

Legislative Committee Meeting
ML2
February 2, 2009 – 8:00 a.m.

Committee: Janet Siddiqui, Chairman; Frank J. Aquino; Sandra H. French
Staff: Raymond H. Brown, CFO

Attendees: Janet Siddiqui, Frank J. Aquino, Sandra H. French, Raymond H. Brown
Staff: Barbara Bowers
Others: Ms. Faenita Dilworth, CAC & PTA Council

Item	Subject	Discussion	Action/Status	Follow-up
I	Call to Order	8:05 a.m.	By consensus	
II	Approval of Agenda		By consensus	
III	Review	<p>1. MABE Legislative Committee Update from 1/26/09 meeting (Brown/French):</p> <p>- Prince George’s County is backing a legislation called “Equity in Education Funding Act of 2009 (Net Taxable Income)”; and Mark Collins’ presentation of the Budget Bill – a reduction of aid for non-public schools, a change from 80/20 to 50/50.</p>	1. Mr. Brown will forward a copy of the bill to committee members.	

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		<p>2. Appeal Hearing for Capital Budget Update (Brown):</p> <p>Hope-A-Thon was discussed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dr. Cousin spoke about the HCPSS housing daycare in some of the schools.- The Governor noted that the HCPSS was the highest performing school system in Maryland, as well as in the State of the Union.- Dr. Cousin spoke about the CDC program and the short falls in the Capital Project.		

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Item	Subject	Discussion	Action/Status	Follow-up
		<p>3. Discussion of House Bills (Brown/All):</p>	<p>3. Mr. Brown will provide a copy of the following bills to the committee members and also add them to the 2/12/09 BOE Mtg. Agenda:</p> <p>1) HB 26 – Children with Anaphylactic Allergies - Reduction of Risk 2) HB 20 – Intellectual Disability (Rosa’s Law) 3) SB 15 – Pedestrian and Bicycle Trail Enhancements – Funding 4) SB 24 – State Aid for School Construction – Planning and Design Costs 5) Mr. Brown will also report on the Budget Bill and the Federal Economic Stimulus Package at 2/12/09 BOE Mtg.</p>	

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		<p>4. Distribution of Legislative Briefings: Despite Harford County's offer to allow forwarding the document under our own logo, the legislative committee and board will continue to use the Harford County Legislative Briefing report as a resource only. - Mrs. French suggested a link to the MABE web-site from the HCPSS web-site.</p>	<p>4. Mr. Brown said he will speak to Mr. John Woolums of MABE regarding a link to their legislative page to the HCPSS web-site.</p>	
IV	Scheduling	<p>The next meeting will be held on February 18 at 3:00 p.m. in ML2</p>		
V	Adjournment	8:53 a.m.	By consensus	

Maryland Association of Boards of Education

Legislative Committee Meeting

Monday, January 26, 2009

10:00 A.M. – Noon

AGENDA

- I. Welcome and Introductions Roberta Wise, Chair
- II. The FY 2010 State Budget for Education
**Guest Speaker: Mark Collins, Fiscal Analyst,
Department of Legislative Services**
- III. Bill Decisions John Woolums
- IV. Future Meetings: February 10 – Legislative Day at 10:00 a.m.
March 2
March 23
April 20 – Session Summary

V. For the Good of the Order

Draft

All

*Net taxable income - Bring back motion next meeting
"FIX"
certain date calculation & /, but now late filing deadline all over
causing Mark G to look less wealthy
Match up fed'l gov 4 → Nov. 1 (bill was in 2006)*

MABE Legislative Committee Meeting: January 26, 2009

Bills Requiring Committee Action

HB 20 - Intellectual Disability (Rosa's Law) (Delegate Sophocleus)

This bill replaces the term "mental retardation" with "intellectual disability" in the State code. All related references are also replaced. The change in terminology effectively renames State facilities and residential centers that include the term "mentally retarded" or "mental retardation." Hearing in the House Health and Government Operations Committee (HGO) on January 27.

Staff Recommendation: No Position

Rationale: Not sufficient information on the potential impact on state education laws and regulations, especially as related to federal laws and regulations which continue to use the term "mental retardation."

HB 73 - Education - Floating Teacher Pilot Program (Delegates Rice, Feldman, Ivey, F. Turner, and Walker)

This bill establishes the Floating Teacher Pilot Program in Baltimore City and in Montgomery and Prince George's counties. The bill defines a "floating teacher" as a (2) "floating teacher" means a teacher, other than a regularly assigned classroom teacher, assigned to assist a student who has been determined by school staff to require additional instruction, other than special education and related services, to comprehend material presented in the student's classroom. The bill requires each of the 3 school systems to select three underperforming schools for participation in the pilot program, and each school in the pilot program shall receive one floating teacher through the pilot program. "Underperforming school" means a public school that is not making adequate yearly progress or is a school in need of improvement under the federal no child left behind act of 2001 and as implemented by the department. The pilot program would be in effect for the 2009–2010 and 2010–2011 academic years. Assigned to the House Ways and Means Committee (W&M). No hearing scheduled.

Staff Recommendation: No Position

Rationale: Well-intended legislation to facilitate the assignment of additional staff to underperforming schools. However, the bill is inconsistent with the statewide approach to funding allocation under the Thornton Bridge to Excellence Act and also constitutes an intrusion into local board decision-making authority.

SB 15 - School Construction - Pedestrian and Bicycle Trail Enhancements - Funding (Senator Rosapepe)

This bill requires the Board of Public Works to include pedestrian and bicycle trail enhancements as an approved public school construction or capital improvement cost; requires the Board to adopt specified regulations; limits the aggregate amount the Board may approve each fiscal year for specified pedestrian and bicycle trail enhancements; authorizes local governments to use specified highway user revenues for sidewalk construction; and specifies State policy regarding sidewalks, footpaths, and bicycle trails; etc. Hearing in the Senate Budget & Taxation Committee (B&T) on January 28.

Staff Recommendation: **Support**

Expands def. of eligible costs therefore fewer projects could be on test the same

Rationale: Consistent with MABE's longstanding position supporting "state school construction program policies and procedures which enhance local board of education abilities to effectively and efficiently manage and execute approved projects." Does not impose any new requirements or restrictions on local board priorities or decision making authority regarding school construction projects.

SB 24 - Public Schools - State Aid for School Construction - Planning and Design Costs (Senator Peters) Requiring the Board of Public Works to include the cost of planning and design as an approved public school construction or capital improvement cost; requiring the Board of Public Works, at the recommendation of the Interagency Committee on School Construction, to adopt specified regulations; etc. Hearing in the Senate Budget & Taxation Committee (B&T) on January 28.

Staff Recommendation: **Support**

Ditto

Rationale: Consistent with MABE's longstanding position supporting "state school construction program policies and procedures which enhance local board of education abilities to effectively and efficiently manage and execute approved projects." Does not impose any new requirements or restrictions on local board priorities or decision making authority regarding school construction projects.

SB 100 - Public Schools and Child Care Centers - Artificial Color Additives - Prohibition (Senator Stone)

This bill would prohibit public schools and child care centers from purchasing, selling, using, or serving food products containing or consisting of specified artificial color additives on or after July 1, 2010; authorize the State Board of Education to adopt regulations; and provide that child care centers may serve specified foods containing or consisting of specified artificial color additives under specified circumstances. Assigned to the Senate Education Health and Environmental Affairs Committee (EHEA). No hearing scheduled.

Staff Recommendation: **Oppose**

Rationale: Would impose an unfunded mandate on school systems based on a presumption based on insufficient analysis.