**MCCPTA Vice President for Education report to MCCPTA House of Delegates [April 28 meeting]**

By Rodney Peele

**Activities (since March 12)**

MCPS Continuity of Learning (secondary) feedback session [virtual March 24]

Julius West MS PTSA meeting [virtual April 7]

MCCPTA BOD [virtual April 15]

MCPS Board of Education [virtual April 21]

MCCPTA curriculum meeting with MCPS OCIP [virtual April 22]

MCPS secondary grading and reporting workgroup [virtual April 23]

MD PTA meeting [virtual April 28]

Richard Montgomery HS PTA meeting [virtual April 28]

MD Blueprint webinar [April 29]

MCPS Board of education [virtual May 12]

Julius West MS PTSA [virtual May 12]

School calendar/schedule:

* School buildings closed but MCPS is making a plan for students to retrieve belongings at school before summer.
* School calendar 2019-2020 extended to June 15, spring break shortened, and April 28 reverted to a school day instead of election day.
* Last day of school for seniors is May 22.
* Phase I of virtual continuity of learning began March 27.
* Phase II of virtual continuity of learning began April 20.
* Phase III begins May 18. Phase 3, the last 20 days of school, will be used to clarify expectations, report progress, and collect work samples.
* MCPS is also working on a “recovery and reentry plan” for summer and fall, and promises to engage stakeholders.
* Maryland Department of Education issued Maryland Recovery Plan for Education this month.

Grading/Reporting updates:

* Report cards for MP3 delivered: letter grades
* Grading: Secondary MP4 will be pass/incomplete
* Grading: Elementary MP4 will not be letter grades.
* Grading: Elementary missing grades will not restrict advancement
* Grading: Interim grades to be reported this week for seniors and next week for secondary students at risk of not passing MP4.
* MP4 “pass” is a combination of engagement, performance and teacher discretion.
* Grading: Students will have until January 2021 to correct incomplete grades from MP3 and MP4.
* Grading: Final Elementary grades (2-5) will be MP1+MP2+MP3
* Grading: Final Middle School grades will be MP1+MP2+MP3, or higher with “pass” in MP4
* Grading: Final High School second semester grades will be MP3 with one grade boost or choice in MP4 (A/B in MP3 + pass in MP4 = A for semester; C in MP3 + pass in MP4 = student choice of B or pass; D in MP3 + pass in MP4 = student choice of C or pass. E in MP3 + pass in MP4 = pass. Letter grades will be added to cumulative GPA.
* Attendance: Tracked by participation but not in traditional sense
* Graduation: On April 14, the State Board of Education voted to waive state testing requirements for high school seniors and requirements for Student Service Learning (SSL) hours.
* Graduation: MCPS has requirement that courses for graduation may not be taken credit/no credit, but MCPS waiving some rules due to exigent circumstances. This would affect all HS students (not just seniors).
* Graduation: MCPS will flag students whose grades may put them at risk of not graduating, and try to provide additional support.
* Graduation: universal virtual graduation in early June and in person celebrations later.

Curriculum updates:

* ES: Eureka math prerecorded lecture M/W/F with teacher support and exit tickets; Benchmark ELA does not provide recorded lectures so MCPS created prerecorded lecture content for T/Th, and includes daily independent reading time for Grades PreK-1 (20 min) and Grades 2-5 (30-40 min). Specialist content (Art, Music, PE) 1 x per week with assignments. Science may begin in May. AEI team created and pushed out enrichment guides for ELA. Math 4/5 and 5/6 being taught per curriculum. MCPS expects elementary students will spend anywhere from 11-13.5 hours per week engaging in live classroom meetings, completing assignments and viewing materials. Science started May 4.
* Fall 6th grade math options remain unresolved. IM and possibly Math 7 in 6th grade are the two primary options/pathways.
* Some Family Life for 5th graders may be delivered in 6th grade instead.
* Elementary Centers for Enriched Studies (CES) and Enriched Literacy Curriculum (ELC) received revised content from MCPS so that teachers and students may continue to access their curriculum through the district’s distance learning model.
* Secondary (MS and HS) ramping up slowly, with scheduling inconsistencies/overlap and lack of notice for content delivery. MCPS expects secondary students to receive one to two meaningful assignments each week in each course and can expect to be working for up to four hours each day. Typically new content will be pushed out on Mondays, and teachers will schedule office hours in the afternoons, and students are expected to work independently in the mornings, once they wake.

Programs updates:

* MCPS has not finalized a revised plan for the gifted and talented identification process for 2019-2020 school year.
* The elementary Centers for Enriched Studies notification for Grade 3 students mailed the week of April 27. Families have until May 15 (this Friday) to respond.

Testing updates:

* SAT tests canceled May 2 and June 6. New test date (Sept. 26) added in the fall. In-school test dates March 25, April 14 and April 28 also cancelled.
* AP tests changed to open book/notes, 45-minute free response questions at home on reduced content. Students to receive scores on same scoring scale, at same rate as previous years. Note that AP tests are not curved – students who meet metrics get the points. Colleges expected to award credit despite testing change. Various subject tests had different testing requirements.
* IB tests cancelled; students recognized for graduation based on body of work.