



WINTER 2015-2016

A Publication of the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education



Thanks to the outstanding support from our network across the state, MBRT had a tremendous year. Membership remains solidly involved in our efforts to accelerate teacher and student growth in Maryland. Volunteers continue to provide essential career connections in our schools. And MBRT is viewed as a trusted partner at the local, state and federal levels.

As we all look ahead to a new year, I am drawn back to the student voices that lifted our Annual Meeting in November. Eighth-graders Deon and Johanna of Lakeland Elementary-Middle School in Baltimore City joined us that day, reminding our audience of how impactful the employer community can be in a school such as theirs. I checked back with them - and their fellow classmates – before the holidays, and asked what they have in mind for the upcoming year. Their resolutions inspire us to expect great

things of ourselves. Some enter 2016 with specific goals in mind. “I want to learn basic coding so that I can get a career in video game design,” one young man told me. “I want to get into my choice high school and from there go to college and become a petroleum engineer,” another offered. And one other classmate summarized what many adults might have in mind: “I’m not going to get distracted this year,” she said. “I’m going to stay focused.”

I wish great focus for each of us throughout the new year, in all of our endeavors. And may we play a shared role in guiding a few more engineers or game designers toward successful careers and fulfilling adult lives, a happy new year indeed.

P2 | MBRT board companies, members and state agency partners have been active in the news. See our partner round-up for an overview of those efforts.

P3 | Employer volunteers are making a significant impact statewide, offering career connections to thousands of students throughout Maryland.

P4 | AstraZeneca joined the MBRT board of directors in 2015, and board member Rich Buckley explains the importance of a strong life sciences workforce.

MBRT PARTNERS IN THE NEWS

Northrop Grumman Streamlines Business Sectors, Appoints Gloria Flach As COO

Northrop Grumman announced structural changes that include the streamlining of business sectors from four to three. Gloria Flach has been appointed as Chief Operating Officer, effective this week. Flach, Chair of the MBRT Board of Directors since 2013, was most recently Northrop Grumman corporate Vice President and President of the Electronic Systems sector.

NORTHROP GRUMMAN

Maryland Rising

Stevenson University President Dr. Kevin Manning, an MBRT board member, convened a select group of Maryland's influential economic development and education leaders in December for a strategic discussion of Maryland's competitive future. The program began in 2014 to frame the topic of Maryland's competitiveness around opportunity and innovative practices that raise the profile of the state and position it for robust economic success. Maryland Rising built upon the work of the Competitiveness Coalition convened by the **Maryland Chamber of Commerce** in 2013. Speakers this year included: **UMBC** President Dr. Freeman Hrabowski III, an MBRT board member; James Brady, former Secretary of Maryland's Department of Business and Economic Development; former State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy Grasmick, now a Presidential Scholar at **Towson University**; Chair of OneBaltimore, Michael Cryor; and Special Advisor to the Governor, Keiffer Mitchell, Jr. The audience included elected and agency officials, economic development directors, top CEOs, and key institution and organization leadership.



State Task Force on Immigrant Children

The **Maryland State Department of Education** is leading a state task force to look at how to improve the education of immigrants in Maryland schools. The task force, which will include input from MBRT and its partners, is weighing several options, including expanding teacher training and creating a central repository of resources for teachers. According to the Baltimore Sun, the number of English language learners in Maryland public schools has doubled to about 65,300 during the past decade.



MBRT volunteer, Dr. Rick Ward of UMES, with the Men of Distinction program participants at James M. Bennett High.



MBRT TEAMS UP WITH LOCAL AND NATIONAL PROGRAM EFFORTS

The 2015-16 school year has already proved to be making an impact on the lives of our Maryland Youth. To date, through our programs, MBRT anticipates reaching nearly 20,000 students in all 24 school districts—a 15% increase from where we were last year this time.

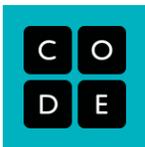
We have seen great response from the schools and teachers who are utilizing our business volunteers in their classrooms. In addition to the 77 schools accessing the Maryland Scholars Speakers Bureau program, our STEM Innovation Schools are teaming up with specialists in innovative ways.

In early November, nine specialists (in the areas of science, technology and engineering), participated in student STEM Capstone project proposal sessions at South River High in Anne Arundel County. Groups of students prepared presentations for panelists, participated in a question answer session, and then received feedback from the specialists.

In mid-November, Dr. Rick Ward, a Wicomico County volunteer, engaged a group of high school boys as part of

the Mentoring Project in the county. The Wicomico Mentoring Project, started in 1994, is a collaborative effort of the Wicomico County Board of Education, the Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Salisbury Committee to help Wicomico County Public School children become productive, responsible citizens.

Finally, as an addition to the Hour of Code week by code.org, the Crossroads Center held a "Girls Code" day with girls in grades 7-12. The young ladies interacted with three STEM Specialists, Bianca Jackson of JAX Digital, Roxanne Wood of Lockheed Martin and Gretchen Head, also of Lockheed Martin. After the coding activity, the specialists shared their personal career experiences, provided information on the computer science career field and empowered the students to consider a career in IT in the future. Hear more about the event here: <https://vimeo.com/149300220>



STEM Specialist, Bianca Jackson, President and CEO of JAX Digital, coding with girls at the Crossroad Center in Baltimore County.



Visit STEMNet at www.thestemnet.com. For more information about the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education, please visit our website at www.mbrt.org or call 410.788.0333.

SPOTLIGHT ON ASTRAZENECA

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A STRONG LOCAL WORKFORCE IS VITAL

Our newest board company, AstraZeneca has appointed Richard Buckley, Vice President of North America Corporate Affairs as the MBRT board of directors representative.

Buckley is responsible for U.S. federal and state government affairs for AstraZeneca, as well as: public policy; corporate, product, and employee communications; corporate responsibility; ally development; and community relations. He has dotted-line responsibility for Canada Corporate Affairs, overseeing the alignment of global best practices and talent management, and strategic continuity with Corporate Affairs globally. He serves on both the U.S. Leadership Team and the Global Corporate Affairs Leadership Team for AstraZeneca.

"It is a privilege to welcome Rich Buckley to MBRT's Board of Directors," said Brian Dulay, MBRT Executive Director. "The combination of Mr. Buckley's experience in the life sciences sector and his company's sustained commitment to education will benefit MBRT as we work to serve the needs of students in Maryland."

"AstraZeneca and MedImmune are excited to join MBRT in their advocacy for education reform, student achievement and workforce preparedness in Maryland," Mr. Buckley said. "As a major life sciences employer in the state, it's vital that we have a strong local workforce to draw from in the future and MBRT's STEM education programs are essential to fulfilling this need. I look forward to joining my peers on the board."