

April 2019 CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Tammy Clark clark_9301@verizon.net
Subcommittee Chairs: Amanda Graver – Secondary
Rodney Peele - Elementary

Events:

April 1st.meeting with OCIP - Tammy & Amanda met with Niki Hazel, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instructional Programs, and Scott Murphy, Director of Secondary Curriculum and Instructional Programs.

The following topics were discussed:

- **Updates on the new Curriculum Implementation Process:**
MCPS is holding New Curriculum Parent Nights on the following dates/times. These events will provide overviews of the curriculum, instructional materials and supports. There will be opportunities for questions. These information sessions will available via telecast.

Elementary School Mathematics and Literacy		
Date	Location	Time
May 21, 2019	Paint Branch High School	7:00–9:00 p.m.
May 22, 2019	Gaithersburg High School	7:00–9:00 p.m.
May 23, 2019	Rock Terrace School	7:00–9:00 p.m.

Middle School Mathematics and Literacy		
Date	Location	Time
April 9, 2019	Montgomery Blair High School	7:00–9:00 p.m.
April 10, 2019	Richard Montgomery High School	7:00–9:00 p.m.
April 11, 2019	Hallie Wells Middle School	7:00–9:00 p.m.

For information on the curriculum selection, implementation process and which schools will be involved with the first year of implementation, please refer to:

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/curriculum-implementation.aspx>

MCPS is still searching for Algebra I curriculum and materials. MCPS is looking for curriculum that will work with accelerated pathways. MCPS remains committed to providing pathways to Algebra I for 7th, 8th and 9th grades.

- **MCPS Grading & Reporting Study Group**

A work group is being formed by MCPS to review secondary grading and reporting practices, and make recommendations coinciding with the introduction of the new electronic gradebook in 2020–2021 forming a focus group to study grading and reporting. The work group will be comprised of secondary teachers, resource teachers, administrators, students, central services staff members, association members, and parents. The work group will begin meeting in this spring, and commence again in September through January 2020. MCCPTA will have 2 representative in this work group.

- **High school science**

Save the date - MCPS and MCCPTA are co-hosting a **High School Science Curriculum Night on Wednesday, May 8th at Wootton High School**. The event will include a brief introduction and overview of MCPS science pathways, NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) and current state requirements for the MISA (Maryland Integrated Science Assessment). There will then be 2 sections of breakout sessions to provide unit and content of the science courses, including AP and IB, available at high schools across MCPS. Detailed information is forthcoming.

- **AP course grades vs AP test scores** – We shared that parents and students remain concerned over the integrity of AP courses being taught across MCPS high schools. We've requested a review of AP course grades versus AP test grades. In many instances, the students are earning an A or B in an AP course, yet earning less than 3 on the corresponding AP test. These results are concerning, especially when they are repeating year upon year in some classes. MCPS (OCIP) needs to provide oversight across the county so that instruction and resources are equitable, regardless of which high school or teacher is providing the instruction for any specific AP course. This issue will remain a topic of continued interest for this committee.
- **AP test registration** – The College Board is changing the AP Test registration deadline to November for the next school year, as opposed to the early spring deadline which has been in place.