



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

October 16, 2019

The Honorable Larry Hogan
State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
Senate of Maryland
H-107, State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones
Maryland House of Delegates
H-101, State House,
100 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: SEED School of Maryland Annual Report (MSAR #5869)

Dear Governor Hogan, President Miller, and Speaker Jones:

The Residential Boarding Education Program for At-Risk Youth Act, § 8-701 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, established the Residential Boarding Education Program for At-Risk Youth. The program is operated by the Board of Trustees of the SEED School of Maryland. Section 8-708 of the Education Article requires the Maryland State Department of Education to submit to the Governor and Maryland General Assembly on or before December 1st of each year, a report regarding enrollment and operations at the SEED School of Maryland. The report must also include a recommendation regarding whether funds for the program should be increased or decreased.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Tiffany Clark, Director of Government Relations, at tiffany.clark1@maryland.gov or by phone at 410-767-0090. 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

KBS/mg
Encl.

c: Sarah Albert



**Report to the Maryland General Assembly of
The SEED School of Maryland
Under Title 8 of the Education Article - Residential Boarding
Education Programs for At-Risk Youth
*REDACTED VERSION FOR PUBLIC RELEASE:
STUDENT NAMES WITHHELD***

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

December 1, 2019

**Larry Hogan
Governor**

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



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

Brigadier General Warner I. Sumpter, USA, Ret.
President, Maryland State Board of Education

Larry Hogan
Governor

Sylvia A. Lawson, Ph.D.
Chief Performance Officer

Mary L. Gable
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Student Support, Academic Enrichment, and Educational Policy

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Overview

Education Article §8-708 directs the Board of Trustees of the designated operator of the Maryland Residential Boarding Education Program for At-Risk Youth to report to the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) detailed information on the names and jurisdictions of students enrolled in the program in the current and preceding years. On or before December 1st of each year, the MSDE is required to report this information to the Governor and the Maryland General Assembly, along with a recommendation regarding whether funds for the residential education program should be increased or decreased.

Education Article §8-701 establishes the Residential Boarding Education Program for At-Risk Youth. The operator of the Maryland Residential Boarding Program for At-Risk Youth is the SEED School of Maryland. The SEED School is designed to provide a rigorous college preparatory education. The preliminary enrollment count for the 2019-2020 school year is 404 students enrolled in grades 6 to 12 from 12 local school systems. In July 2018, the Maryland Board of Public Works approved renewal of the operating contract for a five year term, August 1, 2018, through July 31, 2023.

The following information is included in this report: (1) projected student enrollment by name and by sending county for the 2019-2020 school year for all 404 students in grades 6-12; (2) sending counties and names of 404 students in grades 6-12 who attended the SEED School for the 2018-2019 school year; (3) actual expenditures for fiscal year 2019 and the projected budget for fiscal year 2020; and (4) whether funds appropriated under §8-708 should be increased or decreased. As per §8-702, the program is operated under the supervision of the MSDE. Ms. Carol Beck is the contract monitor and meets at least quarterly with the SEED School leadership team to review student progress, address program concerns, and identify areas where the MSDE can provide technical assistance to the school. Ms. Beck also facilitates informal meetings, structured visits, and other contact as appropriate. Ms. Beck is supported by key MSDE staff including Mary Gable, Assistant State Superintendent for Student Services, Academic Enrichment, and Educational Policy, Barbara Scherr, Program Specialist for Title I, and Walter Sallee, Director of Student Services and Strategic Planning.

School Administration

Ms. Tiffany Evans and Ms. Erika Asikoyem continue to serve as Co- Heads of the School. Ms. Evans has been with the SEED School of Maryland since its founding in 2008. She was part of the leadership team at the SEED School of Washington, D.C., from 2005 through 2008. She joined the leadership team at the SEED School of Maryland in 2014. Dr. Hope Griffin O'Neil joined the SEED School of Maryland in the 2018-2019 school year as Director of Academics. Dr. O'Neil brings over 25 years of experience including as a teacher, college professor, instructional coach, and urban school principal.

The MSDE facilitates communications between SEED School staff, local Directors of Student Support, and other school system staff members. The SEED School leadership team participates in a variety of statewide meetings conducted by the MSDE staff. Staff at the SEED School with leadership roles in reading, mathematics, library/media, science, social studies, physical education, Title I, and special education receive content-related information from the MSDE. SEED School staff members are also invited to attend statewide training and other MSDE-sponsored conferences that address issues relevant to school operations, analysis of data, and instructional practices.

Enrollment

As specified by legislation, the September 30th enrollment is the official count used to determine billing for enrollment for each local school system. Table 1 lists students by grade and local school system for the 2019-2020 school year. Table 2 lists students by grade and local school system for the 2018-2019 school year. For the 2019-2020 school year, billing will be based on the 9/30/19 enrollment. Occasionally, there are corrections based on residency documentation.

Finances

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, the Governor and Maryland General Assembly appropriated \$10,450,207 to the SEED School and \$10,715,642 for FY 2020. Additional revenue is provided by a per-pupil payment made by Maryland local school systems based on the number of students from the school system attending the SEED School and federal and state grants for which the school is eligible. The SEED School also raises private funds to support enhancements to the program. Exhibit 3 reports SEED school expenditures for FY 2019 and the budget for the FY 2020. The SEED School reported operating expenditures for FY 2019 as \$15,123,483 and the projected operating budget for FY 2020 as \$15,726,413. Education Article § 8-708 (2) (ii) requires the MSDE to determine, “whether the funds appropriated under §8-710 of this subtitle should be increased or decreased.” At this time there is no indication of a need to increase the amount of funds appropriated for the SEED School.

Table 1. Enrollment by Grade and County Projected for 2019-2020

County	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade	N = Enrolled Students
<i>Anne Arundel</i>	5	1	4	2		1	2	15
<i>Baltimore City</i>	41	47	41	33	23	11	13	209
<i>Baltimore Co.</i>	10	8	17	15	8	7	4	69
<i>Calvert</i>		1		1				2
<i>Cecil</i>	1			1				2
<i>Frederick</i>	1				1			2
<i>Harford</i>	1	1	1	2			1	6
<i>Howard</i>	1		3	3			2	9
<i>Montgomery</i>	2	1		1		2		6
<i>Prince George's</i>	7	15	9	15	19	8	4	77
<i>St. Mary's</i>						1		1
<i>Wicomico</i>		2	2	1		1		6
TOTAL	69	76	77	75	51	31	26	404

Table 2. Enrollment by Grade and County for 2018-2019

County	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade	N = Enrolled Students
<i>Anne Arundel</i>	1	5	1		1	2		10
<i>Baltimore City</i>	51	44	32	26	12	15	16	196
<i>Baltimore Co.</i>	11	17	16	11	6	5	8	74
<i>Calvert</i>	1		2					3
<i>Carroll</i>							1	1
<i>Frederick</i>				1				1
<i>Harford</i>	1	1	1			1		4
<i>Howard</i>	2	3	4	1	2	2		14
<i>Montgomery</i>	1		1		1		2	5
<i>Prince George's</i>	16	10	14	20	11	4	14	89
<i>St. Mary's</i>					1			1
<i>Wicomico</i>	2	2	1		1			6
TOTAL	86	82	72	59	35	29	41	404

Exhibit 1. SEED School of Maryland Budget Summary

SEED School of Maryland Budget Summary	FY 2019 Actual (Unaudited)	FY 2020 Projected Budget
Revenue		
Per Pupil Revenue		
State and Local Per Pupil Funding	\$4,894,553	\$4,955,039
State Special Fund for Boarding program	\$10,450,207	\$10,715,642
Other Public		
FARMS (Nat'l Food Program)	\$316,324	\$300,000
ESSA Grants – Title I and IV	\$584,958	\$955,252
SPED LAFF	\$47,807	\$65,000
21st Century	\$7,952	
E rate	\$42,674	\$33,297
Medicare	\$35,635	\$50,000
Other	\$5,957	
Private		
Private contributions	\$487,182	\$519,000
Other	\$53,243	\$222,100
Total Revenue	\$16,926,492	\$17,815,330
Expense		
Salary and Related		
Salaries	\$8,529,607	\$8,951,952
Benefits and taxes	\$1,833,900	\$1,946,671
Staff Expense	\$145,240	\$370,638
Occupancy	\$1,499,429	\$1,566,529
Additional Expenses		
Direct Student	1,798,825	\$1,481,030
IT	\$72,960	\$109,325
Development	\$119,755	\$62,500
General and Administrative	\$1,123,767	\$1,237,768
Total Operating Expense	15,123,483	\$15,726,413
Change in Net Assets Before Other	\$1,803,009	\$2,088,917
Other		
Depreciation and Amortization	\$1,478,162	\$1,450,000
Interest	\$837,389	\$753,320
Change in Net Assets	(\$512,542)	(\$114,403)
Beginning Net Assets	\$23,016,274	\$22,503,732
Ending Net Assets	\$22,503,732	\$22,389,329

