

ASBO Matters

ASBO—MD&DC



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Affiliated with ASBO International®

September 2002

ASBO International names Miller Executive Director

The Association of School Business Officials International, Reston, Virginia, has announced that Dr. Anne Miller has been selected to serve as the Executive Director of the association.



Dr. Anne Miller

She began August 26, 2002.

"I'm very excited to be joining ASBO at such a critical time for American education," Dr. Miller said. "People are rec-

ognizing how important school business officials have become to the success of our educational systems, and they will figure even more prominently in the future as we try to improve all schools. Expenditures for elementary and secondary education in the U.S. alone totaled more than \$422 billion last year, or 4.3% of gross domestic product. School business officials are responsible for ensuring that these resources are used effectively to guarantee the best education for our children. ASBO has tremendous opportunities in the coming months and years, and I am thrilled to be a part of them."

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Brofee named in Somerset

Karen Lee-Brofee, a Pennsylvania educator with 20 years of experience in administration, is the new superintendent of schools for Somerset County.

Dr. Brofee, acting assistant superintendent of schools for Downingtown (PA) Area School District, was among four finalists and one of three women vying for the post. She is the first female superintendent in the county's history.

"I'm extremely pleased and excited to be joining Somerset County Schools. There is emphasis on vision and I would like to share that vision," says Dr. Brofee

Until June, she was Downingtown Area assistant superintendent over some 10,000 students. Prior to that, she was director of secondary education for two years.

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Managing Success!

...at the 88th Annual Meeting & Exhibits in Phoenix

If ever there existed a time to participate in ASBO International, the time is now. The 88th Annual Meeting & Exhibits will be the largest gathering of school business management professionals to attend this meeting designed for them. In fact, your peers who serve on ASBO International's Professional Committees developed the topics, speakers, and schedule.

Professional development is at the core of ASBO and this conference has one goal, to build better school busi-

ness officials. The numbers speak for themselves: 27 Pre-Annual Meeting Workshops, three top-notch General Session Speakers, 96 Discussion Groups, 20 roundtables during the Gold Mine Session and 17 Clinic Tables. And don't forget our two high-tech computer labs: the Technology Showcase and the Microlab Computer Classroom.

More than anything, ASBO International® represents your professional community. The Annual Meeting puts it all in perspective—from around

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From the President...

Judi S. Dombek

For most ASBO-MD&DC members, summer is the busiest time of the year with preparation for the opening of schools. The summer of 2002 was no exception but, in fact, shorter than most, with many of our LEAs beginning the school year prior to Labor Day. And ASBO's summer was busy too with the kickoff summer leadership meeting in June. The day was spent with the leadership team planning ASBO's direction for the year and increasing their knowledge about the job functions and ASBO's processes. More details of the day can be obtained from the website, <http://asbo.org>. Committees convened during July and August to continue developing their goals and activities for the year.

With the emphasis of my presidency on renewing ASBO-MD&DC, the leadership throughout the organization is concentrating on maximizing volunteer time, restructuring for improvement by reviewing the current state, and refocusing on the future state. I look forward to a year of excitement that is generated by change that so many of you welcome. I look forward to the new initiatives and design of the organization resulting in an increase in membership participation, professional opportunities and networking. The coordination of our professional development sessions and the implementation of the new Revenues Committee promises new opportunities for ASBO-MD&DC this year. Through more training and guidance for our leadership team, we will streamline our organization and processes. We are reviewing and redefining responsibilities of each branch of the organization as well as empowering committees with more decision-making authority. We will present recommendations for membership approval at December's fall conference.

There are many ways to stay abreast of the organization's progress and activities: visit our website <http://asbo.org> and click on "News"; volunteer for one activity by calling anyone on the board or a committee; attend events, and talk to members.

An upcoming event to provide networking and professional growth is the ASBO International® Annual Meeting in Phoenix on October 25, 2002. I encourage each of you to attend as there is a tremendous wealth of cutting edge information and opportunities for new friendships during the four days. Visit the website, www.asbointl.org to register.

In conclusion, I am pleased and honored to serve as president this year. I look forward to providing our membership with an array of high quality workshops and programs, and new opportunities for the organization. This organization, in its uniqueness, must deliver what its members need. That is MY vision. □

Visit
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MSDE'S new web address

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) has announced a new web address: *marylandpublicschools.org*. The new address will make it easier for the public to remember and access MSDE's web site. The original address, *www.msde.state.md.us*, will remain operational, so links and bookmarks to the site via that address will still work.

"Our web site has always been popular," said State Superintendent of Schools Nancy S. Grasmick. "Now that we're creating a voluntary state curriculum and designing new state tests, I expect the public will rely even more on our web site to keep current on progress in these areas. *Marylandpublicschools.org* is a simple, descriptive web address, making it easier for the public to access our site."

Marylandpublicschools.org is not a new web site but an easier to remember web address that will take users to the existing MSDE web site. web surfers using the *marylandpublicschools.org* address will find the useful content and features always found on the MSDE web site, such as:

- Information on state programs and policies, such as the High School Assessments, safe schools, family literacy, and teacher recruitment
- Progress updates on major initiatives like the new state curriculum and assessments
- Teacher education and certification information
- News releases
- Fact sheets, newsletters, and task force reports
- Links to other state and local school system sites
- State Board of Education agendas

...Miller

ASBO International is a professional association of more than 6,200 school business management professionals. The association provides a wide range of services and benefits to its members, including an Annual Meeting attended by nearly 2000 school business officials every year; a monthly magazine and newsletter as well as the scholarly publication *Journal of Education Finance*; recognition through the nationally acknowledged Meritorious Budget Awards and Certificate of Excellence; and a wide range of books and publications that have become basic education tools for members. ASBO has just released the *Professional Standards for School Business Officials*, which for the first time allows decision-makers such as school board members to better understand the role of school business officials and the skills they should possess in order to do their jobs effectively. ASBO will be using these *Professional Standards* as a benchmark to design a range of benefits to help members.

ASBO's President, Dr. Clark Godshall, said, "We are pleased to welcome Dr. Miller. I think members of ASBO will be impressed with her background in both business and education and will look forward to meeting her at our Annual Meeting." The 88th Annual Meeting, scheduled for October 25-29, 2002 in Phoenix, Arizona, is predicted to have the highest attendance

The MSDE web site has grown steadily in popularity and content each year. In 2001 the site received more than 26 million hits—an increase of 10 million over the previous year.

MSDE expects the number of hits to climb again in 2002. Future enhancements to the web site include a redesign of the site's navigation and new video-streaming features.

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in more than twelve years.

Dr. Miller comes to ASBO from the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), where she served as Executive Director of their foundation as well as Director of Development and Strategic Alliances. She is also the co-founder of the National Alliance on the American High School and served as their first chairperson.

Before joining NASSP, Miller was at the Eastman Kodak Company for twelve years. She served as their Director of Corporate Education Initiatives for worldwide employee training, and as the CEO's advisor on K-12 education policy issues and programs. She also was Director of Education Solutions & Services, a group that developed and marketed image-based technology solutions to improve teaching and learning. Prior to joining Kodak, Miller was a teacher in K-12 schools and at the University of Kansas and the University of Missouri.

Dr. Miller holds Bachelors and Masters degrees from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Illinois.

ASBO-MD&DC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

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underway

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Maultsby, Dunn return

Marilyn Maultsby was re-elected president of the Maryland State Board of Education at the Board's July meeting. This marks the first full term for Maultsby, who was elected earlier this year to complete the term of Raymond "Buzz" Bartlett, who resigned after being named head of the Council for Basic Education.

The Board also re-elected Reginald Dunn as vice president. Dunn became vice president after Maultsby replaced Bartlett.

...Conference

...continued from page 1

the world we journey each year to learn from one another and celebrate our profession. We honor the best and brightest through our Eagle and Pinnacle Awards. We choose our leadership through a truly, democratic election process.

Come and enjoy, Phoenix! From the vibrant exhibit hall to the lively, social and guest programs, you will find this gathering an enriching experience. Kick off the program with a rousing celebration during the opening mixer. Find enlightenment, learn about new ideas, and share some laughter during the always interesting general

...Brofee

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She has taught high school in Middletown, Pennsylvania, and was a guidance counselor in Chester County. She also served as principal at elementary and high schools and was director of curriculum and instruction in Octoraro, Pa.

Now at the helm of a 3,000 or more student population—a fourth the size in Downingtown—and a \$20 million budget, Brofee said she looks toward joining Somerset County's "journey towards excellence."

"I'm interested in joining that journey and that means sharing with everyone in the county," she said. "Everyone is an important part of that journey."

Brofee earned a master's of education at West Chester (PA) University and a doctoral degree in education at Temple (PA) University.

She is an adjunct professor in a doctorate program for aspiring teachers and instructs a course in professional development for teachers in public schools.

She and her husband, Jim, have two grown children and two grandchildren. □

sessions. From the early morning into the late evening, there is something for everyone.

Check the web site, www.asbointl.org, frequently for updates on the Annual Meeting & Exhibits. Your hotel and meeting registration can be processed online, just click on the Annual Meeting icon.

— ASBO Accents
ASBO International

Case Study:

"Don't stand on tables," ...There, I've said it again.

SETTING: Classroom in the Tisbury Elementary School. Incident: Classroom aide Eleanora Hightower stands on a small table to hang student artwork. The table slips and Eleanora falls, breaking her right arm. Fortunately, she is left-handed. Unfortunately, the arm is slow to heal and later on her shoulder is affected as well.

CLAIM: Eleanora files a workers' compensation claim. A doctor treats her arm, and she spends weeks doing home exercises and physical therapy. Eventually, the doctor finds that she has a permanent impairment to her left arm.

COST: The Fund pays \$24,500 on this claim. Of that amount, nearly \$20,000 was for lost wages and her permanent impairment, and over \$4,000 was for medical expenses.

LESSONS: Standing on tables is a big no-no, and teachers do it anyway. And they continue to fall off, injuring themselves.

Safetynews harangues readers on this topic from time to time, including a story a couple years ago about a Tennessee school system that bought, small stepladders for each classroom. You can buy a lot of step ladders for \$24,000. "There, I've said it again." And note: The indirect cost of an accident like Eleanora's includes finding and paying a substitute and disruption to learning.

— *Safetynews*
MD Association of Boards of Education

ASBO International Annual Meeting

PHOENIX, ARIZONA
October 25-29, 2002

Go to www.asbointl.org for registration info and hotel reservations.

...Cords

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overcurrent protection and have reverse polarity. These problems cause shock, electrocution and fire hazards for the users.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission lists recalled items on their web site www.cpsc.gov. Hundreds of thousands of extension cords and power bars have been recalled in the past decade. Those recalled in the last three years are listed below.

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MANUFACTURER</u>	<u>PRODUCT</u>
1999	Bic Roc tools of Ontario, CA	Extension Cords and Trouble Lights
1999	Eskay Imports of Chicago, Ill	Memo Power Strips and Extension Cords
1999	Fairlong International, Addison, Ill.	Extension Cords
1999	Woods Industries, Inc of Carmel, Ind.	ACDelco extension cord reels
2000	Woods Industries, Carmel, Ind.	LockJaw extension cords and power reels.
2000	Frieder, Inc. of Bedford Heights, OH	Champion Brand 6 outlet Power Strips
2000	Tools Exchange Inc., of Lynwood, CA	Extension Cords
2000	Howard Berger Co. Inc., of Brooklyn, NY	Power Strips and Extension Cords
2002	E-filliate Inc., of Rancho Cordova, CA	Extension Cords (brought through Cyberguys)
2002	STK International of Los Angeles, CA	Extension Cords

—Jim Fite and Tom Van Dyke, Cecil County Public Schools

Paree Roper leaves MABE after decade

Paree Roper, who directed MABE's loss control program for nearly ten years, left MABE in August to become safety program coordinator for Arlington (VA) County.

"I feel good about what I've done here," said Roper in July as he was packing up to leave, "but it's time to move on."

Steven James, director of insurance programs, said of Roper's departure, "I'm happy for Paree, as this is a good opportunity, but sad for MABE as we like him and the trustees really like his work."

Roper was MABE's first loss control officer in a new position, created and funded at the request of the MABE Group Insurance Pool. Later, he added the Workers' Compensation Program to his duties. In 1999 he was named risk management officer shortly after Lisa Spencer came aboard as loss control specialist.

Before he came to MABE, Roper was manager of safety training and education for Middle Cities Risk Management Trust in Michigan, another school systems pool.

— MABE Briefs

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Highlights of the August State Board of Education Meeting

At its August 27 meeting, the Maryland State Board of Education:

REGULATORY REVIEW

Granted tentative permission to publish COMAR 13A.07—End—Regulatory Review, resulting from a Departmental review to ensure that regulations are consistent with federal and state statutes and to improve their clarity and effectiveness. These proposed regulations include the comprehensive reorganization and amendments to COMAR 13A.12—Teacher Certification. The State Board agreed to delay publication of these regulations until after PSTEB's review.

TEACHER STAFFING REPORT

Received a briefing from Dr. Leak, MSDE, on the Teacher Staffing Report, 2002–2004, an annual study conducted in conjunction with local school systems and institutions of higher education with teacher education programs. The Report identifies critical certified teacher shortages in geographic and subject areas. Board members raised questions about the impact of the new federal No Child Left Behind Act requirements that school systems place highly qualified teachers and paraprofessionals in low performing schools. Dr. Leak indicated that these requirements are significant and will require additional resources and new recruitment and retention strategies. Board member Levin raised the concern that the Report data indicates that the percentage of provisionally certified teachers increased in each of the 24 local school systems in the past year and asked whether this is due to the state

Praxis certification standards. Dr. Leak responded that the growing number of provisionally certified teachers is not due solely to the Praxis requirements but is more a function of the national teacher shortage. Mr. Root voiced his concerns about the need for more attention to quality teacher training programs, and the relationship of mandated full-day kindergarten and a shortage of qualified early education teachers. Student Board member Ms. Gifford addressed the issue that high school students are not encouraged to pursue teaching careers, specifically high achieving students. In addition, she noted that the Board should address the Report's findings regarding the shortage of minority teachers and the importance of such role models for minority students. Mr. Dunn emphasized his concern that the State Board and institutions of higher education should improve their dialogue on teacher education strategies, particularly for minority students. Mr. Dunn also asked Dr. Leak to update the Board on recent efforts to amend professional teacher standards and ensure the Board that this process is not intended to lower the standards as a strategy to address the teacher shortage. Dr. Leak responded that contemplated changes to the professional standards will not reduce the standards.

Board President Maultsby proposed and the Board approved creating an ad hoc work group to study and report to the Board on strategies to address the new federal requirements for highly qualified staff at low performing schools and teacher recruitment and retention strategies generally. She proposed that the work group include

Board members Wisthoff, Root, and Bell and representatives from the Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE), the Maryland State Teachers Association (MSTA), the Baltimore Teachers Union (BTU), and MSDE staff.

PRINCE GEORGE'S RECONSTITUTION PLAN

Heard a presentation from Prince George's County School System's acting CEO, Dr. Iris Metts, on the system's plan for reconstitution and challenge schools, including the five schools placed under local reconstitution in 2002. Dr. Metts introduced a video presentation on the opening of nine new schools this year. She emphasized the significant amount of work required to redraft performance accountability plans under the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLBA). She briefly reviewed efforts to recruit certified teachers, employ retired teachers as mentors, and channel these efforts toward the challenge and reconstitution schools. Panel members reviewed in detail the plan's accountability targets, management initiatives, financial resources, and responses to the NCLBA. Dr. Metts indicated that the numerical performance goals reflect MSPAP but that the plan will be readjusted in response to the new assessment targets to be established under the NCLBA. Mr. Dunn raised the concern about the financial resources available for school improvement. Dr. Metts stated that, in light of the revenue cap in Prince George's County, all of the recent funding targeted to the reconstitution and challenge schools has been provided by the federal and state gov-

ernments. Dr. Grasmick proposed and the Board approved the plan.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM

Heard a presentation from Mr. George Russell, chairman of the Board of the Maryland Museum of African American History and Culture, and Dr. Charles Christian. Dr. Grasmick reviewed the partnership between the Museum and MSDE, through an education task force, to design the museum's educational component based on the recommendations of a task force she convened in 2000. The Museum is scheduled to open in 2003. Mr. Russell introduced the mission of the Museum and Dr. Christian, chair of the education task force, outlined the Museum's vision for a high quality educational program, including teacher training, a curriculum, and online access to educational programs for children and families. The curriculum will support Maryland's learning outcomes and also comprise five major themes: work, family and community, art and entertainment, facing oppression, and facing the future.

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT UPDATE

Received an update from Dr. Grasmick on the status of the implementation of the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLBA) requirements and the state Visionary Panel recommendations. She noted the progress of the work group drafting the guidelines for the Bridge to Excellence Master Plans, the huge implications of the NCLBA and that weekly meetings with local school systems are ongoing.

SAT SCORES

Dr. Grasmick also announced the release of the national SAT scores, noting that Maryland's average score of 1020 ranks fourth in the nation compared to States with similarly high percentages of students taking the test. She also noted the continuing disparity

between minority and non-minority students on both math and verbal scores.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Heard public comment from individuals on topics including: concerns about the quality of Maryland's standards for algebra instruction and testing; a request for increased funding for the Maryland Works and Department of Rehabilitation Services programs; and the Alliance for a Better Curriculum's concerns with Montgomery County's math curriculum.

FY 2004 BUDGET PROPOSAL

Heard a panel presentation from MSDE staff on the Department's FY 2004 budget estimate and enhancement request. Ms. Tina Bjarekull, MSDE, reviewed the FY 2003 budget as amended by the General Assembly and the proposed increases. The Department's aid to education preliminary estimate for FY 2004 for mandated and non-mandated programs totals \$4,137,640,782 which represents an increase of over \$313 million or 8.2% over the FY 2003 appropriation. Mandated programs have funding levels prescribed by law by dollar amount or formula. Non-mandated programs receive funding through the Department based on available funds. Staff noted that FY 2004 budget growth is attributed mainly to the passage of the Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act. In addition, MSDE is submitting a budget enhancement proposal for FY 2004 which requests funding under four recently enacted bills aligned under the objective of eliminating the achievement gap. These bills include HB 661, College Readiness for Disadvantaged and Capable Students Act of 2002; HB 1197, Technology for Education (web-based Learning); SB 856, Bridge to Excellence Act (MSDE Administrative Costs); and HB 7, Principal Training Pilot Program.

The Board discussed that this year's budget request is complicated by uncertainty about the Governor's intent

for FY 2004 funding levels for public education. MSDE staff reported that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) has provided FY 2004 funding targets, referred to as current services budgets (CSBs), for MSDE Headquarters, the Subcabinet Fund, and Aid to Educational Organizations. However, MSDE has not received its budget target from DBM for the major MSDE budget component, Aid to Education. The Board discussed their strong concerns that without a CSB for Aid to Education the Governor's position on FY 2004 funding levels is unknown, including prospects for funding for several non-mandatory programs identified in the Bridge to Excellence Act, SB 856. Section 8 of the Act states the legislature's intent that future State budgets include funding for thirteen programs, totaling more than \$57 million, including the Judith Hoyer Early Child Care program, breakfast pilot program, education modernization, reconstitution, school performance recognition, and challenge grants. MSDE staff stated that DBM does not intend to provide a CSB for Aid to Education until November. Board members agreed to write to the Governor seeking clarification on his intent to recommend funding for these programs. Board member Brooks raised his concern that local boards of education should be alerted to the uncertainty regarding these FY 2004 budget provisions, particularly in light of county budget constraints and the potential for supplantation of local funding increases with anticipated State funding increases. Dr. Grasmick proposed and the State Board approved the Department's budget proposal.

– Courtesy of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education

Extension cords and power bars present problems for school officials

The constant demands on instructional space, new users, more users, and greatly increased electrical demands, provide daily challenges to Safety and Risk Assessment personnel. The problem arises when staff and students try to extend their electrical service through the use of extension cords and power bars.

Extension cords are for temporary use only. In most school districts, this means no more than thirty days. Another item, in which the Fire Marshall is interested, is the "daisy chain." This is when a user plugs one power bar into

an extension cord or another power bar. Extension cords should not be used as standard wiring. Power bars should be plugged into wall receptacles. They should not support more devices than they have outlets. It is not acceptable to extend their coverage by using one of their slots to plug in another power bar.

Many extension cords and power bars have been recalled due to the fact that they were manufactured with wire that is too thin to support the electrical current for which they are rated. The power bars and extension cords frequently do not have

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ASBO-MD&DC

C FALL CONFERENCE

December 6, 2002

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