

# **Special Education Advisory Committee**

Department of Special Education Services

October 25, 2018



# Outcomes:

At the end of this meeting we will have:

- Heard public comments
- Received information on the state of Special Education in MCPS
- Received information about early literacy and family engagement
- Networked with other parents/guardians

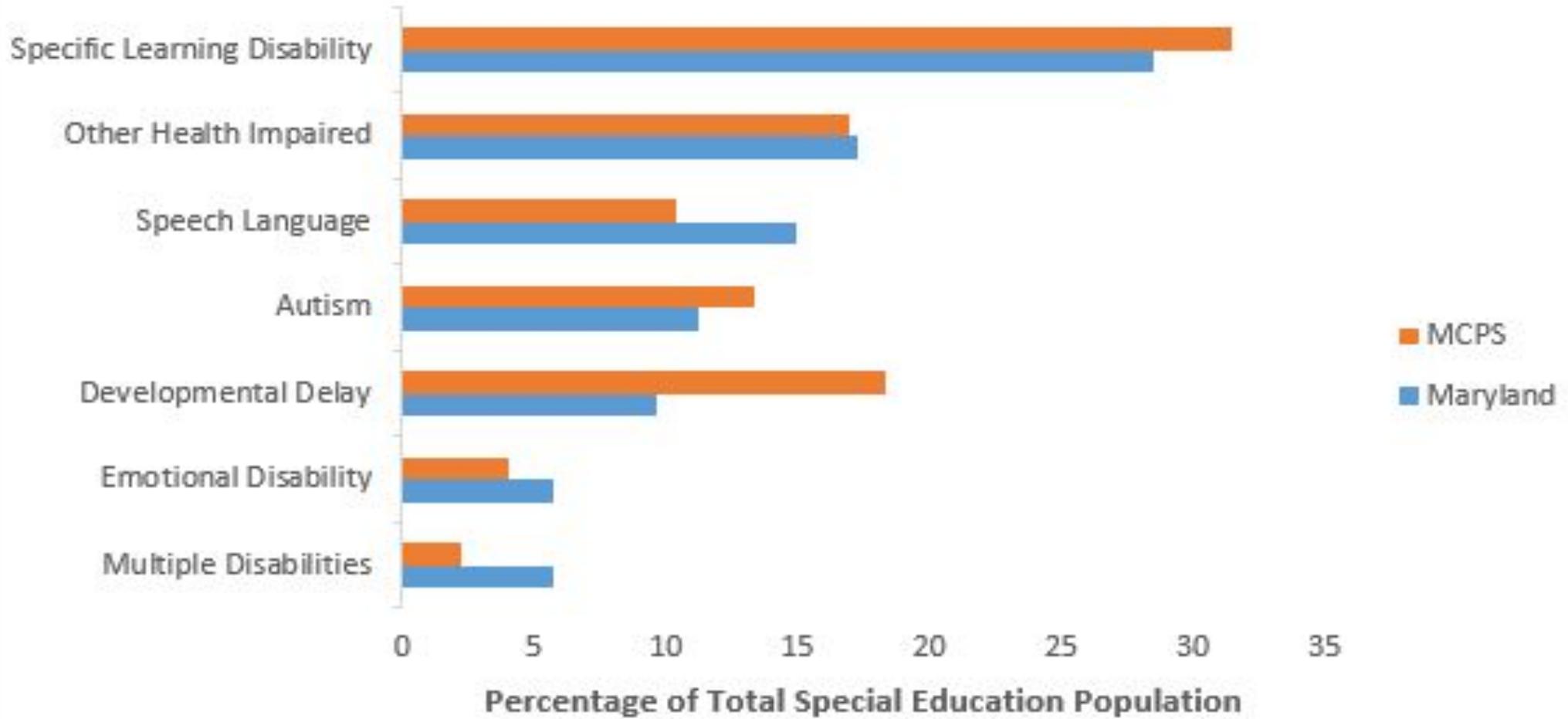


# Our Mission



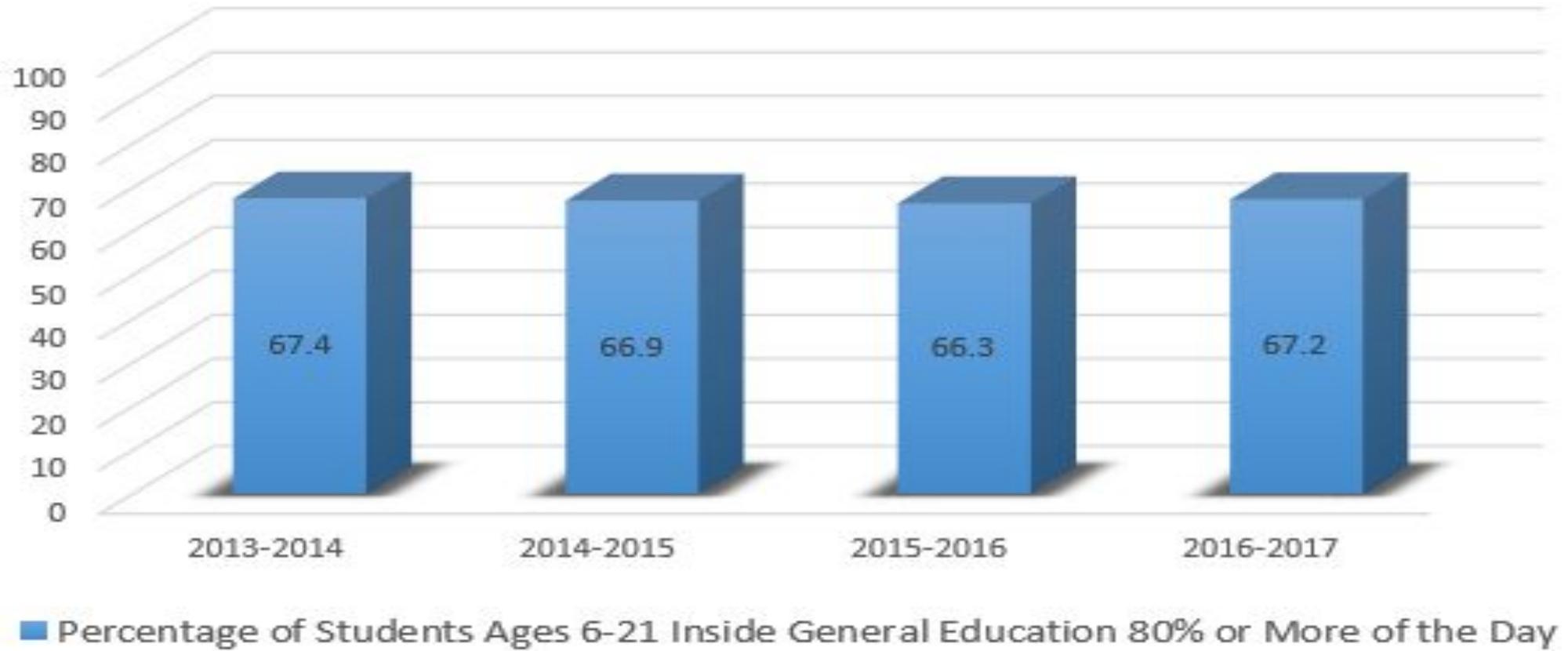
**The mission** of the Department of Special Education Services (DSES) is to provide, implement, and monitor the delivery of a seamless continuum of services for students with disabilities from birth through age 21 to prepare for college, career and community readiness.

## Largest Disability Categories in MCPS and Maryland



# MCPS LRE A Trend Data

MSDE 2017 Target = 69.9%





## Goals:

- Increase achievement for special education students
- Increase students in the Least Restrictive Environment
- Sustain and expand partnerships
- Improve central office support with Social Emotional Support Services (SESS)

# Strategic Priorities



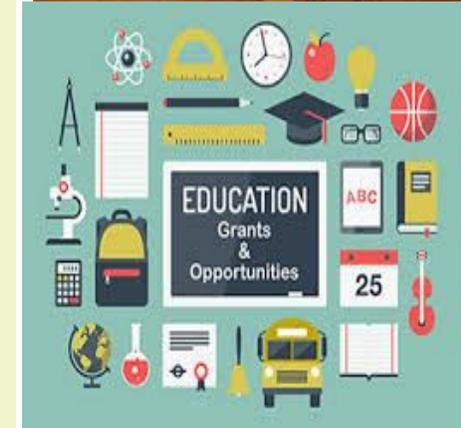


# Improvement Plans

- Strengthen the elementary Home School Model and middle school services through job-embedded professional learning
- Increase independence in elementary learning center students
- Monitor the implementation of evidence-based reading and mathematics interventions through Performance Matters
- Update Collaborative Problem Solving Manual to incorporate the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)
- Provide curriculum resources for staff teaching students pursuing Alternate Learning Outcomes
- Increase services to preK students in regular early childhood settings

# Grant Work 2018 – 2019

- ❖ Home School Model and Secondary Inclusion
- ❖ Orton Gillingham Training
- ❖ Early Childhood
- ❖ Multi-Tiered Systems of Support
- ❖ Academic Interventions
- ❖ Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (CPI)
- ❖ Family and Community Partnerships
- ❖ Transition



# Family Support and Engagement Resources

Understanding what Happens at Meetings  
Conducted Prior to IEP Meetings

[IEP Meetings Final 10 18](#)

# Partnerships

## Down Syndrome Network



# Community Partnerships and Resources

The Arc Montgomery County  
Partnership for Extraordinary Minds  
Down Syndrome Network  
Council for Exceptional Children Conference  
Montgomery College/Transition Services  
Holy Cross Hospital  
Parent Summit Resource Fair —20 Community Resources

# Community Partnerships and Resources

## The Arc Montgomery County

- MCPS Staff Present at Tools for School
- Parent Summit Presentations and Resource Table
- Building Bridges
- MacDonal Knolls Early Childhood Center

# Collaboration on Foundational Reading

The Office of Special Education (OSE) and the Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs (OCIP) have been collaborating to improve instruction in foundational reading.

# Curriculum audit

- Johns Hopkins Institute for Education Policy reviewed the curriculum in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS)
- The evaluation team recommended that MCPS implement new instructional materials in ELA and math
- Transition to new curriculum over a multiple year period
- Implement a robust professional learning plan
- Focus on successful implementation and support to schools

# Request for Proposal

- Need for systematic, explicit, research-based and differentiated phonics instruction
- Alignment to the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards
- Explicit language to address the needs for special populations (advanced learners, students receiving special education services, and English Language Learners).
- Clear expectations for professional development before, during and after rollout.
- Inclusion of tools to engage parents in new and innovative ways.

# Foundational Reading Skills

## **The Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills**

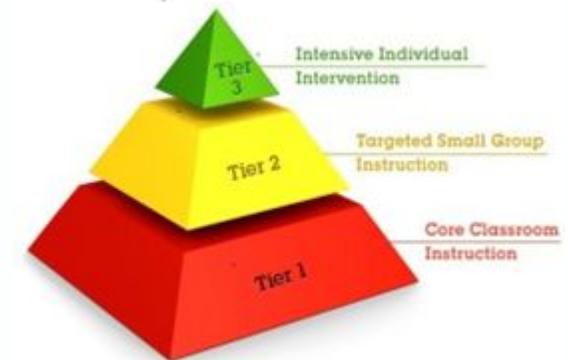
(DIBELS): series one-minute tasks, that measures children's abilities to hear sounds in words, connect sounds with letters, sound out words, and read and understand text passages, as well as gain vocabulary knowledge

**MAP Reading Fluency:** Online, adaptive assessment administered three times a year to all students kindergarten through second grade. It measures oral reading fluency, decoding accuracy, and literal comprehension

# Foundational Reading Skills

## Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS):

Schools will receive guidance on supporting students based on their identified needs, not based on their label, in tier 2 and tier 3 interventions



# Professional Learning to address Foundational Reading

- Orton Gillingham methodology training in 40 elementary schools
  - Each school will have a special educator and reading specialist trained
  - Content specialists from OSE, OCIP, and Office of School Support and Improvement will be trained and support the implementation
- Methodology will consist of:
  - Phonemic Awareness
  - Multi-sensory strategies for reading, writing, and math
  - Syllabication patterns encoding/decoding
  - Assessment techniques

# Foundational Reading Skills

**Interventions:** OSE and OCIP are collaborating on central office supported interventions

**Performance Matters:** Data from select central office supported interventions will be captured and monitored

**Professional Learning:** Variety of opportunities including online modules

# Questions

