



MARYLAND ALLIANCE OF PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS

April 2019

MAPCS Update

MAPCS and the charter school community has been busy these past few months. A public charter school facilities bill was introduced in Annapolis, and there was a great turnout with over 300 families, students and teachers attending our Advocacy Night in January. Charter schools



also testified in support of the [Public Charter School Facility Fund](#) bills to address the inequity that these public students face, that would provide \$1,600 per pupil. Currently, public charter schools do not receive any funds for facilities and must use classroom and operating funds to pay for buildings, maintenance, and renovations. Although our bills did not make it out of committee and this is not the end result we wanted, this year, our work on this legislation helped us move the ball in two important ways. First, we have increased the understanding that charter schools ARE public schools - an elusive concept for many legislators before. We also earned widespread acknowledgment from legislators that there is indeed a policy inequity in public charter school facilities funding. We couldn't be prouder of the work we have done and the momentum we have built this session! We thank each of you for your time and commitment.

Charter school teachers and families also participated in the March for our Schools, and MAPCS has testified in support of the "[Blueprint for Maryland's Future](#)" which passed and is headed to the Governor's desk.

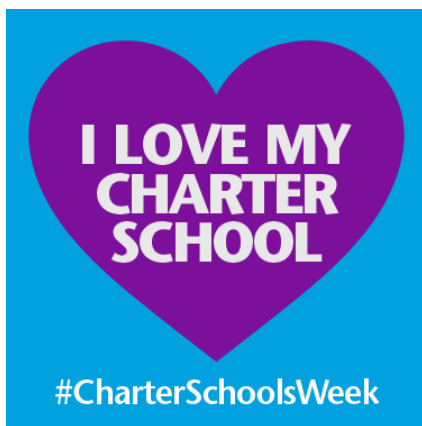
In exciting news, MAPCS was awarded the MSDE Charter School Program

Technical Assistance contract, and we are working hard to roll out programs and resources. Check out our new Programs and Resources [website](#) and offerings.

We've strengthened our Board and welcomed [seven new board members](#) and we are currently interviewing for a full time Executive Director.

Enjoy Spring Break!

MAPCS Is Collecting National Charter School Week Videos



Tell us why you love your public charter school! MAPCS is collecting short videos under a minute or less from charter school students, parents and school leaders in honor of National Charter Schools Week 2019, **May 12-18**. The videos can be produced by your cellphone and will be highlighted on MAPCS's Facebook and Twitter pages. [Learn more](#)

National Charter School Conference

June 30 - July 3, 2019

Use the FRIEND code to save \$50 by May 17th!

Join MAPCS at the 2019 National Charter Schools Conference (NCSC), June 30-July 3 in Las Vegas, Nevada. NCSC is the premier conference for current and aspiring leaders in the charter school movement. Whether you are interested in solutions for facilities financing, board management, student recruitment, or advocating for charters in your community, NCSC has everything you need in one place.



To register and learn more about the National Charter Schools Conference, [click here](#). We look forward to seeing you in Las Vegas this summer.

Viva Las Vegas!

[Register Now](#)



news

MSDE CSP Charter Grant Application Live

MSDE announced that the Charter School Program Grants are available for the start-up, replication, and expansion of public charter schools. To be eligible to apply, you must have submitted or be in the process of submitting your Charter School Application to the school district, which is the authorizer.

Check out the [MSDE MD Charter School Grant page](#) for more information.



workshops & webinars



Intro to MD Charter Schools Webinar

Now Available On-Demand

This Intro to MD Charter Schools webinar is the first step in the MAPCS Charter Starter workshop series. This 30 minute webinar will answer basic questions about the Maryland Charter School law, provide an overview of the movement, explain how charter schools are authorized in MD, provide a roadmap for creating a charter school, and announce the availability of [the MSDE Charter School Grant](#).



Let's Connect!

