
By: **Chairman, Ways and Means Committee (By Request - Departmental - Education)**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2004

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Comprehensive Master Plan Annual Updates**

3 FOR the purpose of revising the dates for the submission of certain plan updates to
4 the Maryland State Department of Education; and generally relating to
5 education and the preparation and submission of comprehensive master plans
6 by county boards of education to the Department.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Education
9 Section 4-309 and 5-401
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article - Education**

15 4-309.

16 (a) (1) On or before June 1, 2002, the Chief Executive Officer shall submit a
17 5-year comprehensive master plan to the Board for its review, modification, and final
18 approval.

19 (2) On or before August 30, 2002, the Board shall approve and commence
20 implementation of the master plan.

21 (3) Following approval of the master plan or by July 30, 2002, whichever
22 is earlier, the master plan shall be submitted to the State Board and to the State
23 Superintendent for their review and approval.

24 (4) The Chief Executive Officer or designee shall consult with parents,
25 teachers, students, representatives of the business community, and educational
26 instruction and administration experts during the course of the development of the
27 master plan.

1 (5) The master plan shall be updated annually and submitted WITH THE
2 CURRENT YEAR APPROVED BUDGET AND THE ESTIMATED PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL
3 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES to the State Board and the State Superintendent for
4 review and approval on or before [July 1] AUGUST 15 of each year. A CURRENT YEAR
5 APPROVED BUDGET AND THE FINAL PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL REVENUE AND
6 EXPENDITURES SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE STATE BOARD AND THE STATE
7 SUPERINTENDENT FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 OF EACH
8 YEAR.

9 (6) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation, the master
10 plan requirement shall be the sole master plan required of the Baltimore City Public
11 School System.

12 (b) The master plan shall provide for the improvement of:

13 (1) Student achievement in the Baltimore City public schools; and

14 (2) The management and accountability of the Baltimore City Public
15 School System.

16 (c) The master plan shall identify the actions necessary to:

17 (1) Incorporate the key recommendations of the 1992 Towers
18 Perrin/Cresap Management Study report, the 1994 and 1995 MGT of America, Inc.
19 reports, and the report on the December, 2001 final evaluation of the City-State
20 Partnership prepared by Westat;

21 (2) Address both the compliance efforts as well as the system's efforts to
22 achieve full organizational and instructional integration of special education and
23 general education including the quality indicators that will be used to evaluate the
24 extent of integration and its impact on student performance;

25 (3) Provide a balanced and efficient allocation of qualified staff to
26 support the necessary educational and managerial functions of the school system and
27 include in an annual status report on the implementation of the master plan a
28 qualitative and fiscal analysis of the staffing of key central and area office functions;

29 (4) Provide effective curriculum and instructional programs for the
30 Baltimore City Public School System including the development and dissemination of:

31 (i) A citywide curriculum framework reflecting State learning
32 outcomes, including Maryland School Performance Program standards, and an
33 appropriate developmental sequence for students;

34 (ii) An effective program that involves school-based practitioners
35 including teachers, mentors, master teachers, and instructional support teachers, as
36 well as the exclusive employee organization representatives in the design and
37 implementation of high quality, differentiated professional development activities
38 derived from analysis of student performance needs and that complies with the
39 National Staff Development Council Standards for content, context, and process; and

1 (iii) An effective educational program for meeting the needs of
2 students at risk of educational failure;

3 (5) Review the requirement of a demonstrated student achievement
4 portfolio for the performance-based evaluation system for teachers and principals
5 and incorporate design modifications that will enhance teacher and principal
6 investment in the evaluation instrument;

7 (6) Provide effective management information systems for the Baltimore
8 City Public School System, including the capacity to accurately track student
9 enrollment, attendance, academic records, discipline records, and compliance with the
10 provisions of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act;

11 (7) Provide an effective financial management and budgeting system for
12 the Baltimore City Public School System to ensure the maximization and appropriate
13 utilization of all available resources;

14 (8) Provide effective hiring and assignment of teachers and staff;

15 (9) Develop an effective system of providing instructional materials and
16 support services;

17 (10) Develop and evaluate model school reform initiatives;

18 (11) Develop a process with timelines to govern the distribution of student
19 test data to area executive officers and to principals, as well as the central office
20 resources that will be provided to school level practitioners to validate and analyze
21 the student test data;

22 (12) Provide appropriate methods for student assessment and
23 remediation;

24 (13) Develop and implement a student code of discipline as required in §
25 7-306 of this article;

26 (14) Incorporate the school system's facilities master plan including
27 information about projects currently underway as well as those planned pursuant to
28 the capital improvement program and update this information annually as the
29 master plan is updated;

30 (15) Develop a program to train principals and assistant principals in
31 methods of increasing parental involvement at the school level, including strategies
32 for connecting parents to the instructional program of the school and for measuring
33 the level of parental involvement through meaningful indicators;

34 (16) Include measurable outcomes and timelines for the implementation
35 and evaluation of the reforms made in accordance with the master plan and the
36 reporting of this information to the Governor, the Mayor of Baltimore City, and, in
37 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly;

1 (17) Improve the status of schools that are subject to a State
2 reconstitution notice;

3 (18) Develop an effective system of teacher input regarding
4 implementation of school reform initiatives, curriculum, instruction, and professional
5 development that includes active and ongoing consultation with classroom teachers at
6 the elementary, middle, and high school levels; and

7 (19) Institute a formal procedure by which the directors of each of the
8 school system's mentoring programs, including React, Blum, and Peer Mentoring, will
9 provide semi-annual reports to the Board and senior management concerning the
10 perspectives of the mentoring programs.

11 5-401.

12 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

13 (2) "Local performance standards" means standards for student and
14 school performance developed by a county board.

15 (3) "Plan" means a comprehensive master plan.

16 (4) "State performance standards" means standards for student and
17 school performance approved by the State Board.

18 (b) (1) Each county board shall develop and implement a comprehensive
19 master plan that describes the goals, objectives, and strategies that will be used to
20 improve student achievement and meet State performance standards and local
21 performance standards in each segment of the student population.

22 (2) (i) Each county board shall submit a plan to the Department on or
23 before October 1, 2003.

24 (ii) At least 60 days before submitting a plan to the Department, a
25 county board shall provide a copy of the plan to the:

26 1. County council and if applicable, county executive; or

27 2. County commissioners.

28 (3) Subject to subsection (h) of this section, the plan shall:

29 (i) Extend for a 5-year period beginning with the 2003-2004 school
30 year; and

31 (ii) Be updated ANNUALLY by the county board AND SUBMITTED
32 WITH THE CURRENT YEAR APPROVED BUDGET AND THE ESTIMATED PRIOR YEAR
33 ACTUAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES TO THE STATE BOARD AND THE STATE
34 SUPERINTENDENT FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL on or before [July 1] AUGUST 15 of
35 each year. A CURRENT YEAR APPROVED BUDGET AND THE FINAL PRIOR YEAR
36 ACTUAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE STATE BOARD

1 AND THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL ON OR BEFORE
2 OCTOBER 1 OF EACH YEAR.

3 (c) The plan shall include:

4 (1) Goals and objectives as required under subsections (d) through (f) of
5 this section that are aligned with State performance standards and local performance
6 standards;

7 (2) Implementation strategies for meeting goals and objectives;

8 (3) Methods for measuring progress toward meeting goals and objectives;

9 (4) Time lines for implementation of the strategies for meeting goals and
10 objectives;

11 (5) Time lines for meeting goals and objectives;

12 (6) A description of the alignment of the county board's budget with
13 goals, objectives, and strategies for improving student achievement;

14 (7) The impact of the proposed goals, objectives, and implementation
15 strategies on public school facilities and capital improvements that may be needed to
16 implement the plan; and

17 (8) Any other information required by the State Superintendent.

18 (d) The plan shall include goals, objectives, and strategies regarding the
19 performance of:

20 (1) Students requiring special education, as defined in § 5-209 of this
21 title;

22 (2) Students with limited-English proficiency, as defined in § 5-208 of
23 this title;

24 (3) Prekindergarten students;

25 (4) Kindergarten students;

26 (5) Gifted and talented students, as defined in § 8-201 of this article;

27 (6) Students enrolled in career and technology courses;

28 (7) Students failing to meet, or failing to make progress toward meeting,
29 State performance standards, including any segment of the student population that
30 is, on average, performing at a lower achievement level than the student population
31 as a whole; and

32 (8) Any other segment of the student population identified by the State
33 Superintendent.

1 (e) With regard to subsection (d)(7) of this section, the plan shall include
2 strategies to address any disparities in achievement identified for any segment of the
3 student population.

4 (f) (1) (i) The State Superintendent shall review each plan to determine
5 whether the plan complies with the requirements of subsections (b) through (e) of this
6 section.

7 (ii) If the State Superintendent determines that a plan does not
8 comply with the requirements of subsections (b) through (e) of this section, the State
9 Superintendent may require specific revisions to the plan.

10 (2) (i) The State Superintendent may review the content of each plan
11 to assess whether the plan will have the effect of improving student achievement and
12 increasing progress toward meeting State performance standards.

13 (ii) If the State Superintendent determines that a plan will not
14 have the effect of improving student achievement and increasing progress toward
15 meeting State performance standards, the State Superintendent may require specific
16 revisions to the plan.

17 (3) A county board may not implement a plan unless it has been
18 approved by the State Superintendent.

19 (g) (1) A county board may submit a preexisting management plan to the
20 Department as the county board's plan under subsection (b) of this section.

21 (2) If the State Superintendent determines that the preexisting
22 management plan meets the requirements set forth in this section, the State
23 Superintendent shall approve the preexisting management plan as the county board's
24 plan.

25 (h) (1) If a school system fails to demonstrate progress toward improving
26 student achievement and meeting State performance standards in each segment of
27 the student population during a school year, the State Superintendent shall review
28 the content of the plan and any updates to the plan to assess whether the plan will
29 have the effect of improving student achievement and increasing progress toward
30 meeting State performance standards.

31 (2) If the State Superintendent determines that a plan will not have the
32 effect of improving student achievement and increasing progress toward meeting
33 State performance standards, the State Superintendent shall require specific
34 revisions to the plan.

35 (i) The State Superintendent shall advise the Governor and the General
36 Assembly concerning the distribution of State funds to a county that fails to make
37 progress toward improving student achievement and meeting State performance
38 standards in each segment of the student population.

39 (j) The State Board may withhold State funds from a county board if:

1 (1) A school system fails to demonstrate annual progress toward
2 improving student achievement and meeting State performance standards in each
3 segment of the student population; and

4 (2) Fails to develop a plan that meets the requirements of subsections (b)
5 through (g) of this section or take any action required by the State Superintendent
6 under this section.

7 (k) (1) The State Superintendent shall review academic intervention
8 programs and behavior modification programs to identify best practices.

9 (2) The State Superintendent shall periodically report on the best
10 practices to the State Board, the county boards, the Governor, and, subject to §
11 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

12 (l) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Department shall
13 adopt regulations as necessary to implement this section.

14 (2) The Department shall consult with county superintendents and
15 county boards before promulgating proposed regulations to implement this section.

16 (m) The Department may provide technical assistance to county boards in
17 developing and implementing a plan.

18 (n) The Governor shall include an appropriation for the Department in the
19 State budget for each fiscal year in amount sufficient to cover the costs associated
20 with implementing this section.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
22 effect July 1, 2004.