



GWDB Quarterly Meeting Announcements

March 10, 2021

Below is a list of written announcements that will not be discussed at length during the quarterly meeting. Please read through the announcements below and follow up with GWDB staff if you have any questions.

Blueprint for Maryland's Future

The Blueprint for Maryland's Future is a bill aimed to rebuild the state's public school system through expanded programs recommended by the "Kirwan Commission" so that all Marylanders have access to a world-class education. The legislation would expand pre-kindergarten programs and funding for schools with high concentrations of poverty, increase pay and career opportunities for teachers, create new career pathways for high school students, and institute an accountability board to ensure that the government and school districts implement the Blueprint plan. Within the bill is a component establishing a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee within the GWDB. The purpose of the CTE Committee is to build an integrated, globally competitive framework for providing CTE to Maryland students in public school, institutions of postsecondary education, and the workforce. The Maryland General Assembly recently overrode the Governor's veto of the 2020 bill. The GWDB will be reaching out to board members soon with further details.

Maryland Career and Technical Education (CTE) Industry Credentials of Value Survey

An essential element of CTE programs of study is providing the opportunity for secondary and postsecondary students to earn industry credentials of value. Credentials of value are those that are required for employment or provides a competitive advantage for hiring in a particular industry. The Maryland State Department of Education Division of Career and College Readiness, Maryland Business Roundtable for Education and the GWDB collaborated to conduct a comprehensive review of industry credentials that high school and postsecondary students can earn in CTE programs of study offered throughout the state. The survey identified current industry credentials that students can earn. The survey was disseminated to Maryland employers so that they could either confirm that the credentials are of

value or recommend alternative credentials. The input of Maryland employers is critical to ensuring that Maryland students earn industry credentials that will fill Maryland's current and future workforce pipeline. The survey closed March 5, 2021.

Vehicles for Change | Innovative Transportation Grant Proposal

Vehicles for Change was selected as one of 20 groups to receive a planning grant in conjunction with researchers from Cornell, Rutgers, and Oregon Universities to develop a transportation program for the Baltimore region. The proposal will include a low-income LYFT-type program along with a van pool program. Ten of the 20 proposals will be selected to receive a \$1,000,000 implementation grant. Vehicles for Change's goal will be to work in specific Baltimore area neighborhoods and provide transportation to 200-300 individuals to work and other essential services, like doctors and grocery stores. The final proposal will be submitted May 5, 2021, with a projected award date of July 1, 2021. Winning grants must be sustainable and replicable. Vehicles for Change will be working with a number of regional organizations to solidify the proposal.

Local Board Chairs and Vice Chairs Quarterly Meetings

Starting in October 2020, the GWDB started coordinating quarterly meetings for the 12 local workforce development board chairs and vice chairs to come together and discuss workforce development across the state of Maryland. The first meeting focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion, with Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, President of UMBC, as the guest speaker. The January 2021 meeting included a presentation from Ann T. Kellogg, Director of Reporting Services from the Maryland Longitudinal Data System (MLDS) Center, to discuss the *Career Preparation Expansion Act Report*, which quantifies how recent high school graduates are doing during the early stages of their careers, five years after high school graduation. For more information on this report, see the announcement below. The next quarterly meeting will include a panel to discuss business and employer engagement.

Career Preparation Expansion Act Report

The Maryland Longitudinal Data System (MLDS) Center and the GWDB collaborate to produce an annual report on the outcome of Maryland high school graduates five years after graduation. The 2020 *Career Preparation Expansion Act Report* provides a thorough analysis to understand workforce outcomes for students who graduated from a Maryland public high school with a diploma between January and October of 2014. The requirements for the report are straightforward: analyze the wages earned, the hours worked per week, and the industry of employment for high school graduates five years

after they graduate. The purpose of the report is also straightforward: it seeks to quantify how the recent graduates are doing during the early stages of their careers. However, these straightforward questions are complicated by the other significant factor in the lives of many recent high school graduates: postsecondary education. The first five years after high school is traditionally the time when high school graduates engage in college; and that is certainly the case with the cohort analyzed for the 2020 report. Notably, 77% of the high school graduates had or continue to have some involvement with college during the first five years after high school graduation. The impact of college on workforce outcomes is of critical importance and highlighted throughout the report. To read the report, click [here](#).

CyberMaryland Conference

The CyberMaryland Conference is an annual event presented by the Federal Business Council (FBC) in conjunction with academia, government and private industry organizations. The event will take place March 24-25, 2021, and this year's theme, "Building the Cyber Generation," encompasses the event's intent to ensure the cyber-safety of today and educate the cybersecurity professionals of tomorrow. This free virtual conference consists of educational presentations on the latest IT and cybersecurity technologies by industry and government subject matter experts. The GWDB will be participating in a panel discussion with members from the Maryland Center for Computing Education (MCCE), Career and Technical Education (CTE), and representatives from the business community to discuss the alignment between education and workforce in preparing students for cybersecurity careers. Part of the conference will also feature the Maryland Cyber Challenge & Competition (MDC3), an online virtual competition. Hosted and delivered by cybersecurity education powerhouse University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC) using the tryhackme platform, the competition scenarios and platform will be refereed by leading cyber practitioners, university professors and guest hosts from across the cyber world. For more information and to register, visit www.fbcconferences.com/e/cybermdconference.

Junior Achievement of the Eastern Shore | JA Inspire

JA Inspire is a one-of-a-kind career exploration event for students on the Eastern Shore hosted by Junior Achievement of the Eastern Shore. Hundreds of local businesses, from across The Shore, will be ready to show students what a day in the life of someone with their job looks like, how students can get that job, and what students need to do in school to be successful in that job. JA Inspire will also feature Eastern Shore colleges, universities, apprenticeship programs, trade schools, and internships so once a student is "inspired" they can gather the information they need on how to achieve their goals. This year, JA Inspire will be virtual and the online platform will allow companies to design their virtual booth, hand out digital flyers, and allow for tons of videos to deliver critical information to students. JA Inspire Middle School Session will be taking place March 22-26, 2021, for 8th grade students, and on March 29-April 2, 2021,

JA Inspire will be open to 11th and 12th grade students and adult job seekers. For more information, visit www.juniorachievement.org/web/ja-easternshore/ja-inspire.

SANS Institute | CyberStart America

CyberStart America is a free national program for high school students across the U.S. to master cybersecurity as a gateway to the industry, up their digital skills, and compete for college scholarships. The GWDB, Maryland Department of Labor, and Maryland State Department of Education have partnered with the SANS Institute to encourage students in grades 9 through 12 throughout Maryland to register and participate in this exciting opportunity. As of March 5, 2021, Maryland is ranked 5th for the number of students registered (nearly 1,000!), with over 130 Maryland schools participating. The games close April 4, 2021, and the National Cyber Scholarship Competition will take place April 5-6, 2021. For more information, visit www.cyberstartamerica.org.
