



Maryland Education Coalition



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March 7, 2023

House Appropriations Committee

Delegate Ben Barnes, Chair

HB1196 – Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Implementation Coordinator – Salary Grant

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland Education Coalition (MEC) was originally founded over 40 years ago (1980) and is the oldest, most experienced, and diverse public education advocacy coalition in Maryland. MEC is currently made up of over twenty statewide organizations and individuals advocates(see below). We advocate for adequate funding, equitable policies, and transparent accountability statewide for the estimated 900,000 students in Maryland’s public schools, regardless of their academic, cultural, economic, geographic, racial, or other demographic status.

MEC strongly supports HB1196 – Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Implementation Coordinator – Salary Grant.

This bill, if passed would allow each Maryland local school system to appoint a staff member whose responsibility is the oversee the development of their local Comprehensive Implementation Plans under the guidance of the Accountability and Implementation Board including their goals, objectives and strategies used to improve the achievement of all students and to meet the Blueprint for Maryland’s Futures recommendations.

MEC has been directly involved in public education policies, funding and implementation for decades and members served on the Adequacy in Funding stakeholders’ group and Kirwan Commission as well as other MSDE and GAM committees. We also have members serving on AIB workgroups. In addition, we attend or watch all meetings, take notes, and share our views, concerns, questions or recommendations when appropriate.

MEC is aware that currently, the Blueprint Coordinator staff within many if not all of the school systems may also have other school systems jobs, roles, or responsibilities. This salary grant would allow each school system to appoint dedicated staff who are directly responsible for developing and overseeing the local plans, goals, objectives, and strategies. This will help ensure that the intent of the Blueprint and the plans as developed and overseen by the AIB and MSDE are fully implemented with the intent of ensuring all students regardless of their status meet their potential and are ready to graduate college and career ready.

Therefore, we urge the Appropriations Committee to issue a favorable report for HB1196 – Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Implementation Coordinator – Salary Grant.

ACLU of MD, Arts Education in Maryland Schools, Arts Every Day, Attendance Works, CASA, Children’s Behavioral Health Coalition, Free State PTA, Decoding Dyslexia of Maryland, Disability Rights Maryland, League of Women Voters of MD, Let Them See Clearly, Maryland Coalition for Gifted & Talented Ed, Maryland Alliance for Racial Equity in Education, Maryland Coalition for Community Schools, Maryland Down Syndrome Advocacy Coalition, MSC-NAACP, Maryland Out of School Time Network, Maryland School Psychologists’ Association, Parent Advocacy Consortium, Public Justice Center, School Social Workers of MD, Strong Schools Maryland, Kalman R. Hettleman, David Hornbeck, Rick Tyler, Jr., Sharon Rubinstein