MLDS CENTER
Maryland Longitudinal Data System

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Maryland Longitudinal Data System Governing Board
Meeting Minutes for June 11, 2021

The meeting of the Maryland Longitudinal Data System (MLDS) Governing Board was held on June 11, 2021, via conference call. Mr. Samuel Abed, Vice Chairman of the Governing Board, noted that Chairman Fielder had been called away on urgent business and that he would be running the meeting in the Chairman's absence. Mr. Abed called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and noted that a quorum was present.

The following Governing Board members were in attendance:

Mr. Sam Abed, Secretary, Department of Juvenile Services (John Irvine, Director of Research and
    Evaluation served as designee for part of the meeting)
Dr. Emily Dow, Assistant Secretary for Academic Affairs, Higher Education Commission (Designee for
    Dr. James Fielder, Secretary)
Mr. Michael Harrison, Director, Office of Policy Development, Department of Labor (Designee for Ms.
    Tiffany Robinson, Secretary of the Department of Labor)
Dr. Nancy Shapiro, Associate Vice-Chancellor for Education & Outreach (Designee for Dr. Robert Caret,
    Chancellor)
Dr. Karen Salmon, State Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Farzad Moazzami, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, Morgan State University (Designee
    for Dr. David Wilson, President)
Ms. Sara Fidler, President of the Maryland Independent Colleges and Universities Association
Dr. Brad Phillips, Deputy Executive Director, Maryland Association of Community Colleges (Designee
    for Mr. Bernard Sadusky, Executive Director)
Mr. Jason Dykstra, Executive Director, Instructional Data Division, Anne Arundel County Public Schools
Dr. Susan Sterett, Director of the School of Public Policy, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Mr. Maurice Good, Program Director, Maryland New Directions
Mr. Steven Rizzi, Vice President, PAR Government
Mr. Chris Biggs, Information Assurance Manager, Raytheon Company

The following MLDS Center staff were in attendance:

Mr. Ross Goldstein, Executive Director, MLDS Center
Ms. Tejal Cherry, Director of System Management Branch, MLDS Center
Dr. Angela Henneberger, Director of Research, MLDS Center and Research Assistant Professor,
    University of Maryland, School of Social Work
Dr. Ann Kellogg, Director of Reporting Services, MLDS Center and MHEC Liaison
Ms. Molly Abend, Data Management Coordinator and MSDE Liaison
Ms. Dawn Luedtke, Assistant Attorney General
Mr. Roy Enehiroana, Data Analyst and Department of Labor Liaison
Ms. Jamese Dixon-Bobbitt, Executive Associate, MLDS Center

Approval of the March 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Abed asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 12, 2021 meeting. Dr. Salmon made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Dykstra. The motion was unanimously approved.

Center Output

Reporting Service

Dr. Ann Kellogg provided an overview of Reporting Services work completed over the past year, which included adding or updating 42 sets of dashboards, primarily focused on high school to college. New content includes median wages for the high school students five years after high school completion at the statewide, school system, and school level. Downloadable data sets for these dashboards were also created and made available on the website to address stakeholder needs. The Center also produced all of its required reports and expanded on several of the reports including providing information about Associate Degree Earners and interactive reports related to the More Jobs for Marylanders Act report. A preliminary analysis of apprenticeship was also completed. The Center now provides 15 different sets of data tables for stakeholders to support their state and federal reporting needs. Finally, Dr. Kellogg noted that there were 27 data requests, of which 8 were completed, two are in progress, and 15 were canceled because they were single sector or requested individual-level data.

Next, Dr. Kellogg turned to the Reporting Services plans for the upcoming fiscal year. There are three main areas of work planned:

1. New data collection exploration, with the data from the Department of Juvenile Services and the Department of Human Services;
2. Annual output including the annual reports, data tables, and data requests; and
3. Dashboards, including new teacher dashboards and continuing to add to and refresh existing dashboards.

Dr. Shapiro and Mr. Dykstra congratulated Dr. Kellogg and the Center on the work and progress made during the past year and complemented the ambitious agenda for next year.

Research Branch

Dr. Henneberger provided an overview of the Research Branch's accomplishments and priorities. During the past year, the Research Branch had three research reports published on the MLDS website: (a) synthetic data project; (b) Maryland Public School Teachers Working Secondary Jobs; and (c) Poverty, Homelessness, and Long-Term Outcomes. The Research Branch also worked to provide eight research series presentations. One of the presentations focused on the findings of work done on behalf of MSDE to study the outcomes of students who complete a bridge project in lieu of certain graduation assessment requirements. A presentation on the estimated impacts of COVID 19 on academic achievement and a presentation on the impact of law enforcement officers in schools were provided by national experts. These presentations were specifically organized to address stakeholder questions on topics for which the Center currently does not have data. The Research Branch completed 11 grant submissions to federal and foundation funders. Three of the grants have been selected for award. Finally, the Research Branch continued to submit research reports for submission to peer-reviewed manuscripts. In response to a

question from Dr. Dow, Dr. Henneberger noted that all of the articles appear on the Center website along with links to the journals in which they appear.

The priorities for the upcoming fiscal year were developed in collaboration with stakeholders. As in past years, the focus will be on conducting advanced statistical analyses to inform decision-making to optimize public education and workforce systems that serve Maryland children, youth, adults, and families. Second, the Research Branch will continue to build capacity to conduct rigorous research by developing technical and methodological documentation. Third, the Research Branch will encourage diverse and inclusive research partnerships by promoting equitable access to data and resources. This is a new priority - but has been something the Research Branch has been continuously pursuing. Finally, the Research Branch will support the above goals by pursuing additional funding opportunities.

Next, Dr. Henneberger provided examples of specific projects that are responsive to the priorities; including works in progress, others that were recently requested by stakeholders, and new suggestions by the Research and Policy Advisory Board. Priority 2 on methodological documentation is being addressed through three different projects (data science, student mobility analysis, and missing wages analysis). The third priority on diverse and inclusive partnerships is being addressed through the recent partnership agreement with Morgan State University and external researchers. Finally, the priority for external funding is being addressed through ongoing grant applications - especially federal funders such as Institute for Education Sciences (IES) and the National Science Foundation (NSF).

Dr. Shapiro asked if there is a role for the Center in ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund) fund monitoring and accountability. Dr. Henneberger responded that MSDE is primarily responsible for the assessment of the impact of ESSER funds. However, she reviewed the Federal Register to understand the IES request for proposals on ESSER related research and believes that MLDS data may be particularly relevant for certain topics and plans to submit a proposal.

In response to a question from Mr. Rizzi, Mr. Goldstein noted that the team is working to ensure that the system is technically ready to respond to research needs. Ms. Cherry noted that the Center has specifically worked with data visualization software that includes geospatial analytic capabilities. The Center IT team will continue to work with researchers to ensure that technical needs can be addressed.

Legislation
Mr. Goldstein began by providing an overview of legislation that passed that impacts the Center:
1. HB 320 (Chapter 586) - *Maryland Longitudinal Data System - Transfer of Student Data - Modifications*. The 2018 Career Preparation Act established a requirement for the Higher Education Commission to collect and provide the following information to the Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center: (a) Professional and occupational licenses from Department of Labor and Department of Health; (b) Vocational certificates from Maryland Community Colleges; and (c) Industry certifications from a national certifier that receives state funds. This bill fixes the legal and procedural issues with the law to allow the data to be collected directly by the MLDS Center. The bill also provides a new board member to represent Health Occupations Boards.

2. HB 854 - (Chapter 306) - *Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center - Inclusion of Child Welfare Data and Governing Board.* This bill, as amended, changes the definition of student data to include child welfare data. Child welfare data is defined as data relating to a child's experience with child protective services, family preservation services, and state-sponsored out-of-home services. The bill also adds the Secretary of the Department of Human Services to the Governing Board. Finally, the bill establishes requirements for data dashboards on how out-of-home placement affects participation in higher education. The bill was approved by the Governor.

3. SB 664 (Chapter 577) - *Education - Student Financial Aid - Outreach Plan and Reporting.* This bill was amended at the end of the session and included requirements for the MLDS Center. The bill requires county boards of education (counties) to encourage and assist high school seniors in completing and submitting a FAFSA. Counties are required to develop an outreach plan and report the outcomes of those plans to the General Assembly. Counties are also required to report to the MLDS Center the number of students who did and did not complete and submit a FAFSA. The data is reported to the Center disaggregated by school (and is not student-level data). The MLDS Center is required to report the information to the Governor and General Assembly.

4. HB 1372 (Chapter 55) *Blueprint for Maryland's Future - Revisions.* Generally, this bill has no changes that impact the Center. However, One change in that bill that indirectly impacts the Center is the change in the definition of "dually enrolled student" to include a student enrolled in a credit or noncredit certificate or license program, or a course, or sequence of courses that lead to certification or licensure at an institution of higher education in the state. Not all of the data is available to accommodate this change, which will impact the Annual Dual Enrollment Report.

In response to a question from Dr. Shapiro, Mr. Goldstein stated that there was no direct funding provided along with the increased duties established in the legislation. Mr. Goldstein noted that the Center will have to work through the budget process to seek additional funding. Dr. Salmon noted that all state agencies are given increased duties without additional funding. Dr. Salmon also noted that SB 664 adds a requirement for the Center to directly collect data from the local school systems. Mr. Goldstein agreed that this was outside the norm of how the Center does business.

Next. Mr. Goldstein reviewed proposed legislation affecting the Center that did not pass.

1. HB 46 / SB 584 **-** *Education - Student Horizon Database and Scorecard (Students Right to Know Act of 2021).* This bill required MSDE to annually collect a variety of information and report that information to graduating high school seniors. MSDE, MHEC and MLDS all had raised concerns with the bill that ultimately never made it out of Committee.

2. HB 359 /SB 437 **-** *Maryland Longitudinal Data System - Student Data - Pregnant and Parenting Students.* This bill added data on whether a student is or has been pregnant or is a parenting student to the definition of student data. This change would allow the Center to collect this information from MSDE. A related bill - HB 401, which passed, establishes a policy and reporting requirements for administering to the needs of pregnant and parenting students.

3. HB 522 - *Public Schools - School Resource Officers and School Security Employees - Revisions.* This bill included a late amendment to add to the duties and functions of the MLDS Center the requirement to study the impact that school disciplinary action and assignment to juvenile detention has on a student's educational and economic outcomes. In addition, the bill directed the

Governor to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation for the Center of at least $100,000 for this new study requirement.

Finally, Mr. Goldstein discussed recommendations for legislative changes in 2022. The topic was discussed with the Research and Policy Advisory Board, which had no specific recommendations for legislative changes. There was some discussion about issues with SB 664, but ultimately changes were not recommended. There were recommendations for additional outreach for legislators and staff. Mr. Goldstein then asked whether the Governing Board had recommendations. Mr. Dykstra noted his concerns with SB 664 and the level of quality and accuracy of the data to be collected and reported under the bill. Mr. Goldstein responded that the bill contemplated the availability of objective information from a data sharing agreement between counties and MHEC to receive FAFSA filing status information under the federal FAFSA completion initiative.

Data Inventory
Ms. Abend began by explaining that there were a total of 136 new data elements to be added to the Data Inventory, five data elements for removal, and 25 data elements that are for temporary addition to the Data Inventory.

1. Division of Early Childhood at MSDE. The majority of the data elements (42) are PK-12 sectors and are related to student performance with the Kindergarten Readiness Assessments. An additional seven data elements are part of the early childhood sector and provide information on student participation in early childhood programs.
2. Perkins V Reporting. The Center supports MSDE with fulfilling federal reporting requirements on the placement outcomes of secondary and postsecondary CTE students.   The data elements, which include 22 secondary and 20 postsecondary elements, will facilitate meeting the reporting requirements.
3. IDEA Reporting - The Center also supports MSDE with fulfilling federal reporting requirements on the placement outcomes of secondary special education students for the year following their exit from secondary education. The 14 data elements will facilitate meeting the reporting requirements.
4. Noncredit Workforce Completer System - MHEC has initiated a pilot project to collect unit record data on students taking non-credit courses. The data elements are proposed for permanent inclusion in the data inventory. However, the actual data will not be kept once the pilot is complete. The current timeline is to finalize the collection for the 2022-2023 collection year. At that time, the pilot data would be removed from the MLDS.
5. Cyber Warrior Diversity Program - There are 25 temporary additions from MHEC related to the Cyber Warrior Diversity Program. MHEC is required to submit a report on the program, including the outcome of its participants. Since this is a limited duration program with a small population (there were only four participating institutions), MHEC has requested that this be a temporary collection and will only remain in the system until August 31, 2021.

Mr. Rizzi noted that the MLDS is a longitudinal data system developed for the purpose of measuring outcomes over a long period of time; temporary data seems to frustrate that purpose. Mr. Goldstein agreed and noted that generally data is added as a permanent part of the data inventory. However, under the

current circumstances where the cyber warrior data is a limited collection for a limited program, the temporary designation is appropriate. Ultimately, the Board will always be consulted on the appropriateness of temporary data. Regarding capturing data on temporary changes due to COVID, there was a discussion on how agencies are capturing contextual indicators to help the future understanding of the data.

Board Action:

1. Mr. Rizzi made a motion to approve the additions and removals of data from the Division of Early Childhood collections, which was seconded by Dr. Shapiro. The motion was unanimously approved.
2. Mr. Biggs made a motion to approve the addition of data from Perkins V Reporting, which was seconded by Dr. Dow. The motion was unanimously approved.
3. Dr. Dow made a motion to approve the addition of data from IDEA Reporting, which was seconded by Mr. Rizzi. The motion was unanimously approved.
4. Mr. Good made a motion to approve the addition of data from the Noncredit Workforce Completer System, which was seconded by Dr. Moazzami. The motion was unanimously approved.
5. Mr. Biggs made a motion to approve the temporary addition of data from the Cyber Warrior Program, which was seconded by Mr. Rizzi. The motion was unanimously approved.

Data Collection Calendar

Ms. Abend noted that the Data Collection Calendar for 2021-2022 is similar to last year's calendar. The changes include the new data collections. The Calendar includes a note that data collections may change or be cancelled due to Covid.

Board Action: Dr. Dow made a motion to approve the Data Collection Calendar, which was seconded by Dr. Moazzami. The motion was unanimously approved.

Budget Plan - FY 22

Mr. Goldstein began by noting that the budget remained substantially the same as last year. The total budget is $2.4 million. This represents a small decrease from last year. The funds are allocated as follows:

- 64% for salaries
- 15% for Research Branch
- 7% for Information Technology/Operations
- 12% IT Consulting
- 2% Everything else -copiers, supplies, parking, etc.

Compared to prior years, information technology is taking up a slightly larger percentage of the budget - from 12% to 19%. This is due to including funds to contract for an additional data analyst, which is needed to address the volume of data. In addition, funds were set aside for hardware necessary to move the Center to the DoIT enterprise data center. The cost of the hardware for this move is around $200,000. Finally, the research budget stays the same. The Center is in the second year of a three-year agreement at

approximately $346 thousand per year. However, new funding was added to include Morgan State researchers ($30 thousand over two years).

Mr. Dykstra asked if IT funding will go down once the move to the enterprise system is complete. Mr. Goldstein responded that the Center would have a better sense of costs once we are fully in the enterprise system. However, consulting contracts make up a substantial portion of the IT budget and that won't be reduced unless new staff positions can be created.

Board Action: Mr. Dykstra made a motion to approve the budget plan, which was seconded by Mr. Good. The motion was unanimously approved.

DoIT Security Audit
Ms. Cherry began by noting that cybersecurity and data protection are a top priority for the Center. DoIT selected MLDSC to pilot its first Cybersecurity Assessment. The goal of the assessment is to ensure that it provides the clarity needed to identify and prioritize remediation of identified gaps. The assessment took place over the last four months. The assessment also satisfies the requirement for an annual audit described in the Maryland IT Security Manual for MLDSC. The Center is still waiting for the final report on this assessment from DoIT. Ms. Cherry noted that she planned to provide more details about the assessment and findings at the next Cybersecurity Subcommittee Meeting.

Next Ms. Cherry provided an overview of the components of the assessment which included: (a) an assessment of the Center's operational security maturity; (b) an assessment of the Center's data governance and management maturity; and (c) web application penetration testing to determine if there are weaknesses in our configuration that would allow attackers access to the system.

In response to a question from Mr. Abed, Ms. Cherry clarified that the DoIT assessment was in addition to the audit conducted by the Office of Legislative Audits. In response to a question from Mr. Dykstra, Ms. Cherry stated that the audit results will be confidentially shared with the Board and will be discussed in a closed session. Finally, in response to a question from Mr. Biggs, Ms. Cherry explained that a disaster recovery exercise was not part of the assessment, but it was recommended that the Center conduct a modified (table-top exercise) disaster recovery test.

Data Center Hosting Project
Ms. Cherry began by noting that this project has been in the works for at least two years. The Center has been at MSDE since it moved from the data center at the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS). The Center has been anticipating the need to upgrade the data center for at least two years and hired a consultant to consider different options including staying at MSDE, moving to a cloud hosting environment, or moving to the DoIT enterprise system. The consultant recommended the DoIT enterprise data center and that is what the Center is currently working towards. Ms. Cherry requested and received DBM approval for the project.

Moving to the new data center will result in a complete technology refresh, more robust data center security, better system performance, and continued use of a self-managed Oracle Environment. The

Center has already procured the necessary software and is finalizing the hardware procurement and the detailed migration plans. Ms. Cherry expects the move to be completed by the end of the year. Mr. Goldstein noted that Ms. Cherry worked hard to ensure that the Center staff has full control of its data center environment. Mr. Rizzi agreed, noting that even when outsourcing certain work, staff are still accountable and therefore need to maintain control.

Morgan State University - Research Partnership
Dr. Henneberger began by reporting that a partnership with Morgan State University (MSU) has been established. The Center and the University of Maryland, School of Social Work (SSW) amended their interagency agreement to allow SSW to subcontract with any Maryland public institution (not just USM institutions). The amendment also added $30,000 to the budget for MSU researchers. This partnership will increase the Research Branch's capacity and diversify its experience. It also addresses the HBCU participation goal established by the General Assembly.   MSU is ready to begin this summer. Dr. Moazzami thanked Dr. Henneberger for working with the faculty and administrators at the School of Education and Urban Studies and noted that MSU professor Dr. Omari Jackson will serve as an Associate Director of the Research Branch.

External Research and Grant Funded Project
Updates
Dr. Henneberger began with two updates. First, the Research Branch is planning to resubmit several grant applications to the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). All of these grants have been approved by the Governing Board through the *Policies and Procedures for External Research and Grant Funded Projects*. The grants include: (1) a study of the long term effects of the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program in Maryland schools; (2) a study on the policy remedies to reduce out-of-school suspension; and (3) a study on the characteristics of STEM CTE high school courses and whether they are associated with long term success and persistence in STEM majors. Second, Dr. Henneberger provided an update on a project by Dr. Ken Elpus, Associate Professor of Music Education at the University of Maryland College Park. Dr. Elpus received IES funding for a project that was previously approved by the Governing Board. His project focuses on possible links between academic outcomes and arts education in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP). Dr. Elpus and his research team plan to use MLDS data to analyze outcomes for IB students who pursued art education as part of their IB program.

External Research Application #1
The first project is by Dr. Jessaca Spybrook, Professor, Western Michigan University, on *Best Practices for Modeling Multilevel STEM Learning Environment*. The STEM learning environment is complex and multilevel in nature. That is, students are nested within teachers, teachers are nested within schools, and schools are nested within local school systems. It is important to understand the role of students, teachers, schools, and local school systems as they relate to math and science student achievement. The research will estimate what portion of the variance in math and science student achievement (e.g., test scores) is at the student, teacher, school, and local school system level; what portion of the variance in whether or not a student enrolls in remedial coursework in math is at the student, teacher, school, and local school system level; and how much of the variance at each level can be explained by student, teacher, school, and local school system characteristics. Dr. Spybrook has received a $1.3 million grant from the National Science

Foundation to conduct this research. Dr. Tracy Sweet, who is an Associate Director of the Research Branch is serving as a Co-PI on the project.

Mr. Goldstien recommended Board approval for this project, noting that it received the approval of the Research and Policy Advisory Board. Mr. Goldstein noted that there were a lot of questions about this project, including the fact that it is the first one submitted by an out-of-state researcher. There was a lot of discussion and work, led by Dr. Henneberger to ensure that this project was structured in a way that provided direct benefit to the State of Maryland. Mr. Rizzi asked whether the General Assembly contemplated the system being used by out-of-state researchers. Mr. Goldstein responded that the General Assembly intended to create a system to answer important policy questions and probably did not contemplate who would be answering those questions. Mr. Goldstein noted that the Center's processes and procedures contemplate an application from an out-of-state researcher. Mr. Goldstein also stated that the procedures provide a thorough review process with opportunities to decline a researcher's request if it does not address a Maryland policy question.

Board Action: Dr. Phillips made a motion to approve the project application submitted by Dr. Spybrook, which was seconded by Dr. Shapiro. The motion was unanimously approved.

External Application #2

The second application is from Ms. Miriam Wiglesworth, Professor of Business at the Harford Community College. Her research is on the Impact of Dual Enrollment on Maryland Colleges. The research is furtherance of her dissertation and will be overseen by her dissertation advisor with review and oversight from Dr. Henneberger. Using data from the MLDS, Ms. Wiglesworth plans to analyze the number of Maryland high school students who pass dual enrollment classes during the 12th-grade year. This information will be disaggregated by gender, race, ethnicity, economic status, and county. The research will also explore the number of students who matriculate to Maryland institutions after high school. This information will be subdivided by the type of institution the student attends after high school graduation to include MD two-year colleges, MD four-year colleges, and out-of-state four-year colleges. The analysis will also include whether students stay in the same college in which they dual enrolled during high school. Dr. Henneberger noted that this is an issue that she has been asked to look into on several occasions.

Board Action: Dr. Dow made a motion to approve the project application submitted by Ms. Wiglesworth, which was seconded by Dr. Shapiro.
Discussion: Mr. Goldstein encouraged the Board's approval of the project, noting that it had been favorably reviewed by the Research and Policy Advisory Board. The project is worthwhile and answers questions of direct relevance to the State. In response to a question by Mr. Dykstra, Dr. Henneberger stated that the project can include an analysis of credit bearing courses. Also in response to Mr. Dykstra, Mr. Goldstein noted that the Center has worked with at least two other students using MLDS data for their dissertation. There have not been a lot of requests and so far the ones that have been received have been topics that are of interest to the Center and can be completed in a reasonable timeframe. Finally, Dr. Henneberger responded that the proposed project will provide a rigorous set of analyses of outcomes to determine if there are statistically significant differences among different groups and their dual enrollment

outcomes. The other new aspect of this research is the analysis of whether students return to the college where they dual enrolled.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Old Business

Teacher Certification Data Feasibility Study Update

Mr. Goldstein began by noting that the Governing Board directed the Center to study the feasibility of collecting data on teacher certification. Thus far staff has reviewed laws, regulations, and procedural information and interviewed local school systems personnel. Findings to date include the fact that MSDE maintains all teacher certification data. Local school systems (LSS) maintain information related to teacher applications for employment. Each LSS uses a different system. The quality and scope of the certification data maintained by MSDE is not known at this time. Center staff requested a meeting with MSDE, but were informed by MSDE that they were unable to accommodate the request because of the vacancy in the Assistant Superintendent for Teacher Certification and Program Approval and the ongoing implementation of a new certification system. Questions that still need to be answered by MSDE include what data are available in the old system, what are the quality and format of those data, and how will the new system impact data collection and sharing. Dr. Salmon noted that MSDE is previewing the new system at the June 22nd meeting of the State Board of Education, which will provide a good opportunity to learn about the new system and its capabilities. She is very pleased with the outcome of the new system development and thinks the Center will be able to work with the new system and its data. Finally, Mr. Goldstein concluded by noting that staff also plan to talk with deans and directors of education programs to understand from their perspective what data are available and needed.

Research Funding Source

Dr. Henneberger began by noting that at the last meeting there was a question regarding the breakdown of funding for research. As a result, Dr. Henneberger compiled funding information for 2018 to present. The information shows that in 2018, State funds provided approximately $380,000 for research. That amount was reduced to approximately $320,000 in 2020 and is currently back up to approximately to the 2018 rate. The federal SLDS grant provided significant funding during FY 18 through FY 20. Other research grants have been steadily increasing with an anticipated $700,000 in FY 22. Dr. Henneberger thanked the Board for their support of external and grant funded research which greatly expands the research capacity of the Center. In response to a question from Mr. Rizzi, Dr. Henneberger confirmed that the SLDS grant funds are paid directly to the state and provide for capacity building in addition to funding for research and are therefore very helpful. The new research funding opportunities are for specific research projects - generally paid directly to the research institution.

New Business

Mr. Goldstein informed the Board that the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA), the Coleridge Initiative, and the Kentucky Center for Statistics are partnering to offer a Jobs and Education Summit on September 24, 2021. The goal of the Summit is to explore the potential of new ways for states to share data and develop education and labor market information among the SREB states. This collaborative effort will enable states to jointly

develop common products, grounded in common measures and data models, in a secure and privacy-protected data platform. The state was asked to send four representatives from: the state's longitudinal data system, K-12 education, higher education, and labor. Mr. Goldstein noted that he plans to attend as does Tiara Booker, Assistant State Superintendent for Career and Technical Education at MSDE. Mr. Goldstein noted that he had not heard from the Department of Labor or the Higher Education Commission about their participation.

Closing

Mr. Abed noted that this was Dr. Salmon's last meeting and thanked her for her hard work on behalf of the State of Maryland. Dr. Salmon noted that it had been her distinct pleasure to serve in the role of Superintendent and that she was proud of the achievements made during her tenure. She wished the Board and the Center good luck and continued growth and success. Mr. Abed noted that the next meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2021 (9 a.m. to 12 p.m.). Dr. Salmon made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Rizzi. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Ross Goldstein
Executive Director

Approved: September 10, 2021