

**District Assessment Group Meeting**  
**Thursday, May 10, 2018**  
**5:00–7:00 p.m.**  
**Carver Educational Services Center**  
**Room 134**

**Outcomes:**

*By the end of the meeting, participants will have:*

- heard the meeting outcomes and reviewed the committee ground rules;
- reviewed meeting discussions and feedback themes;
- shared and discussed clarifications on the group's charge and committee work timeline;
- heard an update on what we know about curriculum, instruction, and assessment plans for the 2018–2019 school year;
- examined the purposes of the MAP and PARCC assessments;
- reviewed the administration time designated for MAP at each grade level (elementary, middle, and high school); and
- evaluated the meeting.

**Welcome**

Mrs. Berlinger reviewed the outcomes and the agenda with the group. Time was taken to review the ground rules established at the first meeting and to confirm agreement.

**Meeting Feedback Themes, Clarification on the Group's Charge, and Committee Work Timeline**

Mrs. Berlinger reviewed the feedback from the last meeting (see PowerPoint). The group discussed meeting modifications and new agenda items which resulted from the participant feedback utilized from the last meeting. Mr. Lloyd provided a review of the background and components of the More Learning, Less Testing Act of 2017. Following the last meeting, he received clarification on the charge of the group and the timeline from those state legislators who wrote the bill. As a result, Mr. Lloyd shared with the group that the duration of the group will be extended until June 2019. Group participants raised concerns during and following the last meeting about the short timeline to complete the work. The extension of the meeting timeline to the Spring of 2019 will offer the committee the necessary time to explore the key bodies of work outlined in the charge of the group as well as those areas for review identified by the group participants.

**Updates on the 2018–2019 School Year**

- **New curriculum**

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) will begin adoption of new curriculum in the 2018–2019 school year. As a result, there will be changes to the assessment program. MCPS plans to adopt assessments included in the external curriculum and make any current district assessments available to teachers for optional use. Not all assessments in the new curriculum will be required. Once the curriculum is adopted, a review of the

assessments will determine which will be identified as district assessments and which will be available for optional teacher use. MCPS will not require both newly adopted assessments and current district assessments.

- **Implementation of SAT as a federal accountability measure**

The Maryland State Department of Education recently shared information on a waiver to allow exceptions for students to take end-of-course assessments commensurate with his/her course of study instead of a grade-specific mathematics assessment for middle school students enrolled in high school math courses (Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II). In addition, the waiver would allow for students who take Algebra I in middle school to meet a federal requirement to participate in an external math assessment in high school by taking the SAT. Dr. Karen Salmon, State Superintendent of Schools, recently communicated these changes by [letter](#) (link to letter).

- **Modifications to the Evidence of Learning Framework**

Prior to the start of the 2018–2019 school year, modifications will be made to the Evidence of Learning Framework based on feedback from school-based and central services staff. In part, changes will need to be made based on the adoption of new curriculum as outlined in the first bullet. Changes will be communicated to schools prior to the start of the school year.

### **Instructional Purposes of Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) and Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)**

The group examined the purposes of the MAP and PARCC assessments. Dr. Kecia Addison and Mrs. Donna Blaney provided an overview of each assessment and the group participated in an activity to identify the commonalities and differences in the assessments. The PARCC assessment is a state required test and the MAP is an assessment which MCPS decided to administer. Both assessments are aligned to the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards (Common Core State Standards), but are administered at different times and have different purposes and uses. The group discussed the need for better communication with parents regarding both assessments as well as the work underway by MCPS to provide more information which includes standardized letters to all parents regarding MAP scores and a video that parents and staff can view through the parent online portal which explain the components of the MAP and the scoring.

### **MAP Time by Grade Levels (Elementary, Middle, and High)**

The amount of time required to administer the MAP was also discussed. Questions were shared regarding the administration process and duration of the MAP assessment. As a result of the questions and the need for additional information, the discussion of MAP will continue at the next meeting.

### **Meeting Closure**

Mrs. Berlinger closed the meeting with a brief summary of what was covered and provided a reminder about the next meeting time and location. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 23, 4:30–6:30 p.m. at the Carver Educational Services Center in Room 134.