



Maryland Race to the Top Progress Report

September 2010

- On August 24, 2010, Maryland, along with eight other states and the District of Columbia, was selected by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) for a Race to the Top (RTTT) grant. Maryland, one of only three states to be awarded the grant on its first submission, will receive \$250 million to continue building upon a solid record of school reform.
- The Maryland State Department of Education's (MSDE) program will utilize a five-prong strategy to provide the appropriate challenges and supports to students, educators, and administrators, and will include:
 - Adopting and implementing the new Common Core State Standards, Curriculum, and Assessments
 - Building a statewide student data system
 - Developing and supporting Great Teachers and Great Leaders
 - Turning around low-achieving schools
 - Increasing Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) resources for elementary through high school students.

RTTT Budget Update

- On September 16, MSDE staff met with USDE officials to discuss Maryland's budget for RTTT. Final budget documents are currently being prepared under USDE guidelines.
- Each of the 22 participating local school systems must submit a Scope of Work to MSDE by November 3 detailing how they will disburse their allocated funds. The document must include a narrative, action plans, and budget information.
- MSDE staff met with local school system representatives on September 14 to provide technical assistance training and directions on completing the Scope of Work.
- MSDE must submit the Scope of Work for every local school system to USDE by November 22.
- The \$250 million in RTTT funds will be distributed as follows:
 - MSDE will receive \$125 million for the projects specified in Maryland's RTTT application to support statewide school reform.
 - The 22 participating local school systems will collectively receive \$125 million dispursed over four years. (*see Award Allocation section for amounts*).



Education Reform Act of 2010

- In April, the Maryland General Assembly passed the Education Reform Act calling for changes in the system used to evaluate educators beginning in the 2012-13 school year.
- One important component is educator effectiveness, including student growth as a significant component of the system.
- The Education Reform Act of 2010 directs the State Board of Education to propose regulations that define the general evaluation standards.
- In April 2010, the State Board proposed regulations that define the following:

FOR TEACHERS,

- The general standards include 50% of the evaluation based on student growth.
- The remaining 50% includes planning and preparation, classroom environment, instruction and professional responsibilities with other measures the local school system may wish to add.

FOR PRINCIPALS

- The general standards include 50% of the evaluation based on student growth.
- The remaining 50% includes the Maryland Instructional Leadership Framework.
- In August 2010, Governor Martin O'Malley, by Executive Order, established the Maryland Council for Educator Effectiveness (MCEE).



Award Allocation

The allocation to each local school system is proportionate to its Title I participation (*see below for approximate amounts*).

LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM	ALLOCATION
Allegany	\$1,714,775
Anne Arundel	\$6,850,953
Baltimore City	\$52,789,872
Baltimore County	\$17,403,073
Calvert	\$847,260
Caroline	\$780,138
Carroll	\$520,521
Cecil	\$1,959,554
Charles	\$1,830,692
Dorchester	\$925,006
Garrett	\$833,298
Harford	\$2,904,665
Howard	\$823,257
Kent	\$334,426
Prince George's	\$23,571,891
Queen Anne's	\$478,898
St. Mary's	\$1,602,820
Somerset	\$1,029,235
Talbot	\$490,314
Washington	\$3,105,678
Wicomico	\$3,082,320
Worcester	\$1,120,989

Maryland Council for Educator Effectiveness (MCEE)

- The Council held its first meeting on August 26 and will continue meeting regularly over the next several months.
- The Council recommendations will address model performance evaluation criteria, including:
 - The definitions of “effective” and “highly effective” teachers and principals; and
 - The relationship between the student learning component of educator evaluations and the other components of the evaluations.
- The Council will provide its recommendations to the State Board of Education, which will review the recommendations and consider regulatory changes as needed.
- The educator evaluation system recommendations will be piloted in Baltimore City, and Baltimore, Charles, Kent, Queen Anne’s, Prince George’s, and St. Mary’s Counties.
- The pilot phase will conclude in June 2012.
- The new educator evaluation system will go into effect in the 2012-13 school year.



MCEE COUNCIL CO-CHAIRS

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State Superintendent of Schools

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Vice President, Maryland State Education Association

MCEE COUNCIL MEMBERS

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- **Dr. Dennis Pataniczek**, Dean, Seidel School of Education, Salisbury University
- **Pamela A. Pedersen**, Member, Charles County Board of Education
- **Dawn Pipkin**, Teacher, Leonardtown Middle School, St. Mary’s County
- **Lee Rutledge**, Teacher, Pimlico Elementary Middle School, Baltimore City
- **June Streckfus**, Executive Director, Maryland Business Roundtable for Education
- **Judith Walker**, Principal, Robert Moton Elementary School, Carroll County, and President, Maryland Association of Elementary School Principals

Common Core State Standards (CCSS)

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Initiative is a state-led initiative to develop a set of kindergarten through grade 12 education standards in English/language arts and mathematics. The standards would serve as a national foundation for states to adopt and implement. Currently, education standards are developed and implemented on a state-by-state basis.

- In June 2010, the State Board formally adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Maryland is part of a nationwide alliance to ensure students have the knowledge and skills for global competition and success in college and the world of work.
- In August 2010, 76 local school system teachers and coordinators worked with MSDE content specialists to conduct a gap analysis, using an online tool developed by Achieve, to determine the alignment of Maryland's State Curriculum with CCSS.
- In September 2010, groups representatives, including 28 from higher education, also completed the gap analysis.
- A report of the collective work of these two groups will be prepared in October. For the remainder of the 2010-11 school year, representatives of the local school systems, higher education and MSDE will work to develop the Common Core State Curriculum from the State Curriculum and the CCSS.
- The Common Core State Curriculum will be presented to the State Board in June 2011 for adoption.

Assessments

- On September 2, USDE awarded a \$170 million grant to the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) for the development of a K-12 assessment system aligned to the Common Core State Standards in English/language arts and mathematics.
- Maryland is among eleven governing states that will lead the 26-state PARCC group in developing the assessment.
- PARCC's goal is to create an assessment system that is computer-based and one that will provide teachers with timely information on student progress.
- It is anticipated that the assessments will be ready for the 2014-15 school year.



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