

Maryland Dental Society A Component Chapter of the National Dental Association

July 5, 2012

Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D State Superintendent of Schools Maryland State Department of Education 200 West Baltimore Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Dear Dr. Lowery:

As president of the Maryland Dental Society (MDS) I join our members and the profession of dental medicine in welcoming you to Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). We are excited about your leadership and your commitment to continue to strengthen Maryland classrooms. The MDS understands that good oral health is a part of this equation and we look forward to doing our part to work with you to make classrooms stronger throughout the state.

The MDS is eager to continue collaborating on oral health education with MSDE. Our effort together as well as with national and state legislators has led to what may be groundbreaking legislation for Maryland and for the nation. We are proud of the 2012 Oral Health Education-Certification and Monitoring Law (attachments/enclosures). The MDS applauds the progressive thinking of the MSDE and of our state leaders for remaining focused on elevating the oral health wellbeing of children and families since the preventable death of 12 year-old Deamonte Driver in 2007from an infected tooth.

Please let us know how we may be helpful as you officially become a resident. The MDS hopes to work closely with your office in the coming school year and we appreciate your consideration to meeting with us soon.

Sincerely,

Willie J. Richardson, DDS President

Attachments/Enclosures