

Overview:

As we come to the close of quarter one, we are starting to get many of the data sets from last year. Read on!

October Meetings:

- 10/09 – Meeting with Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs (OCIP)
- 10/11 – MCCPTA Executive Committee Meeting; MCCPTA BOD Meeting
- 10/15 – Meeting with Office of the Chief Technology Officer
- 10/19 – Meeting with OSSI Director
- 10/23 – MCCPTA Delegates Assembly
- 10/24 – Mental Health and Wellness Meeting
- 10/26 – Meeting with OSSI and Damascus Cluster Principals
- 10/30 – Executive Committee meeting with Dr. Smith
- 10/30 – Meeting with Capital Planning
- 10/31 – Curriculum Advisory Assembly

October Activity Summary:

- **Curriculum RFP** -- The curriculum vendor reviews will occur on November 15 and 19. Last May, MCCPTA was invited to send 5 reps to each of the demonstrations (full day of ELA and another full day of Math). We allocated those seats so there were 2 “general” seats and then 1 to ELL, 1 to GT, and 1 to SPED concerns. In this round, MCCPTA is limited to 2 seats.
- **Technology Concerns** – Last month, I joined the Safe Tech subcommittee in conversations with the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) surrounding data security and how MCPS monitors school use of apps/programs. With the purchase of the new curriculum, it could be an opportunity to “reset” some of the usage, at least in k-8 throughout schools. The CTO acknowledges the concerns parents have regarding teachers, perhaps unknowingly, may be encouraging students to create “free” accounts.
- **PSAT** – After the recent PSAT, our BOD shared communications (from about half the high schools) sent to each of our respective communities surrounding this standardized test. From our conversation, it seems our communities divided into three buckets -- the well-informed, moderately informed, and poorly informed regarding the purpose, materials students may bring, consent, etc. for what one might expect to be fairly “standard” communications. Did the MCPS practice of leaving the communications to the individual schools unwittingly advantage some students and disadvantage others? We’ve shared our concerns with the Acting Associate Superintendent for Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs. We believe we have the opportunity to do better for the upcoming SAT Day on April 9th.
- **Bridge Projects** – Last month, the 2018 Maryland Report Card was released. The chart below number of students that didn’t pass PARCC 10 ELA (passing this test with a 3 or better is a graduation requirement). In just a few conversations with parents of students that are currently on Bridge Projects (and looking on the MCPS site), there are two concerns – 1) what is the actual “process” schools follow when a student doesn’t pass PARCC 10 ELA and 2) do we have adequate staffing to support more than a quarter of our students that will likely have to complete these Bridge Projects to be eligible for graduation.
<http://reportcard.msde.maryland.gov/ParccHighResults.aspx?PV=74:10:15:AAAA:1:N:0:13:1:1:0:1:1:1:3>
<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/graduation-requirements.aspx>

2018 Results for English Language Arts Grade 10 All Students										
Show # Descriptions »	Exceeded (5)		Met (4)		Approached (3)		Partially Met (2)		Not Met (1)	
	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
2018										
TOTAL Students	23.6	<u>3148</u> 13325	32.6	<u>4341</u> 13325	16.5	<u>2205</u> 13325	11.7	<u>1558</u> 13325	15.6	<u>2073</u> 13325

- **2017-18 Student-at-a-Glance** – Each year, the MCPS Office of Shared Accountability (OSA) releases a report that outlines school-by-school information for the prior year. Last year, MCCPTA BOD was particularly concerned when we saw a considerable drop in the percent of students meeting the University System of Maryland (USM) entrance requirements. (USM is governed by the Maryland Board of Regents and oversees 12 of the public universities of Maryland. USM requirements are included here -- [III-4.00 - Policy on UG Admissions.](#))

Through our inquiries, we learned MCPS had to modify the reporting for Class of 2016 and only report students who achieved a C or better in the required credit-bearing courses (rather than the prior reporting practice that included reporting all students that pass the course as meeting the requirement). When we realized the “Ds” were the primary reason for the big drop, MCCPTA filed a request through the Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA) and received data sets – aiming to understand if there was any particular area where students were struggling to meet these entrance requirements.

Bottom line – no! The data showed challenges across most disciplines with no clear indicators.

In the most 2018 SAAG release, the overall numbers for meeting USM requirements tumbled even further while the number of students achieving a passing grade on AP and/or IB tests increased slightly. In the coming weeks, I’ll be asking the BOD and the DA to support a request to re-run the data sets we requested last year to see where we might have changes. The data reported in the 2018 SAAG shows changes for our 25 high school with changes ranging from +3.3 to -26.5.

	MCPS Graduates	% of Graduates achieving 3 or higher on AP test or 4 or better on IB test	% of Students Meeting University System of Maryland Entrance Requirements
Class of 2015	9,940 (4 yr cohort)	Not Reported	80.4%
Class of 2016	10,407	53.6%	50.8%
Class of 2017	10,582	54.5%	41.0%

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/regulatoryaccountability/glance/currentyear/SAAG2017.pdf>

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/regulatoryaccountability/glance/fy2016/SAAG2016.pdf>

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/regulatoryaccountability/glance/fy2015/SAAG2015.pdf>

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/regulatoryaccountability/glance/currentyear/SAAG2018.pdf>