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