

MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, August 24, 2020
Maryland State Board of Education
200 W. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

The Maryland State Board of Education met via WebEx videoconference on Monday August 24, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. The following members participated on the videoconference 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; and State Superintendent Dr. Karen B. Salmon. Mr. Jason Wu, Student Representative was not present.

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.

REPORTS TO THE STATE BOARD FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

- **Maryland Together: Maryland's Recovery Plan for Education Updates**
(Presenter: Dr. Karen B. Salmon, State Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Carol Williamson, Ms. Mary Gable, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Student Support, Academic Enrichment & Educational Policy; Tiara Booker-Dwyer, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of College and Career Readiness Office of Leadership Development and School Improvement)

Dr. Salmon commended Dr. Carol Williamson, Dr. Sylvia Lawson, and Ms. Mary Gable on the work they have done related to the *Maryland Together: Maryland's Recovery Plan for Education*. Dr. Salmon introduced Dr. Williamson, who provided opening remarks and an overview of the recovery plan. Dr. Williamson introduced Ms. Gable, who provided updates and shared plans for the *Local School System Recovery Plans Implementation and Evaluation*. The presentation included information on the first day of school for each local school system, instructional plans/models for the opening of schools, student engagement in the learning process, social emotional learning, grading, attendance, and connectivity.

Dr. Salmon recommended to the State Board that schools be required to provide at least 3.5 hours of synchronous instruction per day.

State Board members inquired and shared concerns about how the department arrived at the 3.5 hour requirement; how the hours will be calculated (per day or total hours per week); synchronous vs. asynchronous instruction requirements and schedules and what counts toward each; ensuring consistency in reporting; and being mindful of equity issues that may arise due to variations across districts. State Board members also stressed the need to be clear about what's included in the timeframe and what activities count toward fulfilling the minimum requirement, and noted the need to give consideration to FERPA concerns around recording lessons and related privacy issues.

President Crawford and Vice President Halle suggested deferring action until Dr. Salmon can get more input from local superintendents and more concrete guidelines are established. Dr. Salmon will do additional research and gather input from local superintendents and bring updates to the State Board at the August 25th meeting.

Dr. Williamson introduced Ms. Tiara Booker-Dwyer to provide an update on the process for the *Local School System Recovery Plans Implementation and Evaluation*. Ms. Booker-Dwyer reported on the implementation and evaluation/ratings process and reviewed ratings guidelines. Ms. Gable reviewed Part One, which looks at the plan, along with the timeline. Part Two was reviewed by Dr. Dara Shaw. Dr. Shaw explained that Part Two is the evaluation component and looks at the plan after the start of the school year and will study the implementation measures and recovery plan outcomes. Dr. Shaw shared some of the sample questions with State Board members.

State Board members inquired about gauging the quality of the teaching materials, student engagement and learning delivery, and districts' instructional design for remote learning. Disaggregated data was also requested. Dr. Salmon will follow up with additional information and quarterly reports will be provided to the State Board.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to § 3-305(b)(7) of the General Provisions Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and upon motion of Dr. Joan Mele-McCarthy, seconded by Gail Bates, and with unanimous approval, the Maryland State Board of Education met in closed session via WebEx on August 24, 2020. All board members were present except Jason Wu. Also in attendance were Dr. Miya Simpson, Executive Director, Office of the State Board and Assistant Attorney General, Elliott Schoen. The Executive Session commenced at 10:55 a.m.

Three internal board management items were discussed – (1) whether to schedule in person Board meeting; (2) potential areas of the Board's governance and operations manual that need revisions; (3) the process the Board may use to set priorities.

The Executive Session ended at 11:53 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned from Executive Session at 11:53 am.

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

Date: September 22, 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, September 22, 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.

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PRESIDING OFFICER'S WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING ("CLOSING STATEMENT") UNDER OPEN MEETINGS ACT (General Provisions Article § 3-305)

1. Recorded vote to close the meeting.

Date: August 24, 2020

Time: 10:30 AM

Location: Virtual

Motion to close meeting made by: Dr. Joan Mele-McCarthy

Seconded by: Ms. Gail Bates

Members in favor: 13

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Absent: 1

2. The meeting was closed under authority of Section 3-305(b) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland (check all provisions that apply). This meeting will be closed under General Provision Art. § 3-305(b) only.

- 1. To discuss: (i) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or (ii) any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.
- 2. To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business.
- 3. To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.
- 4. To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State.
- 5. To consider the investment of public funds.
- 6. To consider the marketing of public securities.
- 7. To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.
- 8. To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.
- 9. To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations.
- 10. To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans.
- 11. To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination.
- 12. To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct.
- 13. To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.
- 14. Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

3. For each provision checked above, disclosure of the topic to be discussed and the public body's reason for discussing that topic in closed session.

Citation (insert #
from above)
§ 3-305(b)(7)

Topic

Reason for closed-session discussion to topic

3 Internal Board Management Items

4. This statement is made by Clarence Crawford, Presiding Officer.