

# The State of Maryland

## Executive Department

### EXECUTIVE ORDER

01.01.2007.20

#### Governor's P-20 Leadership Council of Maryland

- WHEREAS, Both the State's economic competitiveness and the earning potential of its individual residents depend on the quality of education at all levels;
- WHEREAS, By providing graduates with the basic, critical-thinking, and technical skills they need, Maryland's elementary, secondary, and postsecondary schools play critical roles in preparing graduates to succeed in the competitive global economy;
- WHEREAS, Maryland's business and education communities recognize the importance of aligning education policies to the State's economic needs in order to better prepare students for the job market and to allow the State to grow economically;
- WHEREAS, The education community has shown a commitment to improving student preparation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) by investing in STEM programs at the elementary, secondary, and postsecondary levels;
- WHEREAS, Implementation of the federal government's 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process will bring to Maryland thousands of new jobs requiring a highly skilled workforce;
- WHEREAS, Maryland has an extremely tight labor market with an unemployment rate that has been at 4.5 percent or lower since July 2003;
- WHEREAS, Maryland's changing demographics will bring a growing number of African American, Hispanic, Asian, and other minority students who will constitute a larger proportion of the State's workforce;
- WHEREAS, Many companies in the health care, tourism and hospitality, biotechnology, life sciences, security, and defense sectors face shortages of skilled workers;
- WHEREAS, The State's education and workforce creation initiatives exist in multiple departments and agencies making it difficult to design and implement an integrated statewide system; and

WHEREAS,

Improving student achievement and promoting workforce skills requires a statewide approach that ensures that every student has a chance to succeed in school and in the workplace.

NOW THEREFORE

I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

A. Establishment. There is hereby established a P-20 Leadership Council of Maryland (the Council). The Council shall be a partnership between the State, educators, and the business community to better prepare Maryland students for the jobs of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century while enhancing the State's economic competitiveness by creating a workforce with 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills.

B. Membership. The Council shall consist of not more than 35 members, including the Governor or his designee and representatives of the education, workforce creation, and business communities.

(1) Membership shall include at least the following:

- (a) The Governor, or his designee;
- (b) The Secretary of Higher Education;
- (c) The Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation;
- (d) The Secretary of Business and Economic Development;
- (e) The Chancellor of the University System of Maryland;
- (f) The State Superintendent of Schools;
- (g) The Chairman of the Maryland Higher Education Commission;
- (h) A member of the State Board of Education;
- (i) A representative of local superintendents;
- (j) A representative of local boards of education;

- (k) A representative of elementary and secondary school teachers;
- (l) A representative of elementary and secondary school principals;
- (m) An expert in early childhood education;
- (n) An expert in career and technology education;
- (o) Two representatives of community colleges;
- (p) Two representatives of independent colleges or universities;
- (q) A representative of public institutions of higher education outside the University System of Maryland;
- (r) A representative of college or university deans who has responsibility for a science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) discipline;
- (s) Four representatives of the University System of Maryland;
- (t) The Chair and the Executive Director of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board; and
- (u) Three representatives of the business community.

(2) The Governor or his designee shall chair the Council.

(3) Members of the Council shall be appointed by the Governor and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

(4) Members of the Council may not receive any compensation for their services. Public members of the Council may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, in accordance with the Standard State Travel Regulations, and as provided in the State budget.

C. Executive Committee. The Council shall be led by an executive committee that includes the following members: the Governor or his designee, the Secretary of Higher Education, the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, the Secretary of Business and Economic

Development, the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland, and the State Superintendent of Schools.

D. Other Committees and Task Forces. The Council may establish other committees or task forces as are necessary to accomplish its work.

E. Areas of Focus. The Council shall investigate ways to improve education, advance workforce creation, and make the State more competitive through some or all of the following strategies:

- (1) Ensuring that all students have the basic, critical thinking, and technical skills necessary to succeed in the modern workplace;
- (2) Reducing the dropout rate and increasing graduation rates;
- (3) Improving student achievement and closing student achievement gaps;
- (4) Improving teaching quality;
- (5) Improving teacher retention;
- (6) Strengthening and expanding educational leadership programs;
- (7) Redesigning career and technology education programs to meet college expectations and employer needs;
- (8) Expanding the availability of career and technology programs and high school centers;
- (9) Strengthening STEM programs at the high school and college level;
- (10) Connecting high school expectations and college expectations with employer needs;
- (11) Creating pathways for all students to obtain college degrees;
- (12) Providing teachers the resources and professional training they need to help students reach higher standards;
- (13) Expanding opportunities for continuous learning;

(14) Aligning high school graduation requirements with college admission requirements;

(15) Improving the connections between the pre-kindergarten, elementary, middle school, high school, college, and graduate education systems;

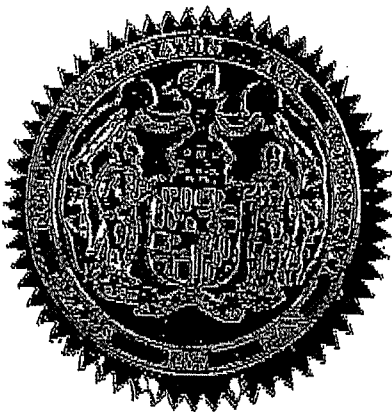
(16) Creating programs and incentives to encourage mutually beneficial relationships between schools, school systems and the business community; and

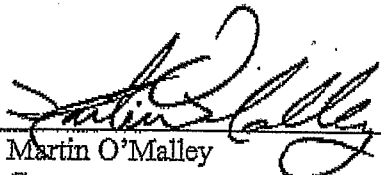
(17) Any other strategies requested by the Governor.

F. Members of the Executive Committee shall provide the primary staff support necessary for the business of the Council.


G. Meetings and Reports. The Council shall meet at least quarterly and provide the Governor with interim updates, timely recommendations and an annual report of its progress. Unless otherwise indicated, members may not send designees to represent them at Council meetings.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis this 1st day of October, 2007.



  
Martin O'Malley  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
Dennis Schnepfe  
Interim Secretary of State