

neglect of duty, upon making known to him, in writing, the charges against him and upon giving him an opportunity of being heard in person or by counsel in his own defense, upon not less than ten days' notice. In case of vacancy due to any cause, the State Board of Education shall fill the vacancy, and the appointment shall be for the unexpired term and until a successor shall qualify.

24. Powers in general; withholding appropriations for violations.

The State Superintendent of Schools shall enforce all the provisions of this article and of the enacted and published bylaws of the State Board of Education. He is empowered to cause the State Comptroller, through written notification, to withhold in case of violation of any of the provisions of this article or of the bylaws enacted and published by the State Board of Education, any part or all of any appropriation made by the General Assembly to any educational institution or to withhold any part or all of any payment to county school boards from funds budgeted by the State of Maryland in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

25. Conferences, publications and examinations of reports.

(a) The State Superintendent of Schools shall execute the educational policies of the State Board of Education. He shall call and conduct conferences of county school boards and professional personnel of the county school systems on matters related to the condition, needs, and improvement of the schools. He shall prepare and publish such pamphlets as will stimulate public interest, promote the work of education, and foster in teachers professional insight and efficiency.

(b) The State Superintendent of Schools shall receive and examine all the reports required under the bylaws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education and, in person or through his assistants, shall examine the expenditures, business methods, and accounts of county school boards and advise them on the same.

26. Approval of sites, buildings, and construction plans.

(a) The State Superintendent of Schools shall, subject to the bylaws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, pass upon the following:

(1) All proposals for the purchase of ground, school sites, or buildings;

(2) All proposals for the sale of the same;

(3) All plans and specifications for the remodeling of school buildings in excess of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000);

(4) All plans and specifications for the construction of new school buildings; and

(5) All change orders in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for the remodeling, restoration, or construction of school buildings.

(b) If the State Superintendent does not approve the plans, specifications, and proposals as submitted, he shall state in writing the reasons for his disapproval. In case the construction is to be