MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Preparing World-Class Students

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TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Bernard J. Sadusky, Ed.D. BJS/lca

DATE: April 24, 2012

SUBJECT: Transition to the New Assessment System and Common Core

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PURPOSE:

To update the State Board on the transition from the current High School Assessments (HSAs) to the New PARCC Assessments and from the current Maryland State Curriculum to the Maryland Common Core State Curriculum. To discuss the cost implications of transition decisions for accountability and graduation requirements.

BACKGROUND/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

On June 1, 2009, Maryland signed the Memorandum of Agreement to participate in the development and adoption of internationally benchmarked State standards through the Common Core State Standards Initiative led by the National Governors Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO).

In June 2010, Maryland signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for Colleges and Careers (PARCC), an assessment consortium facilitated by Achieve. This College- and Career-Readiness consortium is focused on assessments that will measure each student's readiness for college and careers and will be sufficiently reliable and valid for student and school accountability.

During the past few months, the State Board has reviewed and discussed a variety of transition materials. Today, the focus is on a document that provides an overview of the transition from the perspective of entering grade 9 classes from 2011-12 until 2015-2016.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

MSDE English/Language Arts and Mathematics teams have convened Maryland educators representing all LEAs to develop units and lessons aligned to the standards. Each school has developed its transition plan for the 2011 – 2012 school year. These transition plans will be extended to the 2012-2013 school year at the 2012 Educator Effectiveness Academy, and to the 2013-2014 school year at the 2013 Educator Effectiveness Academy.

As Maryland transitions to new State assessments three concepts need to be taken into consideration. The assessment needs to be valid, that is, the assessment measures what it is intended to measure and is aligned to the curriculum and instruction that the student has received; students and parents must receive sufficient notice that the assessment would be required for graduation (2-3 years); and students must have the opportunity to learn the content and pass the test. With these values in mind, MSDE has developed a proposed transition plan to gradually phase out the HSAs and phase in the new PARCC assessments. The new PARCC Performance Standards will not be established until summer 2015 following the first administration of the PARCC assessments in the 2014-2015 school year. The State Board will have the opportunity to review potential timelines for the transition plan.

ACTION:

For information purposes.

BJS:mlg

Maryland Graduation Requirement Considerations
Phasing out of Algebra/Data Analysis and English High School Assessments
Phasing in of PARCC Mathematics and English Language/Literacy Assessments

Questions for Consideration:

1. Which entering 9th grade class will be held accountable for new graduation requirements that are aligned to PARCC assessments?
2. For how long will the current HSAs continue after PARCC assessments are implemented?

Key to the Tables:

Line 1: Common Core: This line refers to the Maryland Common Core State Curriculum for English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics. (Full implementation in 2013-2014)

Line 2: Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC): This line refers to the PARCC Assessments. For high school students, these assessments include English 9, English 10, English 11, Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II.

Line 3: English HSA: This refers to the current High School Assessment for English 10 in the current State Curriculum. Students take this assessment after completing the English 10 course.

Line 4: Algebra/Data Analysis: This refers to the current High School Assessment for Algebra/Data Analysis. Students take this assessment after completing Algebra in the current State Curriculum.

Line 5: This refers to the current High School Assessment for Biology. Students take this assessment after completing the Biology course in our State Curriculum.

Table A: Incoming 9th Grade Class of 2011-2012

Consideration for Discussion

Graduating Class of 2014-2015;
Entering 9th Grade Class of 2011-2012;

HSAs Required for Graduation

	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th*	12th*					
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
1. Common Core					Common Core Fully Implemented						
2. PARCC						PARCC Administered	PARCC Performance Level Standards available				
3. English HSA				Students take Eng HSA for graduation							
4. Algebra/Data Analysis	Students take Alg/DA HSA in grade student takes course; Counts for graduation (*Common Core Algebra 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 will need Data Analysis Module)										
5. Biology			Biology HSA taken following course for graduation requirement								

Consideration for Discussion

Graduating Class of 2015-2016
Entering 9th Grade Class of 2012-2013
HSAs Required for Graduation

	7th	8th	9th	10th*	11th*	12th*				
	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
1. Common Core				Common Core Fully Implemented						
2. PARCC					PARCC Administered	PARCC Performance Level Standards available				
3. English HSA				Students take Eng HSA for graduation						
4. Algebra/Data Analysis	Students take Alg/DA HSA in grade student takes course; Counts for graduation (*Common Core Algebra 2013-2014 through 2015-2016 will need Data Analysis Module)									
5. Biology			Biology HSA taken following course for graduation requirement							

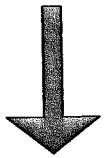
Consideration for Discussion

Graduating Class of 2016-2017
Entering 9th Grade Class of 2013-2014
HSAs required for Graduation

	7th	8th	9th*	10th*	11th*	12th*			
	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
1. Common Core			Common Core Fully Implemented						
2. PARCC				PARCC Administered	PARCC Performance Standards Level available				
3. English HSA				Students take Eng HSA for graduation					
4. Algebra/Data Analysis	Students take Alg/DA HSA in grade student takes course; Counts for graduation (*Common Core Algebra 2013-2014 through 2016-2017 will need Data Analysis Module)								
5. Biology			Biology HSA taken following course for graduation requirement						

Consideration for Discussion

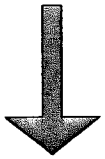
Graduating Class of 2017-2018
Entering 9th Grade Class of 2014-2015
HSAs Required for Graduation



	7th	8th*	9th*	10th*	11th*	12th*			
	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
1. Common Core		Common Core Fully Implemented							
2. PARCC			PARCC Administered	PARCC Performance Standards Level available					
3. English HSA				Students take Eng HSA for graduation					
4. Algebra/ Data Analysis	Students take Alg/DA HSA in grade student takes course; Counts for graduation (*Common Core Algebra 2013-2014 through 2017-2018 will need Data Analysis Module)								
5. Biology			Biology HSA taken following course for graduation requirement						

Consideration for Discussion

Graduating Class of 2018-2019
Entering 9th Grade Class of 2015-2016
PARCC Assessments become Graduation Requirements (Proposed)



	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th		
	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
1. Common Core	Common Core Fully Implemented							
2. PARCC		PARCC Administered	PARCC Performance Level Standards available - Required for Graduation (Specific Courses and Cut Scores to be determined)					
3. English HSA								
4. Algebra/Data Analysis	Students who take and pass the Algebra/DA HSA will have met graduation requirement in Algebra							
5. Biology			Biology HSA taken following course for graduation requirement					