

# MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday  
June 22, 2010

Maryland State Board of Education  
200 W. Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

The Maryland State Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, June 22, 2010, at the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building. The following members were in attendance: Mr. James H. DeGraffenreidt, Jr., President; Dr. Charlene M. Dukes, Vice-President; Dr. Mary Kay Finan; Dr. James Gates, Jr.; Ms. Luisa Montero-Diaz; Mr. David H. Murray; Mrs. Madhu Sidhu; Mr. Guffrie M. Smith, Jr.; Donna Hill Staton, Esq.; Dr. Ivan Walks; Ms. Kate Walsh and Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, Secretary/Treasurer and State Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Sayed Naved was not present.

Elizabeth Kameen, Esq., Assistant Attorney General, and the following staff members were also present: Dr. John Smeallie, Deputy State Superintendent for Administration; Mr. Steve Brooks, Deputy State Superintendent for Finance; and Mr. Anthony South, Executive Director to the State Board.

President DeGraffenreidt declared a quorum and opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. He informed the Board and the public that Mr. Naved was not going to present due to a business trip that had been scheduled prior to his appointment to the State Board. He also noted that Dr. Walks would be late due to traffic congestion.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. DeGraffenreidt noted for the information of the Board that he made a correction to the draft Minutes of the May meeting regarding a comment made by him regarding the RTTT application. He noted that Dr. Grasmick also had a correction to make on the same page of the Minutes. Dr. Grasmick greeted everyone and said that under the Superintendent's Report it should have read \$23 billion and not \$123 billion. Mr. DeGraffenreidt asked that if there were no further comments on the Consent Agenda, he would ask for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda which was made by Dr. Gates and seconded by Ms. Montero-Diaz. He asked for any discussion or comment. Dr. Grasmick mentioned that the fee incentive program was for the National Board Certification of Teachers, and said Dr. Joanne Ericson, who directs the program was available to answer any questions that the Board may have about this program. Dr. Grasmick: "It is the program which has received much commendation. We've had about 411 applicants this year, and the State pays about two-thirds of the cost of this, and the local pays the other third." Mr. DeGraffenreidt thanked her for the explanation and said that there was a motion and a second, and the Board was ready to vote.

Upon the motion by Dr. Gates, seconded by Ms. Montero-Diaz, and with unanimous agreement, the Board approved the Consent Agenda. (In Favor – 10) Dr. Walks not present.

- Approval of Minutes of May 25-26, 2010
- Personnel 9 (copy attached to these minutes)
- Budget Adjustments for May, 2010
- Selection of the National Board Candidates

## **RECOGNITION OF ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR**

Mr. DeGraffenreidt asked Dr. Grasmick to introduce the next item. Dr. Grasmick asked the honorees and Debbie Drown, Executive Director of the Maryland Association of Elementary School Principals (MAESP), to join the Board at the testimony table. Dr. Grasmick explained that this was an annual event and every year MAESP selects a principal and a vice principal who have done outstanding work to receive this honor. She then introduced Ms. Drown to present the awards. Ms. Drown explained the selection process and introduced Anne Gold, Principal of Vincent Farm Elementary School in Baltimore County. Ms. Drown read an excerpt from the thirty pages of recommendations for Ms. Gold. Ms. Drown then said, "It is with great pleasure that I present to you, Ms. Anne Gold, Maryland Principal of the Year for 2010." Ms. Gold made a brief speech of thanks, and was congratulated by Mr. DeGraffenreidt.

Ms. Drown then explained that there was also an award for the most outstanding vice principal, and this year's winner was Patricia Shifflett from Rockburn Elementary School in Howard County. She noted that Ms. Shifflett was soon to become Principal of Jeffers Hill Elementary School of Howard County. Ms. Shifflett also made a brief speech of thanks. Mr. DeGraffenreidt expressed appreciation for the example set by both recipients, and called on Dr. Grasmick. Dr. Grasmick said that she had had the opportunity to visit Ms. Gold at her schools, and then said "And I have just extended to myself an invitation to visit Patricia in her new setting . . ." and congratulated both recipients. Together, Dr. Grasmick and Mr. DeGraffenreidt presented Ms. Gold and Ms. Shifflett with certificates of recognition.

## **ORAL ARGUMENT**

The Board then heard oral argument in the appeal of Lauren Crump versus the Montgomery County Board of Education. James C. Strouse, Esquire, represented Ms. Crump and Judith Bressler, Esquire, represented the Montgomery County Board of Education.

## **RACE TO THE TOP – NEXT STEPS**

Mr. DeGraffenreidt then called on Dr. Grasmick to report on the Race to the Top application and next steps. Dr. Grasmick displayed the application and the appendices noting that is comprised of more than 2,000 pages. Dr. Grasmick said that the Department anticipated hearing about the status of Maryland's application by the end of July, and it was her hope that Maryland would be a finalist. She indicated that there will be an interview process for the finalists that will take place the week of August 9, 2010. Dr. Grasmick said she and her team were watching the videos of the previous finalists, with a particular interest in the two states that received the initial grants along with the state that lost the most points and the state that gained the most points in the interview process to see what they did. Dr. Grasmick indicated that she plans to recommend to