

Schools, backed by professionally qualified staff (Chapter 506, Acts of 1916). Appointed by the Governor with no regard for political affiliation, county boards of education in turn appointed the county superintendent and the district school boards. Professional standards were set for State and county administrators, and standards for teachers were written into law. Policy was formulated at the State level and administered by professionals. Ages for compulsory school attendance were extended, minimum salaries for white teachers increased, and the school year lengthened in Negro schools.

Maryland accepted provisions of the federal Smith-Hughes Act in 1918, which added vocational education to the curriculum; established a State Equalization Fund to aid poorer counties in 1922; created the State Teachers Retirement Fund in 1927; initiated education for all handicapped children through State and federal funding in 1929; and built schools for baby boomers with the School Construction Loan Fund of 1949. Desegregation of Maryland schools began in 1955.

The basic foundations were laid in 1916 for the current State Department of Education, which became a cabinet-level department in 1976 (Chapter 539, Acts of 1976). The general care and supervision of public education are vested in the Department, consisting of the State Superintendent of Schools, appointed by the State Board of Education, and the professional staff employed by the Board to assist the Superintendent.

The State Board of Education sets policy for the public school system and enacts the bylaws and regulations that govern it (Code Education Article, secs. 2-201 through 2-205). The Board also considers and mediates disputes arising from the twenty-four local independent school districts in Maryland. The Board, often through the office of the State Superintendent of Schools, consults and advises county boards of education, county superintendents and their staffs, principals, and teachers. Appointed by the Governor, the State Board of Education is composed of ten members. Nine are appointed to five-year terms, and a nonvoting student member serves a one-year term.

With the advice and counsel of the State Superintendent of Schools and the staff of the State Department of Education, the Board prescribes basic policy and guidelines for instruction in public schools. The Board, with the State Superintendent's advice and counsel, also sets the standards for certification of teachers and other professional personnel employed in Maryland schools and establishes high school graduation requirements. If local school districts do not comply with State standards, the Board and the State Superintendent are empowered to recommend the withholding of State funds from those districts.

The Department was reorganized in 1988 into three Bureaus: Educational Support, Educational Development, and Vocational Rehabilitation and Correctional Education. In 1990, divisions formerly within the Bureau of Educational Support were placed directly under the State Superintendent of Schools. Also within the Department are the Drug-Free Schools Advisory Council, the Interagency Advisory Committee for Early Childhood Development and Education, the Advisory Committee for Educational Block Grants, the Education Coordinating Council for Correctional Institutions, the Education Coordinating Council for State Hospital Centers and Juvenile Institutions, the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Advisory Board, the Maryland Advisory Council on Libraries, and the Attendant Care Program Advisory Committee.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The State Board of Education appoints the State Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent directs the State Department of Education and executes the policy and enforces the regulations adopted by the Board. The Superintendent serves a four-year term (Code Education Article, secs. 2-301 through 2-303).

DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Linda Roeback, *Co-Chairperson*
Vacancy, *Co-Chairperson*

Appointed by State Superintendent of Schools: Reba Bullock; Bill Burd; Eugenia Conolly; Larry

Dawson; Joe Dick; Bonnie Dyer; Ethel Engram; Linda Ezrine; Jill Moss Greenberg; J. Sue Henry; Frances McCabe-Amprey; Rick Nash; Floyd O. Pond; Beverly Preston; Michele Prumo; Rita Rumbaugh; Barbara Sullivan; Donna Usewick; Sam Walker; Eric Wish.

Vacancy, *Drug-Free Schools Project Director*

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In August 1987, the Drug-Free Schools Advisory Council was created within the State Department of Education. The Council advises the Department and the State Superintendent of Schools on issues of drug-abuse prevention and intervention that affect school-aged youth and schools in Maryland. The Council also reviews