

(vii) Methods to upgrade and improve teacher education and teacher certification programs;

(viii) The school systems that have dropped below the statewide test averages and shall assess the options available to improve the test averages of these school systems;

(ix) The methods to improve the diagnosis of basic reading skill deficiencies of elementary and secondary school students and to improve the literacy rates of these students;

(x) The methods to increase the rate of retention and graduation of secondary school students;

(xi) The short-range and long-range objectives for the resolution of the problem of substance abuse by elementary and secondary school students; and

(xii) The short-range and long-range objectives for the resolution of the problems of youth and teenage pregnancy.

4-109.

(b) The purpose of these schools for adults is to:

(1) Provide a general program of continuing education for the improvement of the civic, [vocational] OCCUPATIONAL, and general intelligence of adults; and

(2) Enable adults to make a wise use of their leisure time.

5-201.

(c) The State Comptroller shall charge against and, as provided in this section, pay from the General State School Fund the following annual appropriations for:

(1) The support of the Department, including the expenses of the State Board and the support and expenses of the office of the State Superintendent;

(2) The Maryland Teachers' Retirement System;

(3) The education of handicapped children;

(4) Subsidized or free feeding programs;

(5) The administration and supervision of [vocational] CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY education in public high [and vocational] schools AND CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTERS;

(6) Physical education and recreation;

(7) Case and guidance service for handicapped individuals who need vocational rehabilitation;

(8) Equivalence examinations;

(9) Public libraries;