



FALL 2017

A Publication of the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education

NEXT GENERATION SCHOLARS

■ MBRT Grants
■ Other NGS Counties

The next generation of MBRT has arrived, beginning with three Next Generation Scholars grants to support students and teachers in Allegany, Caroline and Wicomico counties.

Established by HB1403 (2016), Next Generation Scholars is a state grant program that provides funding for college access through nonprofit organizations to enhance college and career awareness and college completion for low-income Maryland high school students.

MBRT will receive more than \$950,000 to implement its career resources during the 2017-2018 school year.

“When we connect students to members of the workforce, we can provide role models for young people across our state, and help them see a future of educational achievement, career success, and economic security,” said MBRT Board of Directors Chair and Pepco Holdings President and CEO Dave Velazquez. “The Next Generation Scholars grant affords us an incredible chance to raise college awareness among middle and high school students, connect them with leading employers, and enable them to learn how a college degree can bring them closer to their goals.”

The Next Generation Scholars project is designed to offer essential college and career ready services to qualifying

students at the following schools: Washington Middle School and Fort Hill High School in Allegany County; Lockerman Middle, Colonel Richardson Middle, North Caroline High and Colonel Richardson High in Caroline County; and Wicomico Middle and Wicomico High in Wicomico County.

“For more than 25 years, the MBRT coalition of corporations, government agencies and community partners has aligned real-world relevance with the classroom concepts in our state’s K-12 school systems,” MBRT Executive Director Brian Dulay said. “This new Next Generation Scholars opportunity offers our future workforce a competitive advantage in today’s global society.”

To assist students with college and career requirements, MBRT will also: determine career interests of qualified students; create awareness of the interconnection of academic preparation, college coursework, and career goals; and expose students to career pathways through workforce volunteer learning engagements. Additional schools and districts may be eligible during subsequent rounds of funding within the grant program.

P2 | MBRT welcomes its new Chief Education Officer, Rudy Ruiz. Rudy brings considerable classroom and administrative experience from the Milwaukee and Baltimore City school systems, and will develop external relations involving MBRT partners in education, government and the foundation community.

P3 | Volunteer with MBRT in a partnership school to inform student decisions, ignite their imaginations, and inspire them to achieve their goals. The MBRT Speakers Bureau and Specialists programs benefit employers, employees and schools. Join an upcoming training soon.

P4 | The Community College of Baltimore County has a rich, 60-year history of transforming lives. Learn how CCBC President Sandra Kurtinitis utilizes her MBRT board of directors role to serve her student community and its industry partners as she provides a key voice in STEM education and workforce development.

MBRT ANNUAL MEETING

Thank you for your commitment to educational excellence and support of the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education (MBRT). The MBRT Board of Directors and Chair David Velazquez are looking forward to engaging employers, elected officials, educational leaders and other stakeholders in celebration of our continued commitment to Maryland students and teachers. Sponsorship opportunities are still available for the November 13th event. Please contact Joyce Smith at joyce@mbrt.org for details.



ESSA RECAP

FOR MORE INFORMATION : [HTTPS://GOO.GL/2AGLQX](https://goo.gl/2AGLQX)

Maryland recently submitted to the U.S. Department of Education its plan to implement the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and MBRT played an essential role in the process.

ESSA, which succeeds the No Child Left Behind Act, is designed to allow states increased flexibility to design their own accountability measures.

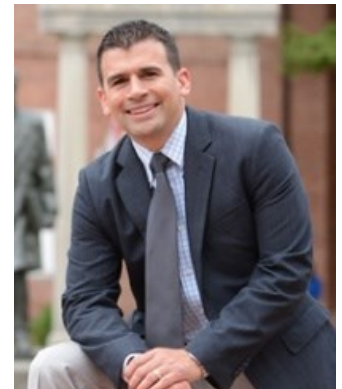
After ESSA was signed by President Obama in December, 2015, Maryland made plans to develop a strong application and ensure stakeholders have a voice in education policy within Maryland. MBRT participated monthly on the ESSA External Stakeholder Committee to review and incorporate statewide input from a variety of parents, students, advocates and other partners. The committee will continue to meet throughout the school year to achieve smooth implementation.

The plan is designed to provide additional professional development to staff in low-performing schools, assist with new instructional methods and enhance accountability measures, among other key components.

WELCOME RUDY!

Please help us in welcoming Rudy Ruiz, MBRT's newly hired Chief Education Officer. As part of his work with MBRT, Rudy will be responsible for the organization's external relations involving education, government, and foundation community partners.

Prior to joining the MBRT team, Rudy served as the Executive Director of College and Career Readiness for Baltimore City Public Schools (City Schools), where he facilitated productive partnerships with college, university, workforce partners, public agencies, and non-profit organizations to strengthen City Schools students' readiness for postsecondary success. Prior to that role, he served the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) system in Wisconsin for 13 years, including eight years as a high school mathematics and computer science teacher and various leadership roles at both the school and central office levels.



Rudy received a bachelor's degree in linguistics from Stanford University, and used an NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarship to earn a master's degree in education focused on instructional technology from Cardinal Stritch University in Wisconsin. In addition to having completed his administrative licensure at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Rudy is working toward his Ed.D. in entrepreneurial leadership at Johns Hopkins University. Since moving to Maryland, he has resided in Ellicott City with his wife and three sons.

EVERY STUDENT A FUTURE.

Volunteers Needed

Your experiences, advice and expertise are just what teenagers want and need to inform their decisions, ignite their imaginations, and inspire them to pursue and achieve their goals.

Research shows that **ONLY** four interactions in high school with workplace professionals will result in higher earning power once students graduate. A study conducted by United Health Group and the Optum Institute finds that volunteering is linked to better physical, mental, and emotional health.

Below are two ways you can provide one or more of those interactions and make a difference in a student's and your own life:



Be a Maryland Scholars Speaker who brings students the message that achievement in school will pay off in college, the workplace and in life.



Be a STEM Specialist in the Classroom who engages students in hands-on learning experiences that demonstrate the real-world application of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) content and skills.

Volunteering develops employee work skills, which benefits employers and employees. With a limited time commitment (equivalent to 2-3 half days), you can influence and inspire 100 young people in schools where you live and work.

You don't need to be a professional speaker; just BE YOURSELF. We will provide you with training and will support you on every school visit.

Take these steps to volunteer and we promise it will be one of the most rewarding experiences of your life.

STEP 1

Register to volunteer at www.thestemnet.com.

STEP 2

Attend a **3-hour** training session.

STEP 3

Conduct **4** fifty minute classroom sessions a year.

Upcoming Training

Tuesday, October 10th @ BGE Constellation (Baltimore County)

Tuesday, October 17th @ Chesapeake College (Queen Anne's County)

Tuesday, October 31st @ Allegany College (Allegany County)

Contact Nona at nona@mbrt.org for more information

** additional training sessions to be scheduled and posted at www.thestemnet.com **

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Americans reach mid-20s lacking
skills and qualifications essential
for success in today's economy.

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CCBC & COMMUNITY COLLEGES: A LIFELINE TO MARYLAND BUSINESS

The Maryland Business Roundtable for Education (MBRT) works hard to strengthen and fill Maryland's talent pipeline, using feedback from leading employers to inform and inspire middle and high school students and their teachers and counselors. Maryland community colleges provide a key linkage between K-12 education and the workforce.

A shining example of the key role community colleges play is MBRT board member, the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC). Celebrating 60 years of transforming lives, CCBC is an institution rich with history, including inaugural classes beginning in 1957 at Catonsville Community College and Essex Community College and in 1971 at Dundalk Community College, and emerging in 1998 after Catonsville, Dundalk and Essex community colleges united under one name.

Presently serving more than 60,000 students annually, including high school students in CCBC's early college program, the college's influence can be felt far beyond its county lines. CCBC President Dr. Sandra Kurtinitis has led the institution for the last 12 years, guiding it by a mission to transform lives and the community through education. Industry partnerships are key to her approach, illustrated by work with the University of Baltimore, Johns Hopkins Health System and Johns Hopkins University.

"That's one of the really magical parts of the community college mission,"



stated Dr. Kurtinitis. "We don't tell our business and industry partners what we think they need; we listen well to what our university and business partners say they need to guarantee well-educated and well-trained transfer students and employees."

For nearly a decade, Dr. Kurtinitis has served on MBRT's Board of Directors. Beyond personally believing in MBRT's mission to impact K-12 education, as a board member Dr. Kurtinitis is a key voice in demonstrating the critical role Maryland's 16 community colleges play in STEM education and the workforce pipeline.

"MBRT...is the essence of bringing business and education to the table and working hard to give Maryland a network of players that include business, legislators, teachers, students and everybody in the middle to bring this emphasis and turn it into impact," reflected Dr. Kurtinitis.