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**INFORMATION**

Office of Shared Accountability  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Rockville, Maryland

January 20, 2012

MEMORANDUM

To: High School Principals

From: Adrian B. Talley, Associate Superintendent 

Subject: INFORMATION: 2011–2012 Grade 10 PSAT Participation

In school year 2011–2012, approximately 92 percent of Montgomery County Public Schools' (MCPS) Grade 10 students took the PSAT, an increase of 1.2 percentage points from 2010–2011 (Table 1). The high level of PSAT participation is important because the PSAT is a practice test for the SAT, and test results yield data used to identify students enrolled in on-level classes who have the potential to perform well in honors and Advanced Placement (AP) classes.

There was an increased PSAT participation rate for all Grade 10 subgroups in 2011–2012 compared with PSAT participation results in 2010–2011 with the exception of students reporting two or more races and special education students (Table 1). Among all racial and ethnic groups, Hispanic/Latino students showed the greatest improvement (3.5 percentage points) for PSAT participation, followed by Black or African American students (0.9 percentage points), White students (0.7 percentage points); and Asian students (0.3 percentage points). For special service groups, the greatest improvement was found for students receiving English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) services (8.4 percentage points), followed by students receiving Free and Reduced-price Meals System (FARMS) services (3.4 percentage points); the PSAT participation decreased 1.1 percentage points for students receiving special education services.

Table 1  
Number and Percentage of MCPS Grade 10 Students Who  
Took the PSAT in 2010–2011 and 2011–2012

Student Group	2010–2011		2011–2012	
	N Students	% Took PSAT	N Students	% Took PSAT
All Students	11,532	90.7	11,631	91.9
Asian	1,564	97.2	1,697	97.5
Black or African American	2,611	88.4	2,586	89.3
Hispanic/Latino	2,724	82.3	2,872	85.8
White	4,134	94.7	3,996	95.4
Two or More Races	472	94.5	453	94.0
Special Education	1,269	84.1	1,216	83.0
ESOL	475	77.1	504	85.5
FARMS	3,324	82.8	3,511	86.2

*Note.* American Indian or Alaskan Native and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students are not reported separately but are included with all students.

The attached tables provide additional data about PSAT participation by school and student group for Grade 10 students. If you have questions about PSAT participation data, please contact Dr. Vasuki Rethinam, supervisor, Applied Research unit, Office of Shared Accountability, at 301-279-3564.

ABT:yw

Attachments

Copy to:

Executive Staff  
Mrs. Collins  
Mrs. Green  
Dr. Rethinam  
Dr. Steinberg  
Dr. Wang  
Dr. Mugge

Approved:   
Frieda K. Lacey, Deputy Superintendent of Schools

Table A1  
 Number and Percentage of MCPS Grade 10 Students Who Took PSAT in 2011–2012  
 by Cluster Group and High School

High School	N Students	N Students Took PSAT	% Students Took PSAT
All Students	11,631	10,692	91.9
<b>Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Walter Johnson, Wheaton, Walt Whitman Clusters</b>			
Bethesda-Chevy Chase	432	400	92.6
Walter Johnson	564	535	94.9
Wheaton	330	287	87.0
Walt Whitman	522	496	95.0
<b>Winston Churchill, Richard Montgomery, Poolesville, Rockville, Thomas S. Wootton Clusters</b>			
Winston Churchill	551	531	96.4
Richard Montgomery	539	479	88.9
Poolesville	314	309	98.4
Rockville	324	302	93.2
Thomas S. Wootton	572	549	96.0
<b>Clarksburg, Northwest, Quince Orchard, Seneca Valley Clusters</b>			
Clarksburg	511	439	85.9
Northwest	512	477	93.2
Quince Orchard	497	451	90.7
Seneca Valley	330	312	94.6
<b>Montgomery Blair, Albert Einstein, John F. Kennedy, Northwood Clusters</b>			
Montgomery Blair	706	667	94.5
Albert Einstein	404	369	91.3
John F. Kennedy	476	420	88.2
Northwood	377	349	92.6
<b>James Hubert Blake, Paint Branch, Sherwood, Springbrook Clusters</b>			
James Hubert Blake	458	402	87.8
Paint Branch	498	460	92.4
Sherwood	511	491	96.1
Springbrook	482	414	85.9
<b>Damascus, Gaithersburg, Col. Zadok Magruder, Watkins Mill Clusters</b>			
Damascus	311	306	98.4
Gaithersburg	543	471	86.7
Col. Zadok Magruder	467	397	85.0
Watkins Mill	400	379	94.8

*Note.* Results are calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on October 12, 2011, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, students enrolled in ESOL Levels 1 or 2, and special education students who were eligible to take the Alt-Maryland School Assessment (MSA) (e.g., students enrolled in Learning for Independence (LFI), extensions, or community-based special education programs). Students who are repeating Grade 10 in the 2011–2012 school year and took the PSAT in the 2010–2011 school year but did not take PSAT in 2011–2012 school year are included in the numerator as PSAT test takers.

Students who took the PSAT received scores for all three subtests, namely, critical reading, math, and writing. Students who completed at least part of a subtest received a score for that test. PSAT test takers missing scores for one or more subtests were 0.4% in Grade 10.

Table A2  
Number and Percentage of MCPS Grade 10 Students Who Took the PSAT in 2011–2012 by  
Cluster Group, High School, Race/Ethnicity, Gender, and Service Group

Cluster Group and High School	All		AS		BL		HI		WH		MU		Male		Female		Spec. Ed.		ESOL		FARMS	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
All Students	11631	91.9	1697	97.5	2586	89.3	2872	85.8	3996	95.4	453	94.5	5969	90.9	5662	93.0	1216	83.0	504	85.5	3511	86.2
<b>Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Walter Johnson, Wheaton, Walt Whitman Clusters</b>																						
Bethesda-Chevy Chase	432	92.6	28	96.4	74	90.5	78	87.2	232	94.0	20	100.0	223	91.9	209	93.3	50	76.0	27	88.9	66	83.3
Walter Johnson	564	94.9	86	98.8	36	94.4	101	91.1	315	94.9	25	96.0	305	95.7	259	93.8	70	84.3	17	76.5	57	93.0
Wheaton	330	87.0	32	96.9	73	89.0	186	83.9	29	89.7	10	90.0	184	85.3	146	89.0	37	75.7	48	97.9	218	87.6
Walt Whitman	522	95.0	64	95.3	22	95.5	49	89.8	365	95.3	22	100.0	261	94.6	261	95.4	63	88.9	31	83.9	17	94.1
<b>Winston Churchill, Richard Montgomery, Poolesville, Rockville, Thomas S. Wootton Clusters</b>																						
W. Churchill	551	96.4	117	96.6	50	96.0	38	92.1	321	96.6	25	100.0	280	95.7	271	97.1	58	86.2	--	--	29	93.1
R. Montgomery	539	88.9	140	94.3	78	83.3	122	75.4	160	95.6	38	94.7	255	87.1	284	90.5	36	80.6	30	46.7	132	79.6
Poolesville	314	98.4	83	100.0	17	100.0	27	100.0	178	97.2	8	100.0	170	98.8	144	97.9	13	100.0	--	--	24	95.8
Rockville	324	93.2	32	100.0	50	88.0	114	92.1	119	95.0	8	87.5	152	91.5	172	94.8	39	82.1	15	93.3	120	90.8
T. S. Wootton	572	96.0	198	99.0	22	90.9	43	90.7	271	94.8	36	97.2	282	96.1	290	95.9	33	78.8	12	91.7	22	95.5
<b>Clarksburg, Northwest, Quince Orchard, Seneca Valley Clusters</b>																						
Clarksburg	511	85.9	88	96.6	141	83.0	122	74.6	138	90.6	21	95.2	273	83.5	238	88.7	59	67.8	14	92.9	165	77.0
Northwest	512	93.2	90	100.0	141	85.8	97	88.7	156	97.4	25	100.0	257	91.4	255	94.9	58	74.1	--	--	159	86.8
Quince Orchard	497	90.7	63	96.8	78	83.3	96	80.2	242	95.5	16	93.8	260	89.6	237	92.0	54	79.6	21	85.7	111	77.5
Seneca Valley	330	94.6	36	94.4	114	94.7	91	96.7	73	93.2	16	87.5	166	93.4	164	95.7	35	94.3	21	85.7	133	92.5
<b>Montgomery Blair, Albert Einstein, John F. Kennedy, Northwood Clusters</b>																						
Montgom. Blair	706	94.5	110	97.3	200	93.5	202	89.6	168	99.4	22	100.0	376	92.8	330	96.4	48	91.7	45	91.1	300	91.3
Albert Einstein	404	91.3	39	100.0	90	92.2	179	87.7	85	92.9	10	100.0	194	91.2	210	91.4	49	87.8	34	85.3	181	91.2
John F. Kennedy	476	88.2	41	92.7	197	89.3	202	84.7	23	100.0	12	91.7	241	86.7	235	89.8	65	92.3	25	84.0	266	87.2
Northwood	377	92.6	24	95.8	112	90.2	166	92.2	63	96.8	11	90.9	198	90.9	179	94.4	54	87.0	23	91.3	188	89.9
<b>James Hubert Blake, Paint Branch, Sherwood, Springbrook Clusters</b>																						
James H. Blake	458	87.8	46	97.8	189	84.1	94	80.9	112	97.3	15	80.0	221	86.0	237	89.5	56	75.0	--	--	177	79.7
Paint Branch	498	92.4	77	98.7	259	91.1	81	86.4	65	96.9	14	92.9	275	89.8	223	95.5	38	79.0	--	--	185	87.6
Sherwood	511	96.1	51	96.1	64	93.8	66	92.4	315	97.5	13	100.0	255	96.1	256	96.1	54	98.2	35	94.3	87	93.1
Springbrook	482	85.9	69	100.0	183	89.1	164	73.8	49	95.9	16	81.3	256	86.3	226	85.4	42	73.8	31	83.9	238	77.3

(continued)

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 Number and Percentage of MCPS Grade 10 Students Who Took the PSAT in 2011–2012 by  
 Cluster Group, High School, Race/Ethnicity, Gender, and Service Group

Cluster Group and High School	All		AS		BL		HI		WH		MU		Male		Female		Spec. Ed.		ESOL		FARMS	
	<i>N</i>	%	<i>N</i>	%	<i>N</i>	%	<i>N</i>	%	<i>N</i>	%	<i>N</i>	%	<i>N</i>	%	<i>N</i>	%	<i>N</i>	%	<i>N</i>	%	<i>N</i>	%
All Students	11631	91.9	1697	97.5	2586	89.3	2872	85.8	3996	95.4	453	94.5	5969	90.9	5662	93.0	1216	83.0	504	85.5	3511	86.2
<b>Damascus, Gaithersburg, Col. Zadok Magruder, Watkins Mill Clusters</b>																						
Damascus	311	98.4	16	100.0	20	95.0	45	100.0	214	98.1	15	100.0	159	98.1	152	98.7	35	97.1	--	--	44	95.5
Gaithersburg	543	86.7	46	93.5	150	90.7	215	84.2	114	85.1	18	77.8	296	85.8	247	87.9	76	80.3	33	93.9	230	83.5
Col. Z. Magruder	467	85.0	81	98.8	86	74.4	148	78.4	132	89.4	20	95.0	231	81.4	236	88.6	43	62.8	16	43.8	158	74.1
Watkins Mill	400	94.8	40	100.0	140	95.7	146	90.4	57	100.0	17	94.1	199	94.5	201	95.0	51	92.2	19	94.7	204	94.6

*Note.* Results are calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on October 12, 2011, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, students enrolled in ESOL Levels 1 or 2, and special education students who were eligible to take the Alt-MSA (e.g., students enrolled in LFI, extensions, or community-based special education programs). American Indian or Alaskan Native and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students are not reported separately but are included with all students. Results are not reported (--) for groups with fewer than five students. Students who are repeating Grade 10 in the 2011–2012 school year and took the PSAT in the 2010–2011 school year but did not take the PSAT in the 2011–2012 school year are included in the numerator as PSAT test takers. AS = Asian; BL = Black or African American; HI = Hispanic/Latino; WH = White; MU = Two or More Races; Spec. Ed. = Special Education; ESOL = English for Speakers of Other Languages; FARMS = Free and Reduced-price Meals System.

Students who took the PSAT received scores for all three subtests, namely, critical reading, math, and writing. Students who completed at least part of a subtest received a score for that test. PSAT test takers missing scores for one or more subtests were 0.4% in Grade 10.