

free and open. I know the limitation of my function and responsibility in education, and I assure you of my resolution not to interfere in areas which should be exclusively yours. The determination of curricula and methods of teaching, for example, is a matter for your judgment. You are qualified by training and experience to exercise such judgment, and interference by government, or at a political level, can be exceedingly dangerous. But education in general is a primary function of government and is therefore, of necessity, of concern and importance to those of us engaged in the affairs of State.

I would summarize by saying that I remain dedicated to the educational philosophy and educational system which we have established here in Maryland—to the principle that every citizen is entitled to the best education that his government can afford, provided by a partnership of local and State governments.

I feel that I would be remiss if I concluded my remarks without taking this opportunity to enthusiastically thank you all for the tremendous job that you are continuing to perform in the preparation of our young citizens to meet and master the problems of our age. The dedicated service that you routinely give, day in, and day out, does more to shape the future course of our government, at all levels, than any of you will ever realize. Through your work you carry the meaning of freedom, decency, and democracy into the hearts of children. Such is a noble task, nobly performed. For myself and in behalf of all the citizens of our great State, I salute you, I congratulate you, and I thank you for your tireless efforts.

ADDRESS, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION CONFERENCE
BALTIMORE

November 19, 1959

Historical developments since the end of the second great World War have made it abundantly clear to all of us in this country that we must redouble our efforts in many areas of endeavor if we are to maintain our freedom and our way of life.

Our ally in the war, the Soviet Union, became a fierce competitor and a potential enemy as the post-war world shifted into two competing and basically hostile camps—the democratic nations in the one and the communistic totalitarian nations in the other. The leadership of the democracies became the burden of the United States by virtue of its strength as world power, while the Soviet Union assumed the direction