



PSSAM
Public School Superintendents' Association
OF MARYLAND

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BILL: HB 129
TITLE: State Board of Education - Membership - School Principal
DATE: February 5, 2025
POSITION: Support
COMMITTEE: House Ways and Means Committee
CONTACT: Mary Pat Fannon, Executive Director, PSSAM

The Public School Superintendents' Association of Maryland (PSSAM), on behalf of all twenty-four public school superintendents, **supports** House Bill 129.

House Bill 129 would add an active, certified principal to the Maryland State Board of Education (MSDE). This bill would require a state-wide election to be held for all active and certified principals in the State, as well as require that the principal member who receives the highest number of votes be appointed to the vacancy by the Governor. Additionally, House Bill 129 provides parameters for the voting capacity and term length of the principal member.

Maryland's superintendents have found value in the distinct voices on the State Board through elections, such as the teacher and student members. PSSAM sees this legislation as a natural extension of the diverse membership goals of the Board, as well as a vehicle for adequate representation of school leadership, which is essential for equitable outcomes in education.

PSSAM understands amendments may be under discussion between the sponsor and the State Board, and we certainly yield to the wisdom and direction of those discussions and decisions by this Committee.

For these reasons, PSSAM **supports** House Bill 129 and urges a **favorable** committee report.