



PSTEB

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND
TEACHER EDUCATION BOARD

July 9, 2026

The 514th meeting of the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) was held on July 8, 2026. Mr. Hornbeck called the meeting to order at 9:41am.

The following members were in attendance: Dr. Jennifer Bishoff, Ms. Melissa Carpenter, Dr. Dionne Curbeam, Mr. Joshua Davidson, Ms. Stephanie Farmer, Dr. Debi Gartland, Mr. Darren Hornbeck, Ms. Kelly Meadows, Ms. Susan McLendon, Ms. Kimberly Moore, Ms. Amy Poirier, Dr. Ebony Terrell Shockley, Dr. Nikki Woodward, Ms. Sandie Skordalos.

The following members were absent: Dr. Keisha Allen, Ms. Garima Bhatt Handley, Ms. Janill Bobbitt, Dr. Cheryl Dyson, Dr. Winona, Taylor, Ms. Karen Yoho.

The following Attorney General Staff Members were present: Mr. Sean Fitzgerald -Assistant Attorney General

Public Comment

None

Communication Update

None

State Board Update

Ms. Hannah Oakley provided detailed updates on the action items discussed during the June meeting of the Maryland State Board of Education. She also reviewed the summary of actions taken by the Board for July.

COMAR 13A.07.06.08 State Program Approval Requirements (Permission to Publish)

Ms. Meadows proposed amendments to COMAR 13A.07.08, State Program Approval Requirements to align Maryland regulations with two laws passed during the 2026 legislative session. The amendments include requirements from the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact, including supervised practicum hours and examination requirements, and implement changes from the Blueprint for Maryland's Future that expand how teacher candidates may demonstrate pedagogical competency. These changes allow educator preparation programs to use institution-developed portfolio assessments and recognize successful completion of the MSDE Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Program as meeting the pedagogical assessment requirement for teacher licensure.

MOTION

Dr. Dionne Curbeam moved to publish Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 13A.07.06.08 - State Program Approval Requirements. The motion was second by Dr. Jennifer Bishoff. Motion carries

COMAR 13A.12.02.03 Pathways to Teacher Licensure (Permission to Publish)

Ms. Meadows proposed amendments to the teacher licensure pathways regulations to align with Senate Bill 311. The amendments expand the ways teacher candidates can demonstrate pedagogical competency by allowing institution-developed portfolio assessments and recognizing successful completion of the MSDE Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Program in place of a portfolio assessment. The changes also simplify licensure for experienced out-of-state educators by allowing applicants with two years of effective teaching evaluations to meet the teaching ability requirement, reducing barriers to recruitment while maintaining licensure standards.



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MOTION

Dr. Debi Gartland to publish Code of Maryland Regulations COMAR 13A.12.02.03 - Pathways to Teacher Licensure. The motion was second by Dr. Nikki Woodward and the motion carries.

COMAR 13A.12.04.09 School Social Psychologist (Permission to Publish)

Ms. Meadows proposed amendments to the school psychologist licensure regulations to align with the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact. The changes require out-of-state applicants to complete a 1,200-hour internship, including 600 hours in a school setting, consistent with compact requirements. The amendments also remove an expedited licensure pathway that relied on experience and an out-of-state license alone, replacing it with a new pathway that allows qualified school psychologists from other compact member states to receive an equivalent Maryland license more efficiently.

MOTION

Dr. Debi Gartland to publish Code of Maryland Regulations COMAR 13A.12.04.09 - School Social Psychologist. The motion was second by Dr. Nikki Woodward and motion carries.

COMAR 13A.12.01.05 Military Reciprocity (Permission to Publish)

Ms. Meadows proposed amendments to COMAR 13A.12.01.05, Military and Foreign Service Reciprocity, to align with updated federal regulations and 2026 state legislation. The amendments extend licensure reciprocity to eligible foreign service members and their spouses, in addition to military service members and their spouses, allowing them to teach in Maryland under a valid, unencumbered out-of-state license while assigned to Maryland. The Board also discussed implementation, including the development of a reciprocity verification system, and clarified that reciprocity ends when active duty or foreign service orders conclude, at which point individuals must apply for a Maryland educator license to continue teaching in the state.

MOTION

Dr. Ebony Terrell Shockley move to publish Code of Maryland Regulations COMAR 13A.12.01.0 5- Military Reciprocity. The motion was second by Dr. Nikki Woodward and motion carries.

COMAR 13A.12.04.11 School Social Worker

Ms. Meadows proposed amendments to the school social worker licensure regulations to align with recently adopted State Board regulations. The amendments add a consistent definition of school social worker and update the regulation to clearly identify the Maryland Department of Health social work licenses by including their official acronyms. The eligibility requirements remain unchanged, including the requirement for a qualifying Maryland social work license and three semester hours of coursework in special education.

MOTION

Dr. Debi Gartland moved to publish Code of Maryland Regulations COMAR 13A.12.04.11 School Social Worker. The motion was second by Dr. Ebony Terrell Shockley and motion carries.



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GYO Educators Grant Update

Dr. Jason Keys provided an update on the Grow Your Own (GYO) Educators Grant Program, which supports partnerships among local school systems, unions, and educator preparation programs to recruit and prepare future teachers. He highlighted the Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Program (RTAP), which allows aspiring educators to earn a salary while completing their teacher preparation and licensure requirements.

Dr. Keys reported that the first round of the \$19.4 million GYO grant awarded funding to 13 local education agencies, supporting the preparation of more than 600 future teachers, with an emphasis on high-need certification areas such as special education and elementary education. He also shared that the second round of grant applications is under review, with the first cohort of participants beginning this fall.

Teach Maryland! Overview

Dr. Carmen Diaz provided an overview of TeachMaryland.org, MSDE's new recruitment partnership designed to strengthen Maryland's educator pipeline. The platform recruits prospective teachers through digital outreach, provides free coaching and resources, connects candidates with educator preparation programs, and helps reduce barriers to entering the profession. Dr. Diaz emphasized that TeachMaryland.org supports recruitment and candidate guidance but does not issue licenses or determine licensure policy, which remain the responsibility of MSDE.

Approval of June Minutes

June meeting minutes approved.

August Agenda

- Call to order
- Public comment
- Announcements
- State Board Update
- Communication Updates
- Approval of Meeting Minutes
- August Agenda

Announcements/Communication Update

Ms. Meadows introduced the two new boards members, Mr. Justin Holbrook representing Maryland Association of Elementary School Principals and Dr. Deborah Dennie representing Maryland Association of Secondary School Principal. Members were advised to pay attention to their email regarding their appointments to be sworn in.

Meeting Adjourned