ISSUES/QUESTIONS/SOLUTIONS

ASSESSMENT DESIGN

The PARCC assessment system will be comprised of four components. For English Language Arts, there is a fifth component.

Component #1: Diagnostic Assessment
Characteristics:

- Administered in grades 3 – 11 for English Language Arts, and Mathematics; high school will test Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II
- Optional
- Could be used throughout the year
- Computer-delivered
- Not included in summative score

Decisions:

- State Board of Education
  - Will Maryland choose to administer and fund?
- PARCC
  - If state does not administer and fund, will LEAs be able to choose to administer and fund, either individually or collaboratively?
- LEA
  - If PARCC offers the option to LEAs to individually administer and fund, LEAs decide to participate.

Component #2: Mid-Year Assessment

Characteristics:

- Administered in grades 3 – 11 for English Language Arts, and Mathematics; high school will test Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II
- Performance-based
- Optional
- Potentially summative
- Computer-delivered

Decisions:

- State Board of Education
    - Will Maryland choose to administer and fund?
    - If state chooses to administer and fund, will it choose to include in summative score that would be extracted for comparison across consortium states, and for state data?

- PARCC
    - If state does not administer and fund, will LEAs be able to choose to administer and fund, either individually or collaboratively?

- LEAs
    - If PARCC offers the option to LEAs to individually administer and fund, LEAs decide to participate

ISSUES/QUESTIONS/SOLUTIONS

Component #3: Performance-Based Assessment

Characteristics:

- Administered in grades 3 – 11 for English Language Arts, and Mathematics; high school will test Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II
- State funds assessment
- Required
- Part of summative score
- Maximum time requirement for each discipline: 180 minutes
- Computer-delivered

Decisions:

- USDE (Currently ESEA states that students must be tested at grade level.)
    - Will students in middle school take grade level assessment or Algebra assessment (if they are enrolled in Algebra course)?

- State Board of Education
    - Until ESEA is reauthorized, will Maryland choose to delay full administration of PARCC assessments? Maryland, as a governing state, must participate in field-testing.

ISSUES/QUESTIONS/SOLUTIONS

Component #4: End of Year Assessment

Characteristics:

- Administered in grades 3 – 11 for English Language Arts, and Mathematics; high school will test Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II
- State funds assessment
- Required
- Part of summative score
- Intended for rapid turnaround scoring
- Innovative, computer-based items
- Computer-delivered

Decisions:

- USDE (Currently ESEA states that students must be tested at grade level.)
    - Will students in middle school take grade level assessment or Algebra assessment (if they are enrolled in Algebra course)?

- State Board of Education
    - Until ESEA is reauthorized, will Maryland choose to delay full administration of PARCC assessments? Maryland, as a governing state, must participate in field-testing.

ISSUES/QUESTIONS/SOLUTIONS

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Component #5: English Language Arts Speaking and Listening

Characteristics:

- Administered in grades 3 – 11
- Required
- State-funded
- Not included in summative score

Decisions:

- PARCC
  - The state may determine the timing of the assessment

- State Board of Education
  - Will the state allow each LEA to determine the timing of the assessment?

- LEAs
  - Will the LEA allow each school/teacher to determine the timing of the assessment?
  - How/will the assessment be incorporated into the student's grade?