

District Committee on Assessments

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

7:00–9:00 p.m.

**Richard Montgomery High School
Media Center**



Agenda

- Welcome
 - Introductions
 - Review Outcomes and Agenda
 - Ground Rules
- Overview: More Learning, Less Testing Act of 2017
- Charge of the Group
- Recent History of the MCPS Assessment Program
- Assessment Overview
- “Working Assessment Summary/Chart
- Summary and Next Steps
 - Meeting Evaluation

Introductions

- Name
- Title
- Affiliation

Purpose of the Group

The District Committee on Assessments will advise and make recommendations to Montgomery County Public Schools leadership and staff.

The committee will provide a written summary of the work of the group to the Board of Education in June.

Outcomes

By the end of the meeting, participants will have:

- heard the meeting outcomes, introduced themselves to the group, and agreed upon meeting ground rules;
- studied and discussed the specific components of the More Learning, Less Testing Act of 2017;
- reviewed the charge and work of the District Assessment Committee in the context of the law;
- examined the recent history of the MCPS assessment program and heard an overview of assessments;
- provided feedback on the “working” assessment chart for the 2018–2019 school year;
- participated in a summary of the meeting and identified next steps; and
- evaluated the meeting.

Ground Rules

- Listen to understand
- Be additive rather than repetitive
- Respect the different roles and perspectives of individuals
- Monitor the use of electronic devices (keep on silent or vibrate)
- Limit sidebar conversations

Overview:

More Learning, Less Testing Act of 2017

- Law enacted in April 2017
- The 2018–2019 is the first year of implementation

Activity (15 minutes):

- In table groups, identify and “pull out” essential pieces of the law which define the charge of the group.
- Use the chart paper to highlight the essential elements of the charge.
- Each group will present out
- Identify a recorder and spokesperson

Charge of the Group

- What is the work of the group?
- What is in scope and out of scope?

Recent History of the MCPS Assessment Program

- Curriculum 2.0 assessment program and elimination of final exams (Scott)
- Commission to Review Maryland's Use of Assessments and Testing in Public Schools Report (Janet)
- Evidence of Learning development, feedback, and implementation (Niki)
- MCEA Councils on Teaching and Learning (CTL) and MCEA Board of Directors Input Process (Chris)

Commission Final Report

Key Principles for Good Assessments

- Worth Taking
- High Quality
- Time-limited
- Fair-and Supportive of Fairness-in Equity in Educational Opportunity
- Fully Transparent to Students and Parents
- Just One of Multiple Measures
- Tied to Improved Learning

“Working” Assessment Summary/Chart

Activity (50 minutes):

- Break into five groups (w/subgroups for ES/Secondary)
- Chart/capture group feedback
- Identify a facilitator and recorder
- No share out at this time.

Group Areas of Focus:

- The time required to administer each assessment
- The duplicativeness of assessments
- The purpose of assessments
- The value of feedback provided to educators
- The timeliness of results

Summary and Next Steps

- Brief recap of meeting discussions
- Next steps and next meeting
- Meeting evaluation

Next Meetings:

- Thursday, May 10, 5:00–7:00 p.m., Carver Educational Services Center, Conference Room 134
- Wednesday, May 23, 4:30–6:30 p.m., Carver Educational Services Center, Conference Room 134