October of the following year.

How the data is going to be displayed and the mechanics have not yet been established. Once that is clear MSDE will bring that back for SBOE information.

Mr. Crawford explained that implementing systems like this is anything but child's play. It takes typically 2 to 3 years to shake it out to where it's really useful. He thanked MSDE staff and LEA staff for bringing this system online.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW SUPERINTENDENTS

Dr. Wright welcomed and introduced four new local superintendents: (1) Dr. Ava Tasker-Mitchell - Somerset; (2) Dr. Mary McComas - Kent; (3) Dr. Jymil Thompson - Dorchester; (3) Mr. Bill Barnes - Howard; and (4) Dr. Thomas Taylor (absent) - Montgomery.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to § 3-305(b)(7) and (13) of the General Provisions Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and upon motion of Mr. Paul and seconded by Ms. Chang and with unanimous approval, the State Board of Education met in closed session on Tuesday, October 22, 2024, in Conference Room #1, 8th Floor, at the Nancy S. Grasmick Building. All board members were present. Also in attendance were State Superintendent Carey Wright, Executive Director Zachary Hands, and Assistant Attorneys General Elliott Schoen and Jackie LaFiandra. The Executive Session commenced at 12:10 p.m. and ended at 1:55 p.m.

Local Education Agency new superintendents joined State Board members for lunch until 12:50 p.m. The State Board Executive Session began at 12:50 p.m.

The State Board reviewed and approved three Opinions and two Orders.

- *Renee Dixon v. Cecil County Board of Education*, Opinion No. 24-20. The Board dismissed the appeal for lack of jurisdiction.
- *In the Matter of Request for Removal of Local Board Member Renee Dixon* Opinion No. 24-21. The Board dismissed the request for the local board member's removal for lack of legal sufficiency of the allegations.
- *Todd T. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* Opinion No. 24-22. The Board affirmed the local board's decision not to admit the student into a magnet program.

President Michael shared information about an upcoming appeal the Board will consider, office hours scheduling for the Board, and reviewed the date for an upcoming Board retreat.

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Shayna Cook, Deputy Superintendent Krishnanda Tallur, and Assistant State Superintendent Donna Gunning joined the meeting to brief the Board about confidential budget matters.

2023-2024 PRINCIPALS OF THE YEAR

Dr. Wright introduced Dr. Joshua Fine, President of the Maryland Association of Elementary School Principals (MAESP), and Mr. Christopher Truffer, Executive Director of the Maryland Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP). The State Board recognized Dr. Raegon Clutz, Jr. (Washington County Public Schools – Pangborn Elementary School) as the elementary-level 2024 National Distinguished Principal; Melissa Shindel (Howard County Public Schools – Glenwood Middle School) as the middle-level 2024 National Distinguished Principal; Dr. Yetunde Reeves (Baltimore City Public Schools – Paul Laurence Dunbar High School) as the 2024 MASSP Principal of the Year; and Sheri Murphy (Frederick County Public Schools – Frederick High School) as the 2024 MASSP Assistant Principal of the Year.

ANALYSIS OF FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAMS AND LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY (LEA) FUND BALANCES

Dr. Michael reported that the Education Transformation and Finance Committee members reviewed this information during their October 8th meeting and it is now being presented to the full Board.

Dr. Wright called on Ms. Donna Gunning and Mr. Krishna Tallur. Ms. Gunning provided the federal grant program balances for: (1) COVID Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds; (2) federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) programs; (3) Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); and (4) Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act. In addition, local education agency fund balances were provided.

Dr. Michael asked if funds were committed but not yet spent that would mean they are assigned. Ms. Gunning said that would be correct.

Mr. Crawford complimented staff for the detailed information given to the Board members. It is necessary for transparency.

Dr. Michael thanked staff for the coordination of efforts with the local school systems.

FINANCIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Dr. Wright requested that the State Board authorize notification of the State Comptroller to withhold 10% of the November state aid payment and each subsequent installment for any LEA that is not in full compliance with §5-114 of the Education Article by the time of the November payment.

Dr. Gunning briefed the Board on the status of LEA audit reports and the due dates for such reports.

ACTION: The State Superintendent is requesting that the State Board authorize her to notify the State Comptroller to withhold 10% of the November state aid payment and each subsequent installment for any LEA that is not in full compliance with §5-114 of the Education Article by the time of the November payment. Dr. Goldson motioned, Mr. Crawford seconded. (In Favor: 9, Opposed: 0, Abstained: 0, Absent: 5)

BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS WAIVER REQUEST OF COMAR 13A.02.06.03A

Dr. Wright called on Chief of Staff Alex Reese. Mr. Reese reported that in September 2024, due to delays in Baltimore City’s vaccine supply, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) issued a twenty-one-day extension to Baltimore City Public Schools to obtain documentation that each admitted or retained student has received certain required immunizations. During the extension, Baltimore City Public Schools may permit noncompliant students to remain in school and allow students excluded due to lack of immunization documentation to return to school. MSDE staff will provide instructions to Baltimore City Public Schools for reporting the September 30, 2024 eligible-student count.

ACTION: Baltimore City Public Schools is requesting a partial waiver from the State Board of COMAR 13A.02.06.03A *State Financial Assistance under the Foundation Program*, to remove the age-appropriate immunizations requirement for the September 30 student count solely for the purpose of calculating State Aid under the foundation program. Dr. Goldson motioned, Dr. Lewis seconded. (In Favor: 10, Opposed: 0, Abstained: 0, Absent: 4)

STATE BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

Mr. Crawford reported that the Education Transformation and Finance Committee will meet on November 12th at 4pm.

Dr. Michael acknowledged that Board Members Mr. Greer and Ms. Chang will be attending the National Association of State Boards of Education Annual Conference in Louisville, Kentucky which starts tomorrow. Executive Director Hands will be joining them. Alan Dunklow from the Attorney General’s office will be presenting at the conference.

FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. McCusker would like the Board to take a look at teacher accountability and assessment and the use of Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) and whether or not they are actually as useful as they were intended to be.

Mr. Hands reported that on November 4th some Board members will be heading out to Washington County Public Schools and asked if anyone else is interested to let him know.

LEGAL OPINIONS AND ORDERS

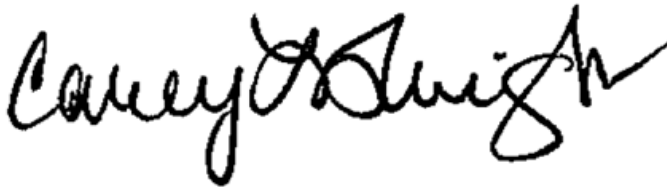
Mr. Schoen announced the following opinions and orders:

- *Renee Dixon v. Cecil County Board of Education* – lack of jurisdiction – Opin. No. 24-20

- *In the Matter of Request for Removal of Local Board Member Renee Dixon* – request for removal for ethics policy violation – Opin. No. 24-21
- *Todd T. v. Montgomery County Board of Education - magnet school admission* – Opin. No. 24-22
- *Kristian F. v. Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners* – failure to exhaust administrative remedies – OR24-18
- *Elizabeth Thatcher v. Harford County Board of Education* – stay of appeal – OR24-19

Ms. McCusker motioned to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Lewis. With no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carey M. Wright". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Carey" being more prominent and the last name "Wright" following in a similar style.

Carey M. Wright, Ed.D.
Secretary/Treasurer

Date: December 3, 2024

The information included here provides a summary of the agenda items presented. The video recordings of the meetings are the official record and can be located at:

<https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/stateboard/Pages/Meetings-2024.aspx>

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

<https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/stateboard/Pages/default.aspx>

The next Maryland State Board of Education meeting will be held on **Tuesday, December 3, 2024.**

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.