

PLANNING BRANCH

Contact: Mary Keath (410) 767-0046

The Planning Branch was organized in 1992. The Branch administers Title VI of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which supports school reform and improvement. The Branch also helps plan scheduling, finance, procurement, and departmental coordination for the *Maryland School Performance Assessment Program*.

RESULTS BRANCH

Ricka K. Markowitz, *Chief*
(410) 767-0026

Formerly the Statistical Services Branch, the Results Branch was placed under the Division of Planning, Results, and Information Management in 1992. The Branch collects and compiles data from local school systems for local, State and federal reports, including the *Maryland School Performance Assessment Program Report*. Annually, the Branch reports (by school system) on curriculum, staffing, students, facilities, and finance. The Branch also compiles data on students taught at home and through correspondence courses.

**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT
SERVICES OFFICE**

Richard J. Steinke, *Deputy State Superintendent
for School Improvement Services*
(410) 767-0229

The School Improvement Office started in 1988 when the Bureau of Educational Development was formed. The Bureau was reorganized as the School Improvement Services Office in 1992.

The Office oversees the School Performance: Research and Development Office, and four divisions: Career Technology and Adult Learning; Compensatory Education and Support Services; Instruction and Staff Development; and Special Education.

**SCHOOL PERFORMANCE: RESEARCH
& DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

Vacancy, *Assistant State Superintendent for School
Performance: Research & Development*

200 West Baltimore St.
Baltimore, MD 21201 (410) 767-0368

The School Performance: Research and Development Office was created in 1989 as the Office of Maryland School Performance. It was reorganized in 1993 as the School Performance, Product, and Service Development Office. In 1994, it received its present name.

The Office investigates ways to improve public education. It holds schools accountable to State standards and tests students on what they have learned. The Office is developing the high school assessment component of the *Maryland School Performance Assessment Program* to test students on math, English, science, and social studies. It also will measure their ability to learn independently, think critically, communicate orally and in writing, work cooperatively, and use computers. These tests will begin in the year 2000.

Award programs which recognize innovation and excellence, such as the *Maryland Teacher of the Year*, are administered by this office.

**DIVISION OF CAREER
TECHNOLOGY & ADULT LEARNING**

Katharine M. Oliver, *Assistant State
Superintendent for Career Technology
& Adult Learning*

200 West Baltimore St.
Baltimore, MD 21201 (410) 767-0158

The Division of Career Technology and Adult Learning began as the Division of Vocational Education by 1950. Renamed the Division of Vocational-Technical Education in 1968, and the Division of Career and Technology Education in 1991, it received its present name in 1992.

The Division oversees career and technology education, and adult learning. For State and federal occupational programs, the Division develops and recommends to the State Superintendent of Schools policies, guidelines, and services. The Division also helps local school systems and educational agencies, institutions, businesses, industries, and community organizations plan and evaluate their education and training programs. In both public and private institutions, Division programs are offered to students of all ages.

Under the Division are the Correctional Education Program, and four branches: Adult Education and Literacy Services; Career Connection; General Education Development; and Program Support Services.

**STATE BOARD OF CAREER
& TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

Christopher T. Cross, *President*, 1997

The State Board of Education serves as the State Board of Career and Technology Education. In 1991, the Board was fashioned in accordance with 1990 amendments to the federal Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act (P.L. 101-392). The Board supervises and administers State vocational education.