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State Superintendent of Schools

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November 20, 2018

Governor Larry Hogan  
State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Thomas V. Miller  
Senate President  
H-107 State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Michael E. Busch  
Speaker of the House  
H-101 State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Public School Opportunities Enhancement Act (MSAR #10918)

Dear Governor Hogan, President Miller and Speaker Busch:

In 2016, the Maryland General Assembly enacted the Public School Opportunities Enhancement Act (Title 7, Subtitle 17 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland). The statute requires the Maryland State Department of Education to report on the implementation of the program, including an annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the programs and services, by December 31 of each year.

The annual implementation report provides a description of the grantees, types of programs developed, technical assistance provided, and the evaluation of the first year of operation. The grant program is underway as a result of an appropriation for the program in the Governor's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget.

Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact Mary L. Gable, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Student Support, Academic Enrichment, and Educational Policy at [mary.gable@maryland.gov](mailto:mary.gable@maryland.gov) or by phone at (410) 767-0472. Thank you for your continued support and interest in maintaining the highest quality of education for all students in Maryland public schools.

Best Regards,

Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.  
State Superintendent of Schools

C: Sarah T. Albert (DLS Library – 5 copies)

**Report to the Maryland General Assembly  
Public School Opportunities Enhancement Act  
Title 7, Subtitle 17 of the Education Article**

**Presented by the  
Maryland State Department of Education**

**December 31, 2018**



**Larry Hogan  
Governor**

**Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.  
State Superintendent of Schools**

**Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.**  
State Superintendent of Schools

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President, Maryland State Board of Education

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## Introduction

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) completed the first year of implementation of the Maryland Public School Opportunities Enhancement Program (PSOEP) grant. Pursuant to Title 7, Subtitle 17 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the PSOEP grant authorized the MSDE to award grants to local school systems, community schools and non-profit organizations. These grantees are used to expand or create extended day and summer enhancement programs. The initial award for the 2017-2018 school year was \$2,500,000. The MSDE made awards on a competitive basis to eligible entities that proposed to serve the following:

- a) Local school systems and the SEED School with at least 50 percent of public school students that qualify for free lunch under the National School Lunch Program; and
- b) Extended day and summer enhancement programs for students between the ages of four and 19 that take place:
  - Before and after the school day;
  - On weekends and holidays; and
  - During vacations and summer breaks.

A PSOEP orientation webinar was conducted on November 11, 2017 to discuss:

- Program Requirements and Forms;
- Health and Safety Guidelines;
- Professional Development; and
- Program Site Visits

## Implementation

The initial award for the 2017-2018 school year was \$2,500,000. Funding will expand or create extended day and summer enhancement programs that provide access to enrichment opportunities that improve work habits, reduce academic achievement gaps, and improve academic skills. Fifteen grants were awarded to organizations and local school systems to expand or create extended day and summer enhancement programs for Maryland students. The PSOEP was offered in six local school systems: Allegany, Caroline, Prince George's, Somerset, Wicomico, and Baltimore City. The grantees are: the Board of Education Allegany County (Allegany); Parks and People Foundation, Medical Education Resources Initiative for Teens (MERIT); YMCA of Central Maryland, Inc., Humanim, and The Family League of Baltimore (Baltimore City); Caroline Human Services Council, Inc. (Caroline County); Central American Solidarity Association (CASA) de Maryland, Inc.; GapBuster, Inc.; Futuristic LLC/ Healthy Solutions, LLC.; The ERHKY Foundation.; Community Youth Advance; Young Audiences of

MD, Inc.; (Prince George’s County); Somerset County Local Management Board (Somerset County); and Ward Foundation, Inc.(Wicomico County).

**Grantees and Award Amounts**

**Table 1:**

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
Full STEAM Ahead with ACCESS - After-School Community Collaboration for Enrichment and Student Services	Allegany County	Board of Education Allegany County	The program provides enrichment activities in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) for economically disadvantaged students in the four middle schools in Allegany County.	\$200,000
Super Kids Camp: An Environmental and Literacy Summer Camp	Baltimore City	Parks and People Foundation	SuperKids Camp serves 500 rising 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , and 5 <sup>th</sup> grade students during a six week, 29 day, six hours a day literacy and environmental program. The program is designed to prevent learning loss in literacy skills.	\$250,000
MERIT Health Leadership Academy	Baltimore City	Medical Education Resources Initiative for Teens	MERIT provides longitudinal academic support and career opportunities to students from low-income backgrounds who are interested in healthcare.	\$103,714
Elev8 Baltimore	Baltimore City	Humanim	Elev8 Baltimore, in partnership with William Pinderhughes Elementary/ Middle School, provides afterschool and summer homework assistance and targeted academic support to improve math, reading, and project-based STEM activities.	\$171,791

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
Y in Central Maryland Afterschool Enrichment @ Johnston Square Elementary School	Baltimore City	YMCA of Central Maryland, Inc.	Y Afterschool enrichment immerses 70 students who are having trouble meeting academic standards in an environment with high-quality Mathematics-focused academic instruction. The program provides homework assistance, a nutritious meal, and enrichment clubs that include environmental stewardship development, service learning, character education, the arts, science, engineering, technology and math (STEM), and fitness.	\$190,000
Pre-K Out-of-School Time Program	Baltimore City	The Family League of Baltimore, Inc.	This project is an expanded extended day program that will serve six pre-k programs at six Baltimore City public elementary schools. The intended outcome of the program include increased standardized test scores. In addition, siblings of program participants will more likely attend out-of-school programming.	\$190,000
Caroline Human Summer Learning Program	Caroline County	Caroline Human Services Council, Inc.	The Caroline Human Services Council along with Caroline County Recreation and Parks, and Caroline County Public Schools will provide a summer learning enrichment program at three school sites throughout the county. These programs will provide 450 kindergarten through sixth grade students with academic supports to	\$61,000

			overcome summer slide, and also address social-emotional needs and physical health.	
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<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
CASA's Mi Espacio Program	Prince George's County	CASA de Maryland, Inc.	The CASA's "Mi Espacio" afterschool program aims to address academic challenges, improve academic achievement, and enhance college/career readiness through a dynamic and highly tailored program. Participants meet for three hours each school day. The program focus on academic success, leadership development, and socio-economic integration.	\$160,000
Building Schools for the Future	Prince George's County	GapBuster, Inc.	GapBuster, Inc. offers an extended day, academic/development program after-school and on weekends. The program provides a safe setting for vulnerable youth, many of whom have little supervision.	\$101,777
Health and Arts Learning HUB	Prince George's County	Futuristic LLC/ Healthy Solutions, LLC.	The Health and Learning Arts Hub (HUB) is a youth development resource center designed to equip students with the tools to grow stronger physically, emotionally, and academically. The HUB will serve 120 students in grades two through six. The program provides students with the supports needed to improve math and reading achievement scores and develop leadership values of	\$179,149

			trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, and citizenship.	
<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
ERHKY's Pathway to Success Program	Prince George's County	ERHKY Foundation	The ERHKY Foundation will use a host of researched-based strategies and community support initiatives to improve academic performance of students and engage students in social entrepreneurship and financial literacy programming.	\$210,000
eARTh kids	Prince George's County	Young Audiences of MD, Inc.	eARTh kids is a 16 week comprehensive out-of-school time program of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) infused with literacy instruction. The program includes an annual STEAM Challenge summer camp.	\$114,483
CYA Saturday and Summer Academies	Prince George's County	Community Youth Advance	The Community Youth Advance Saturday School and Summer Bridge Academy will serve students residing in the Langley Park Community. The intended outcome of the project is for 75 percent of participating students to meet or exceed state performance targets in reading/language arts, science, and mathematics.	\$197,525
The FACES of Somerset	Somerset County	Somerset County Local Management Board	FACES of Somerset provides intensive academic support, builds character in the student, and strives to raise reading test scores.	\$134,589

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<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
Science, Technology, Research, Environment, Art and Math (STREAM).	Wicomico County	Ward Foundation, Inc. Operating as Ward Museum	The Ward Museum's Science, Technology, Research, Environment, Art, and Math (STREAM) afterschool program uses Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) which is infused, arts-integrated, project-based programming. The program seeks increases in science, math, and literacy performance at four of Wicomico's Title I schools.	\$235,972

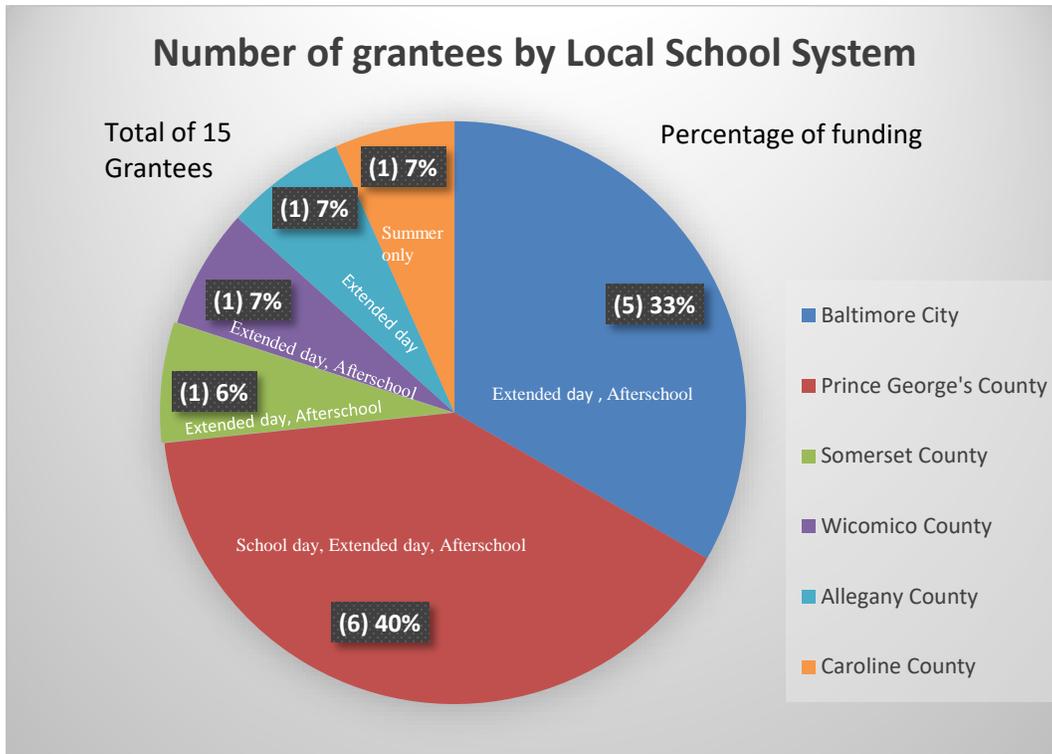
**Total:**

**\$2,500,000**

## Types of Programs

Table 2 depicts the number of grantees and percentage of funding for each local school system to expand or create extended day and summer enhancement programs for Maryland students.

**Table 2:**



## Technical Assistance

The MSDE completed the first year of the PSOEP grant in August 2018. Technical Assistance was provided for grantees to begin their grant year on October 1, 2017. The legislation mandates that grantees follow the Maryland Out-of-School Time (MOST) Quality Framework. The MOST Network provided two in-person trainings and four live webinars during Year 1. Prior to the trainings, the MOST Network created pre-training surveys to gain a better understanding of grantees training needs. Training participants were able to access all training materials after completion of each workshop. The in-person trainings took place on the following days, times, and locations:

- 1. Prince George's County Training at CASA de Maryland, Inc.**  
**Topic:** Tools and Tips for Boosting Active Learning and Youth Voice  
**Date:** Friday, May 18, 2018, 10:00 a.m. – 1: 00 p.m.

2. **Baltimore City Training at MOST Network**  
**Topics:** Restorative Practices 101 and Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring  
**Date:** Friday, May 25, 2018, 10:00 a.m-1:00 p.m.

**The four webinars were as follows:**

1. **PSOEP Introductory Webinar**  
**Topics:** Intro to MOST Quality Standards and Youth Program Quality Standards  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 24, 2018, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
2. **Youth Engagement - Voice/Choice, Planning and Reflection**  
**Date:** Monday, June 11, 2018, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
3. **So You're Getting Ready for Summer?**  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 13, 2018, 10:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.
4. **Outcome Evaluation At-A-Glance**  
**Date:** Thursday, June 14, 2018, 10:00 a.m.-11:30am

### **Evaluation and Effectiveness**

The comprehensive plan continues to serve as a guide for the implementation of the PSOEP grant. The comprehensive plan will be reviewed following the completion of each year of the grant to ensure outcomes and deliverables are met. In Year One, grantees implemented their grant proposals as outlined. Grantees submitted end-of-year reports in August 2018. The MSDE grant managers have reviewed end-of-year reports to determine the effectiveness of the program and the risk level for continuation for Fiscal Year 2019. The MSDE extended learning specialists will continue to conduct monitoring visits throughout Year Two to ensure effective and continuous implementation of programs and activities, and to identify technical assistance needs. Grantees are responsible for hiring an external evaluator as outlined in the Response for Proposals.

### **Summary**

In 2016, the Maryland General Assembly enacted the PSOEP grant under Title 7, Subtitle 17 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland). The statute requires the MSDE to submit a report on the effectiveness and an evaluation of programs funded annually. The first PSOEP report was submitted to the General Assembly on December 11, 2017. The MSDE will continue to assist grantees during implementation of extended day and summer enhancement programs for Maryland students. It is essential to offer quality extended day and summer

programs to assist students with academic and social skills year round to avoid regression in learning.

The following recommendations from the MOST Network Technical Assistance Partners at the end of Year One were to:

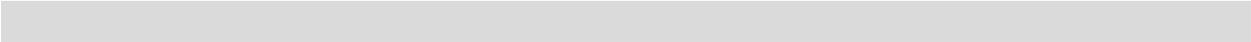
1. Provide a full year of training beginning in the fall, planning and scheduling in-person trainings to complement and work in conjunction with 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center network meetings.
2. Expand use of an online learning community where program staff can access training materials after workshops are complete to provide ongoing resources.
3. Provide a forum for grantee feedback on experiences as grantees with grant requirements and procedures, as well as training and technical assistance.

The number of students served in the first year of implementation of the PSOEP grant is indicated below.

<b>Grantee</b>	<b># of Students Served</b>
Allegany	153
Caroline	430
ERKHY	36
MERIT	25
Somerset	130
Ward Museum	135
Parks and People Foundation	43
Futuristic	59
Community Youth Advance	157
YMCA	75
The Family League of Baltimore	120
Humanim	64
Young Audiences	22
GapBuster	59
CASA de Maryland, Inc.	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,538</b>

In addition to the out-of-school time programs, the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Bill specifies that \$500,000 of the funding authorized for the PSOEP shall be used to provide a grant to a nonprofit organization to support existing educational programming during the school day, including recruitment, training, and ongoing professional learning of new teachers. This competition is open only to Nonprofit [501(c)(3)] organizations that will target local school systems with at least 50 percent of public school students that qualify for free lunch under the National School Lunch Program.

The Request for Proposals for the Public School Opportunity Enhancement Professional Learning Program (PSOEPLP) was disseminated on October 1, 2018. A pre-proposal technical assistance webinar was conducted on October 5, 2018, to provide additional information on the grant and submission requirements. The deadline for submission of the PSOEPLP applications is November, 2018. The award notification date for the PSOEPLP grants is December 10, 2018. The MSDE shall give priority to applications that illustrate the ability to leverage private and existing funding sources. All funding for this grant is contingent on State allocations.





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