**MARE Email to Superintendents**

The MARE Association has approved the GotZoom Student Loan Debt Reduction Program as an endorsed service for our member schools and their families. We would like you to review this information and with your approval email the attachments to your staff.

GotZoom is a service that applies on behalf of participants for over 70 Federal Student Loan Repayment and Loan Forgiveness programs offered through the US Department of Education, with one simple registration.

This is not a refinance program. Refinancing a federal student loan with a private lender is a mistake for many borrowers. Refinancing with a private lender disqualifies someone from these federal programs. It is important that anyone looking for student loan debt relief be aware of this option before making this decision.

The recent passage of the **CARES Act** introduced numerous new benefits for holders of federal student loan debt and provided a unique opportunity for participants utilizing the GotZoom program.

**Payment Suspension:** Payments due on certain federal loans are suspended until September 30, 2020 for Direct Loans and FFEL loans owned by the DOE and not currently in default.  The borrower now DOES NOT need to apply for forbearance. We recommend that all borrowers on auto-deduct who wish to cease payments during this period cancel their auto-deduction option with their servicer.

**Interest Waiver:** Interest is waived during the payment suspension period.

**PSLF & IDR Qualifying Payment Credit:** Any federal student loan payment skipped between now and September 30, 2020 ***will***count as a Qualifying Payment towards the required payment period for loan forgiveness.

If a borrower is required to make 120 monthly payments for PSLF program and suspends payments, these payments will be included in the loan forgiveness amount at the end of the term.

**GotZoom:** These temporary benefits provide a great opportunity for your staff to utilize the GotZoom services to reduce student loan debt. During this period payments will be suspended and after September 30 the borrower will have a new reduced payment and a shorter term.

This program is being offered through Benefits 360, an employee benefits marketing group specializing in voluntary benefits. Representatives are available to answer questions and help you with the process. They will be contacting you soon or you can contact them directly at [gotzoom@benefits360llc.com](mailto:gotzoom@benefits360llc.com), or call (855) 537-7377.

**Attachments:**  Attached is a sample letter you can use in your email along with the GotZoom MARE brochure.