

MEC & the [Study of Adequacy of Funding for Education in the State of Maryland](#)-12/22/16

The Maryland General Assembly enacted Chapter 288, Acts of 2002 – the Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act, which established new primary State education aid formulas based on adequacy cost studies and required a follow up study of the adequacy of education funding in the State to be undertaken approximately 10 years after its enactment.

The study must include, at a minimum, adequacy cost studies that identify a base funding level for students without special needs and per pupil weights for students with special needs to be applied to the base funding level, and an analysis of the effects of concentrations of poverty on adequacy targets. The adequacy cost study will be based on the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards (MCCRS) adopted by the State Board of Education and include two years of results from new State assessments aligned with the standards, which are scheduled to be administered beginning in the 2014-2015 school year.

There are several additional components included in the study. These components include evaluations of:

- the [Final Report: School Size Study](#),
- the Supplemental Grants program,
- the [Evaluation of the use of FRPM Eligibility as a Proxy for Economic Disadvantage](#),
- the [Literature Review - Effects of Concentrations of Poverty](#)
- the federal Community Eligibility Program in Maryland,
- the [Comprehensive Analysis of Prekindergarten in Maryland](#),
- the [Analysis of School Finance Equity and Local Wealth Measures in Maryland](#), and
- the [Report of the Study of Increasing and Declining Enrollment in Maryland Public Schools](#)
- The [Geographic Cost of Education Index - Final Report](#)

Four (4) MEC Board members are part of the Cost of Adequacy of Education Funding in the State of Maryland Stakeholder Group overseen by the Maryland State Department of Education. They are:

- Bebe Verdery -[ACLU Education Reform Project](#), Executive Director
- Kate Rabb - [Advocates for Children & Youth](#), Education Policy Director
- Bob Berlow – [Disability Rights Maryland](#), Senior Attorney
- Rick Tyler - [Maryland PTA](#), Special Assistant to the President

The Stakeholders Group has been meeting regularly since August 2014 and receives regularly reports for comment developed by the contractors from MSDE staff. **The final draft report was received October 18, 2016.** All meetings dates are posted on the website and members of the public are welcome to review the agendas, progress reports, presentations or discussions.

MEC urges our members, other public education advocates and community members to review the Final Adequacy Study Draft Report at:

<http://marylandpublicschools.org/Documents/adequacystudy/AdequacyStudyReportFinal112016.pdf>

and submit any comments or questions to MEC at: md.education.coalition@gmail.com

NEW – The Presentation of the *Final Adequate Funding of Maryland Public Schools Study Report* by Augenblick, Palaich and Associates was presented to [the COMMISSION ON INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION](#), Thursday December 8, 2016.

- [The Charge of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education](#)
- **Preliminary Report Due:** December 31, 2016
- **Final Report Due:** December 31, 2017

Also, check out the *“Adequacy of Education Funding in Maryland”* report provided by the non-partisan Department of Legislative Services Office of Policy Analysis.

MEC Board member, Elizabeth Ysla Leight, Maryland PTA President is a member of the Commission