

Task Force on Universal Preschool Education

The Maryland General Assembly passed legislation (HB1466) in 2006 which required that the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), in collaboration with the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) and the University System of Maryland (USM), establish a Task on Universal Preschool Education. According to the statute, the Task Force is charged with the development of an overall plan to increase access to high quality early childhood education opportunities for families. The Task Force will meet on three more occasions between April and September 2007 and will issue a report with recommendations regarding the aforementioned charge to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2007.

Task Force members were identified according to HB 1466. Membership includes designated representatives and appointments by the Governor:

- 1) Honorable Justin D. Ross – The Maryland House of Delegates
- 2) Senator Joan Carter Conway – The Maryland Senate
- 3) Rolf Grafwallner – Co-Chairperson – Maryland State Department of Education
- 4) Elisa L. Klein – University of Maryland College of Education
- 5) Patricia S. Gordon – Maryland Association of Boards of Education
- 6) Veronica Land Davis – Maryland Head Start Association
- 7) Mark L. Rosenberg – Maryland State Child Care Association
- 8) Tracie Farrell – Governor’s Office for Children
- 9) Arlene Ennis – Family Child Care
- 10) T. Sky Woodward – Parent
- 11) Gene Counihan – Maryland Chamber of Commerce
- 12) Mary Hunt – College of Southern Maryland
- 13) Sandy Skolnik – Co-Chairperson - Maryland Committee for Children
- 14) Debra Metheny – Board of Education of Allegany County
- 15) Janine Bacquie – Montgomery County Public Schools