

## **MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Monday, March 22, 2021  
Maryland State Board of Education  
200 W. Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

The Maryland State Board of Education met via videoconference on Monday March 22, 2021 at 10:00 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 and provided opening remarks.

The meeting was adjourned to Executive Session.

### **ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Pursuant to § 3-305(b)(7) of the General Provisions Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and upon motion of Ms. McCusker seconded by Mr. Dashiell, and with unanimous approval of the quorum, the Maryland State Board of Education met in closed session via WebEx on Monday, March 22, 2021. All board members were present except Dr. Holly Wilcox. Also in attendance were Dr. Sylvia Lawson, Chief Performance Officer, Amalie Brandenburg, Chief Operating Officer, Carol Williamson, Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Miya Simpson, Executive Director, Office of the State Board and Assistant Attorneys General, Elliott Schoen and Jackie LaFiandra. The Executive Session commenced at 10:15 a.m.

At that time, Board consulted with legal counsel to obtain advice regarding federal stimulus III American Recovery Plan funding.

The Executive Session ended at 11:15 a.m.

## **STATE BOARD SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021 PRIORITIES**

### ➤ **Second Term Performance Metrics 2020-2021**

*(Presenter: Dr. Carol Williamson, Deputy State Superintendent for Teaching and Learning; Dr. Dara Shaw, Executive Director for Research and Strategic Data Use)*

Dr. Shaw reviewed second term performance metrics, including updates to the first term dashboard and analysis of additional data collected for the second term. Performance metrics were collected from local school systems, covering the period of mid-November 2020 through the end of January 2021. School systems were asked to update the data collected during the first term (Fall 2020) and provide additional information about interim student grades as one measure of student learning. The presentation included a review of student attendance rates, participation in extracurricular activities, course grades, learning modes, and system responses to student data.

State Board members inquired about comparisons between the different learning modes, disaggregation of data by gender, potential correlations between attendance rates and failure rates, and mitigation strategies.

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

### ➤ **Survey to Combat Disrupted Instruction**

*(Presenter: Dr. Carol Williamson, Deputy State Superintendent for Teaching and Learning; Dr. Dara Shaw, Executive Director for Research and Strategic Data Use)*

Dr. Williamson and Dr. Shaw reviewed data from the public survey posted on the MSDE website regarding strategies to combat disrupted instruction. The presentation included feedback from respondents and a summary of evidence-based, high-impact strategies in addressing disrupted instruction.

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

### ➤ **Addressing the Impact of Interrupted Instruction**

*(Presenter: Dr. Carol Williamson, Deputy State Superintendent for Teaching and Learning; Tiara Booker-Dwyer, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Career and College Readiness)*

Ms. Booker-Dwyer reviewed the plan to provide support to school systems to address the impact of interrupted instruction due to circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic. The MSDE is collaborating with the Region 4 Comprehensive Center, led by Policy Studies Associates, to develop monitoring resources and protocols aimed at reviewing interventions implemented by school systems. Monitoring will consist of three phases: 1) Readiness, 2) Implementation, and Analysis and Recommendations. Ms. Booker-Dwyer provided an overview of each phase, the proposed timeline, and next steps.

State Board members inquired about staffing to support implementation of the plan, the criteria to be used to identify schools, involvement of business and higher education communities, on-site monitoring and monitoring teams, and the use of adapted learning tools in addressing learning loss.

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm.

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

Date: April 27, 2021

*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/Meetings-2021.aspx>*

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

*<http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/stateboard/Pages/Meetings-2021.aspx>*

**The next meeting of the Maryland State Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, April 27, 2021.** 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: March 22, 2021

Time: 10:25 am

Location: Virtual

Motion to close meeting made by: Rachel McCusker

Seconded by: Mr. Dashiell

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)

Topic

Reason for closed-session discussion to topic

§ 3-305(b)(7)

Review of Federal Funds  
and pending legislation

Consult with legal counsel and obtain legal advice

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