![MLDS Center - Maryland Longitudinal Data System]

Address 550 West Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
Phone 410-706-2085
Email mlds.center@maryland.gov
Website www.MLDSCenter.org

MEMORANDUM

To:	MLDS Governing Board
From:	Ross Goldstein, Executive Director
	Angela Henneberger, Research Branch Director and Assistant Research Professor, University of Maryland School of Social Work
Date:	September 2, 2022
Subject:	External Researcher and Grant Funded Projects

Purpose

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide an update on one external research project that was presented to the Research and Policy Advisory Board and recommended to the Executive Director via the expedited review process and to seek approval for a second external research project that was favorably reviewed by the Research and Policy Advisory Board.

Proposal 1: <u>Using Maryland's SLDS To Strengthen And Diversify The Teacher Workforce Through High School To Career Pathways</u>

The MLDS Research Branch (Dr. Lincove at UMBC, Dr. Blazar at UMCP, and Dr. Henneberger at UMB) is partnering with MHEC and MSDE to submit an application to the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) for their *Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Policymaking* grant competition (https://ies.ed.gov/ncer/projects/program.asp?ProgID=112). The grant is for $1 million over three years. The project proposes using MLDS data to inform state and local strategies and decisions regarding expanding and diversifying the teacher pipeline. Specifically, the proposed project will focus on several existing pathways for Maryland high school graduates to enter teaching including dual enrollment, community college, and four-year pathways. This project will examine points of exit for high school graduates who pursue teacher education to help policymakers identify and remove barriers to completion. Additionally, the proposed project will examine the current teacher workforce to find the most common pathways into teaching for teachers of color who are successful and persistent in long-term employment in public school. The objective is to use the MLDS to provide policymakers and stakeholders with a comprehensive and detailed understanding of where the existing teacher workforce came from, the potential expansions in the teacher pipeline, and common points of leakage or blockage where potential teachers exit that pipeline.

Action: Informational only.

Proposal 2: Grads 2 Careers Initiative Outcomes Evaluation

The Grads2Careers (G2C) initiative provides free occupational training programs to recent Baltimore City high school graduates (ages 17-21); establishing a pathway from graduation to career-sustaining wages. The project proposes to temporarily integrate G2C data into the MLDS dataset to better understand the impact of the initiative on program participants, and ultimately make state and nationwide recommendations to better support postsecondary pathways for young people. This project is a primary, quasi-experimental model that will explore the effect of G2C participation on wages by using propensity score matching to compare G2C participants to comparable non-participants. The proposed data sources include: secondary education data from the Maryland State Department of Education, postsecondary data from the Maryland Higher Education Commission, workforce data from the Maryland Department of Labor, and administrative G2C programming data that will be temporarily added to the MLDS inventory. This evaluation will help the state understand whether our workforce training model has long term effects on participants and whether the model should be expanded in Baltimore and elsewhere. Grads2Careers is staffed by full-time employees at Baltimore City Public Schools, the Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Employment Development and Baltimore's Promise. The Johns Hopkins Center for Adolescent Health and Baltimore's Promise research team will conduct this study.

Action: Needs approval.