



Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

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TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D. *Lillian M. Lowery*
DATE: August 26, 2014
SUBJECT: Race to the Top Project Update

PURPOSE:

To provide the State Board of Education a high-level assessment of the current status of the MSDE's 54 RTTT projects.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

MSDE wishes to provide the State Board of Education with a monthly assessment of its 54 RTTT projects. Each project has a Project Manager, an Executive Sponsor (Assistant State Superintendent), and a Program Director who work collaboratively on the projects. The status of each project differs based on a wide variety of circumstances. A project that is on schedule during one month may be behind schedule two months later due to the loss of a key staff member, delay in amendment submission and/or approval, delay in procurement, etc. The attached document provides the State Board with staff's current analysis of each project according to the following scoring guidelines:

- 1 = substantially off-track and/or has significant quality concerns; urgent and decisive action is required;
- 2 = off-track and/or there are quality concerns; many aspects require significant attention;
- 3 = generally on-track and of high or good quality; only a few aspects require additional attention;
and
- 4 = on-track with high quality.

Note: NR (No Rating) means that the project is complete

ACTION:

Information only.

Attachment

Monthly Project Report by Assurance Area (August 2014)

Note: The first project # is the one assigned by USDE staff after Maryland's submission. The second project # is Maryland's original budget number. The rating assigned means the following: 1 = substantially off-track and/or has significant quality concerns; urgent and decisive action is required; 2 = off-track and/or there are quality concerns; many aspects require significant attention; 3 = generally on-track and of high or good quality; only a few aspects require additional attention; 4 = on-track with high quality.

Assurance Area	Project	August 2014 Rating	July 2014 Rating	Accomplishments	Comments	Improvement Targets (if rating is a 1 or 2)
General	1/78: Office of Academic Reform and Innovation	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducting RTTT Stat Meetings to review closeout procedures for projects without an NCE. Conducting RTTT Stat Meetings for projects with an NCE to discuss the transition from YR 4 to YR 5. 		
General	2/1: Program Evaluation	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CAIRE continues to meet with project managers from 22 projects to evaluate the projects' measurable objectives-final and complete the Breakthrough Center Case Studies (8 of 13 complete) CAIRE also completed the Fall Survey of teachers and principals on Common Core Preparedness and will present findings to the State Board on August 26th. 		
Standards and Assessment	3/2: Formative Assessments	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formative Assessments for Maryland Educators (FAME) Summer Leadership Institutes were conducted from 7/22-7/31/14 for 109 educators representing 36 schools in 12 Local Education Agencies (LEAs) plus Juvenile Service Education. The Formative Assessment project transferred its content to MSDE's Blackboard site under the Curriculum Resource tab. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Because of a delay with the Notice to Proceed, the vendor, Measured Progress, will provide MSDE with a modified timeline of deliverables by mid-August. It is anticipated that the project will have selected-response items (grade 3-11, Math and English Language Arts [ELA]) by the end of 	

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The team had its initial start-up meeting with Measured Progress, the selected vendor that will provide MSDE with assessment tasks, including both selected-response items and performance-based tasks. 	August.	
Standards and Assessment	4/3: Curriculum and Formative Assessment Development	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The first of six modules for the Financial Literacy STEM Course was completed; the other five are scheduled to be completed by November. •The first of five modules for the Foundation of Technology STEM Course was reviewed. The remaining four are scheduled to be completed by October and will be piloted in February 2015. •Facilitators for two student courses were identified for Cyber-Security and Administration of Justice II. •The credentials for two facilitators for the Video Game Design course are being evaluated. •A pilot site for the Video Game Design course was secured. 		
Standards and Assessment	5/4: Curriculum and Formative Assessment Development for International Technology and Engineering Educators Association	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Foundations of Technology (FoT) professional development (PD) sessions were conducted in Baltimore City and Prince George's County. •Cecil County will pilot the program in one of the system's five schools and then work to have all of the schools use the online curriculum and assessment. With the exception of two counties (Garrett and Montgomery) all systems are using the FoT online system. 		

Assurance Area	Project	August 2014 Rating	July 2014 Rating	Accomplishments	Comments	Improvement Targets (if rating is a 1 or 2)
	(ITEEA)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work on the FoT online course is progressing (Project 04/03). The reviewers are completing the review documents for Unit 1. Project team led a three-day (7/14/14 - 7/16/14) PD session for 9 current and new Construction, Design, and Management (CDM) teachers. Teachers were provided an overview of each course in the program and training on the use of the program resources. World Language Specialists are reviewing and revising lesson seeds developed by teachers at the June world language academies for posting on the learning management system (LMS). World Language Specialists are facilitating an additional online continuing PD course for world language academy participants to reflect on colleagues' lesson seeds and develop more lesson seeds. 		
Standards and Assessment	6/76: Curriculum and Assessment Development CTE-SREB	4	4			
Standards and Assessment	7/5: World Languages (WL) Pipeline	4	4			
Data Systems	8/11: Develop Overall Technology Infrastructure	2	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redesigned the K12 decentralized architecture to accommodate flaws in the previous design, which required Web Center Portal and OBIEE to store the LEA user attributes, but the two products were unable to meet this requirement. Successfully escalated the problem with Oracle from Severity 2 to Severity 1 on 7/31/14, which requires Oracle to work on the bug in their product as the highest priority until it is solved. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaged Oracle support to resolve an Oracle service request on a problem with the software and altered the resource plan to keep a second Security Specialist on staff to expedite the implementation of the decentralized security model once the service

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Data Systems	9/27: Accessing and Using State Data-Dashboards	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 dashboards out of 36 are in production. Testing is continuing for 4 of the remaining dashboards and is expected to be completed with the dashboards in production by 8/29/14. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 additional dashboards are production ready and will move to production with final approval. 	request is resolved. Project staff anticipate more information about this solution by the end of August.
Data Systems	10/28: Multi-Media Training	2	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All 40 training scripts have been completed as of 6/31/14. 24 out of 40 modules are in production. The technical writer has produced training/supporting documentation to assist end users with the Dashboard Portal. The technical writer has been writing scripts, which have been provided to the captive developer to begin working on. 		Complete 8 of the remaining modules by 8/31/14 and the remaining 8 by 9/23/14.
Data Systems	11/29: LEA System Application and Infrastructure Upgrades	NR	NR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The grant requirements for this project have been completed as of 9/30/2013. There are no other updates for this project as all milestones have been met. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to transfer the monitoring and oversight of the sub grants to non-RTTT MSDE personnel. 	
Data Systems	12/60: Expansion to LDS - Data Exchange	NR	NR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project is closed and any remaining funds are being reallocated by RTTT Leadership as part of the amendment process. 		
Data Systems	13/61: Enhancement to LDS - Develop	NR	NR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project is closed and any remaining funds are being reallocated by RTTT Leadership as part of the amendment process. 		

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	Workforce Data Warehouse and Center			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring the MLDS transferring of remaining funds following the approval from USDE. 		
Data Systems	14/31: Develop and Implement a State Curriculum System	NR	NR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project is closed and any remaining funds are being reallocated by RTTT Leadership as part of the amendment process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This project is closed as of June 30th 2013. 	
Data Systems	15/07: Expand Instructional Toolkit	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Part 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Algebra II student module is under accessibility review Colonial America module is in testing and evaluation. Maryland Public Television (MPT) has given six STEM modules to MSDE, and the modules are scheduled to be loaded onto Blackboard. The remaining two modules are expected to be complete soon. Project Part 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 658 resources have been approved for the Online Instructional Toolkit. These resources are for teachers and students in all subject areas to provide instructional support and create a more blended learning environment. The expectation is that we will have 4,000 to 5,000 resources by the end of this project. The number of resources will vary based on the cost and availability of resources. The third round of resources is in 		

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Data Systems	16/20: STEM Instructional and Career Support	4	4	<p>review for MSDE approval.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The redesign of the STEMnet web site is complete. As a result, students, parents, teachers, and administrators (anyone) can access all components. •STEM Connections will be launched for teacher use in September 2014. •The STEM Workplace Exposure and STEM Career Exploration components of STEMnet are ready to be launched for student use in September 2014. •Additional challenges have been added to the STEM Challenge component of STEMnet, and Maryland Business Roundtable (MBRT) has worked with teachers to develop additional instructional materials to support the challenges. •Teachers from Washington, Baltimore, and Somerset Counties were contracted to develop additional resources for the Resource Clearinghouse. The resources have been added to the web site (bringing the total number of available resources to 47) and are available for use by teachers and students. •STEM Specialists in the Classroom: Additional volunteers have been recruited and trainings have occurred throughout the summer. Teachers have already begun to schedule STEM Specialist visits for the 2014-2015 school year. 	<p>This project will close with YR4 funding. MBRT deliverables will be complete by September 23, 2014. YR 5 work will be led by the Assistant to the State Superintendent on Special projects (STEM).</p>	
Data Systems	17/32: Implement a Test Item	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18/33- 20/35 are now CLOSED and all milestones are incorporated into 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many LEAs were concerned with the timing of the grant 	

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Data Systems	Bank System(TIBS) 18/33: Implement a Computer-Adaptive Test (CATS) Delivery System	NR	3	17/32. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The team provided an informational webinar on 7/8/14 to help interested LEAs complete the LEA Assessment System grant application that was due 8/01/14. The team also offered to facilitate additional opportunities for LEAs to collaborate with one another on their assessment system grants upon LEA request. The team developed a plan in collaboration with MSDE's Chief Information Officer (CIO) to produce model <i>Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)</i> or <i>Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT)</i> policies for LEAs to assist with the use of technology in the assessment process and to link technology to system components being procured through this project's grants. 	period for the Assessment System grants stating that they needed funding to cover anticipated procurements beginning 7/01/14. USDE approved the use of grant funding to extend to the three months prior to the official 10/01/14 grant period start date.	
Data Systems	19/34: Item Load and Integration Setup for Test Item Bank System	NR	3			
Data Systems	20/35: Adaptive Testing Units for High Schools	NR	3			
Data Systems	21/42: Implement a Statewide System to Support Student Instructional Intervention	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Of the nineteen counties participating in this grant, twelve have spent part of their funds, amounting to over 70% of the funds being utilized to date. Allegheny County, Caroline County, and Cecil County have utilized all of their funds on instructional intervention resources Howard County has partially spent their funds. 	The Project manager has reached out to each LEA and they are submitting invoices to be reimbursed for their project and is working with each of them daily and weekly to complete all work by 9/23/14.	
Data Systems	22/6: Develop Online Instructional Intervention Modules	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part 1 - ELA and Mathematics Intervention and Enrichment Modules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o ELA 3A modules and the Math 2A modules are ready for production. o ELA Waves 3C first functional 	(Part 1)- Pearson- 54 out of the 80 intervention/enrichment modules are being uploaded. (Part 2) MPT- The MOU is in	

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				<p>review beginning (6 middle school, and 7 high school modules); 3A, and 3B are in the functional review process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 80 Intervention/Enrichment Modules in Production – 4 PD and 76 student modules o 54 Intervention/Enrichment Modules finished and waiting to be uploaded- 116 in various stages of review – all will be complete by early Sept. and ready for upload <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 2 -Disciplinary Literacy and Enrichment/Intervention Modules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o In final stage of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with MPT to secure 90 student modules with narration, images, 40 videos, and 50 slideshows and one teacher tutorial. 	<p>the final stages of being completed for an estimated 80 modules. The project is concerned about the end date, June 30, 2015 but is working with the vendor to confirm delivery.</p>	
Data Systems	23/55: Develop Framework for Teacher Toolkit Portal	NR	NR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project is closed and any remaining funds are being reallocated by RTTT Leadership as part of the amendment process. 		
Data Systems	24/56: Develop and Implement Course Registration System	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hundreds of resources were accessed via the Blackboard LMS during the teacher conferences. • Google Analytics is collected each month to provide additional statistical details about the system utilization. <p>Total Users: June: 45,911 July: 46,198</p> <p>Active users: June: 8887 July: 9162</p>		

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				12,395 visitors are new from June 22, 2014 to present -August 11, 2014		
Data Systems	25/10: MSDE-IHE Teacher Preparation Workgroup	4	4	•No new updates for August. Current work continues.		
Data Systems	26/43: Implement a System to Support E-Learning for Instructional Intervention, Enhancement, and Enrichment	3	3	•See accomplishments for Project 24/56.	Project is merged with 24/56: Develop and Implement Course Registration System.	
Data Systems	27/46: Equating of MSA for Use on Growth Model	NR	NR	•Project is closed and any remaining funds are being reallocated by RTTT Leadership as part of the amendment process.		
Great Teachers and Leaders	28/47: Develop and Implement a Statistical Model to Measure Student Growth	NR	NR	•Project is closed and any remaining funds are being reallocated by RTTT Leadership as part of the amendment process.		
Great Teachers and Leaders	29/48: Develop and Implement an Educator Evaluation	4	4	•Collected end of year teacher ratings and component evaluation measures from the 22 RTTT participating LEAs. •Published Teacher Principal Evaluation (TPE) Communication Bulletin #26.		

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	System (Calculation Engine)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formalized MOU on Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) with teacher, principal, superintendent, and boards of education representative groups Completed Phase I (Application, Education History, Login, Sign Up, Edit Profile) of the portal. Completed forms authentication (Allows information inputted in one form to propagate other forms as the application is filled out). Continued full production database migration (moving data from old system to new). 		
Great Teachers and Leaders	30/49: Expand Educator Information System (EIS) to Accommodate Additional Data	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project is preparing final budget and financial reports to close out. 	The deliverable (EIS system) will be operational as of 9/23/14. However, MSDE is seeking additional time to support implementation and transition.	
Great Teachers and Leaders	31/13: Building Leadership Capacity in Low-Achieving Urban and Rural Districts	3	3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transfer of needed funds was approved and is in process of being transferred. 	
Great Teachers and Leaders	32/73: Teach for Maryland	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted Maryland Teaching Consortium (MTC) Summer Institute "Charting Our Course" on 7/16/14 to 7/17/14 for more than 65 participants focusing on Bullying, Gangs & Teacher Communication, When to Refer, Engaging Students Through the Affective Domain, and Living the MTC Experience. Presented culminating document of MTC practitioners, <i>Preparing Educators for High Poverty/Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Schools: A Manual for Teacher Educators</i>, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 out of 10 partnerships were represented at MTC. Participants included IHE faculty, principals, teachers, mentor teachers, LEA administrators, interns, consultants, and MSDE staff. 	

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				<i>Teachers and Principals</i> , at the Summer Institute. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established and announced Dissemination/Implementation meetings for multiple stakeholders. Drafted and sent cover letters, and approved Notices of Grant Award (NOGAs) to Baltimore City and Prince George's County for sub grants in PY4. 		
Great Teachers and Leaders	33/50: Compensation to Teachers and Principals in Lowest 5% Schools	3	3			
Great Teachers and Leaders	34/51: Compensation Incentives for Teachers in Shortage Areas	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafted and sent cover letters and approved NOGAs to Baltimore City and Baltimore County for sub grants in PY4. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kent County received their NOGA previously because they needed to issue first half of incentive awards to teachers earlier in the year. 	
Great Teachers and Leaders	35/26: Elementary STEM Certification	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented "Preparing STEM-Centric Elementary Teachers" highlighting Maryland's elementary STEM preparation model including a discussion of assessing student work using the materials shared at the Summer Institute at the STEM Education Conference in Vancouver at the University of British Columbia. Final evaluation, budget, and progress reports are being reviewed and processed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation was attended by approximately 25 people who were very impressed with the project and a few participants have requested follow up materials and joined the project's wiki. 	
Great Teachers and Leaders	36/75: LEAs, Providers, and IHES (U Teach) Maryland)	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U Teach Towson has concentrated on reconfiguration of space to house the U Teach project components. MSDE Reading Work Group met again on 7/23/14 to redesign and/or revise Reading in the Content Area Part I, to be renamed as a literacy course. 		

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Great Teachers and Leaders	37/54: International Partnerships to Recruit Teachers in Critical Needs Areas	NR	NR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project is closed and any remaining funds are being reallocated by RTTT Leadership as part of the amendment process. 		
Great Teachers and Leaders	38/53: Incentives for Teachers who Obtain ESOL Certification	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since last report, 36 additional teachers completed all requirements. 	To date, a total of 446 teachers have completed the coursework and passed the Praxis in years 1-4.	
Great Teachers and Leaders	39/25: Teacher Induction Academies	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided individualized support and materials for LEA Induction Coordinators as they planned their August Teacher Induction Orientations. Compiled all of the evaluations and session products from the 2014 Teacher Induction Academy that was held June 24-26, 2014. Finalized Academy stipend payments to each LEA and communicated information to each LEA. 		
Great Teachers and Leaders	40/15: Professional Development for Executive Officers	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SLO materials are being refined for next year's TPE professional development. A work session on SLOs with Baltimore City central office and executive directors to provide technical assistance was held on 7/24/14 Planning has begun to provide training on SLOs to MSDE divisions that work directly with school systems. This all day training is scheduled for 9/15/14. 		
Great Teachers	41/24: Educator	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All eight College and Career Readiness Conferences (CCR) have been held as 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCR Conferences were not mandatory, and participants 	

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and Leaders	Effectiveness Academies (EEAs)			<p>of 8/1/14.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 99.25% of CCR Conference participants returned to attend both days of the conference. o Approximately 20 CCR Conference participants attended more than one conference. o Over 30% of CCR Conference participants were school level administrators. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Executed summer convening of Governor's Promising Principal Academy including identification of principal coaches and construction of electronic network platform ● Completed service delivery design structure for September, December, and March Spheres of Influence. ● 48 Aspiring Principals attended the Governor's Principal Pipeline Academy July 28-30, 2014. ● No new updates for August. Current work continues. 	<p>were not paid to attend; however, over 3300 Maryland educators, including teachers, administrators, and IHEs participated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Education Week wrote an article about the successful CCRC- (published 8/12/14) http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/curriculum/2014/08/fractio ns-common-core-invert-and-multiply.html . The article supported the work conducted and determined it was "illuminating" to the teachers present. 	
Great Teachers and Leaders	42/17: Priority Schools Academy	4	4			
Great Teachers and Leaders	43/21: Develop Online PD on Educator Instructional Improvement Content	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Soul Tree Consulting completed the first module of the Project Based Learning course and delivered the first module of the first Engineering STEM Education course to MSDE. ● AP Ventures delivered the first module for the Instruction in Reading PD course; the Elementary English Primary ELA PD course; and the Elementary English Intermediate ELA PD course for review by MSDE. ● Leadership development specialists 		
Lowest-	44/41: The	4	4			

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Achieving Schools	Breakthrough Center (BTC)			<p>continued to support 13 Aspiring Principal Fellows by providing two days of PD in their annual summer institute July 15-16, 2014.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Content specialists continue to plan for PD for the teachers and instructional leaders in the schools they support on components of the PARCC assessment and implications for instruction in the 2014-15 school year. All beginning of the year principal conferences are completed and collaborative agreements were signed by 7/30/14. 		
Lowest-Achieving Schools	45/67: RITA Team Audits	NR	NR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project is closed and any remaining funds are being reallocated by RTTT Leadership as part of the amendment process. 		
Lowest-Achieving Schools	46/57: Extend Student Learning and Improve School Culture, and Climate, and Support	4	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 250 participants from Prince George's County and Baltimore City Public Schools attended Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) New Team training on 7/14-7/16/14. A total of 150 participants from Prince George's County Public School (PGCPS) PBIS Teams attended PBIS Return Teams training on 7/23-7/24/14. An Alternatives to Suspension Conference was held from 7/28-8/1/14 for turnaround schools in Prince George's County and Baltimore City (BCPS). A PBIS Return Teams Training will be held for BCPS PBIS Teams on 8/6- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Alternatives to Suspension training featured workshops from national presenters on areas such as Crisis Intervention, Youth Mental Health First Aid, Human Trafficking, Working with Traumatized Youth, Behavior Management, Working with LGBTQ Youth, and Preventing Teacher and Staff Burnout. The project was able to sponsor and conduct 3 conferences that were specifically focused on the needs of Turnaround Schools in PGCPS and BCPS. 	

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Lowest-Achieving Schools	47/45: Coordinated Student Services	3	3	<p>8/7/14.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated and supported Restorative Practices training for the Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) and Baltimore City Public Schools (BCPS). Compiled pre- and post- assessment data from BCPS. Eleven of thirteen schools showed improvement. The two that did not improve had significant changes in student service team leadership. Presented at MSDE sponsored PBIS, PD School, and Alternative to Suspension conferences on school culture and climate issues. No additional activities occurred over the past month. This project has been completed. 		
Lowest-Achieving Schools	48/69: School Health Services	NR	NR			
Lowest-Achieving Schools	49/63: Physical Activity (PA)	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Created and facilitated workshop at Summer Institute for Physical Activity in the Core Disciplines on July 30, 2014. PA/Wellness Blackboard site is continually being updated with additional physical activities for the core disciplines and resources to implement wellness programming. 		
Lowest-Achieving Schools	50/58: Extended Learning	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new updates for August. Current work continues. 		
Lowest-Achieving Schools	51/71: Project Lead the Way(PLTW)	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four additional schools were identified to start the GTT program in the upcoming school-year – Two in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the addition of the four middle schools in Baltimore City and Garrett County, the 	

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	- Gateway to Technology (GTT)			<p>Baltimore City: Booker T. Washington and Maryland Academy of Technology and Health Sciences and Two in Garrett County: Northern Middle School and Southern Middle School.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers from the four schools attended GTT training and are ordering materials of instruction to start the program. Dorchester County is using the additional funds the LEA received to purchase needed computers. Teachers attended the training, and the schools will also be implementing in the upcoming school-year. 	<p>GTT program will be implemented in 14 middle schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Because of the short turn-around time for program implementation, MSDE requested and was approved to allow Baltimore City and Garrett County to have spending authority effective 7/01/14. 	
Lowest-Achieving Schools	52/77: Primary Talent Development (PTD)	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All of the project activities have been completed as planned and on schedule. 		
Lowest-Achieving Schools	53/44: Charter Schools	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of Baltimore has completed Stage 1 (collection of background information) and Stage 2 (initial update of prior analysis and development of the interview guide) for Charter School Program Study and are in the process of completing stages 3 (conducting stakeholder interviews) and 4 (interview analysis). 		
Other	54/79: Implement Statewide Centralized Student Transcript System	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no other updates for this project as all milestones have been met. 		



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TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D. *Lillian M. Lowery*
DATE: August 26, 2014
SUBJECT: Summary of Critical Race to Top Projects

PURPOSE:

To provide the State Board of Education additional information for Race to the Top projects with a ranking of a 1 or 2 as of December 31, 2013.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In addition to the overall Race to the Top Project Update, MSDE wishes to provide the State Board of Education the plan of action to address projects that have been identified as a 1 or 2 as of December 2013. Executive Sponsors and Project Managers have identified milestones in two months intervals that need to be met to increase the rating of each critical project and this report includes a progress bar showing agency progress against those milestones.

- 1 = substantially off-track and/or has significant quality concerns; urgent and decisive action is required;
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Changes from the initial report:

- White highlighting represents tasks that still need to be completed.
- Yellow highlighting represents milestones that are in progress.
- Green highlighting represents milestones that have been completed and indicates when a project has increased its rating as projected.
- The meter bar indicates how the project is progressing throughout the 2 month interval.
- A written update has been provided immediately below each project milestone bar to identify specific action steps that have been completed to meet and complete each milestone. Red updates indicate the most current updates.

ACTION:

Information only.

Attachment

No.:	Project	July Ranking	Critical Milestones & Target Ranking				End Date
1028	Mult-Media Training	2	<p>Feb - Mar</p> <p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the script for the remaining 19 dashboard training modules (Current Total: 1740) Backfill the corporate developer resources Backfill the LDS Coach resource 	<p>Apr - May</p> <p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the development and testing of 9 production ready training modules (Total: 2640) 	<p>Jun - Jul</p> <p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the development and testing of 10 production ready training modules (Total: 3640) 	<p>Aug - Sep</p> <p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the development and testing of 4 production ready LDS Coaching modules (Total: 4040) Conduct end user survey from all 24 LEAs. 	September 2014

Updates since last board report

Project will release 2014. The 1740 modules were completed by the end of March 2014. The 2640 modules were completed by the end of April 2014. The 3640 modules were completed by the end of June 2014. The 4040 modules were completed by the end of August 2014. The 4040 modules have been completed. Modules are being developed at an accelerated rate since the resources were provided in late June. The target delivery date of all 40 is September 23, 2014.

1517	Expand Instructional Toolkit	4	<p>Feb - Mar</p> <p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete Instructional Toolkit (IT) content approval IT vendor finalizes requirements for resource aggregation 	<p>Apr - May</p> <p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IT vendor begins resource aggregation and provide samples for approval 	<p>Jun - Jul</p> <p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IT vendor delivers first wave of resources for review and approval (est. 2000 resources) 	<p>Aug - Sep</p> <p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IT vendor delivers second wave of resources for review and approval (est. 4000 resources) 	July 2015
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Updates since last board report

Project Update: The milestones necessary to increase the rating have been completed prior to March 13. May Update: Samples have been acquired and being reviewed internally. April Update: IT vendor is collaborating with MSDE to identify appropriate educators to select quality resources for this repository. June Update: Initial resources were provided to MSDE, are being reviewed, and are in the testing phase. Anticipated production release August 2014. August Update: Resources are being reviewed for accessibility and quality by MSDE. 3,373 have been identified. A total of 600 resources have been approved for the toolkit. The minimum number of approved resources is 1000.

Summary of Critical Race To The Top Projects

No.:	Project	July Ranking	Critical Milestones & Target Ranking				End Date
17732	Implement a Test Item Bank System (TIBS)	3	<p>Feb - Mar 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revise current RFP for Assessment Task Development to include a comprehensive assessment system Release RFP for Big 	<p>Apr - May 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit USDE project amendment for LEA grant solution, once approved release LEA grant application to districts 	<p>Jun - Jul 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEA grants approved 	<p>Aug - Sep 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEAs submit grant monitoring documentation 	July 2015

Updates since last board report ***Updated progress rating due to approved amendment and LEA grant solution.**

March Update: MSDE and USDE are in regular communication regarding the proposed solution. Both parties are committed to finding a solution as soon as possible. The milestone indicating that the solution is ready to be submitted to the state board has been approved.

May Update: Client amendment is in final stages of MSDE internal review process. Once internally approved it will be sent to USDE. April Update: Project team has drafted the final USDE amendment for LEA grant to enable each district to submit a proposal to the Integrated Assessment System. Note: The timeline has been updated to reflect the current proposal solution.

July Update: Grant applications have been provided to the LEAs and are set back to MSDE by 8/1/14. Informational webinar is scheduled for 7/23/14 to support this effort. June Update: Amendment was approved by MSDE LEAs will begin to execute. In addition, MSDE continues to collaborate with LEAs on modeling assessment strategies using technology. One example is the *Bring Your Own Device* model.

17832-2035 are now CLOSED and all milestones are incorporated into 17782.

2216	Develop Online Instructional Intervention Modules	3	<p>Feb - Mar 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOU ratified with state affiliated agency 	<p>Apr - May 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course development activities begin for 125 modules 	<p>Jun - Jul 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review first wave of modules (est. 50 modules) and provide input for improvement and enhancement 	<p>Aug - Sep 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review second wave of modules (est. 40 modules) Provide input for improvement and enhancement 	July 2015
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Updates since last board report

March Update: We are in discussion with MPT regarding an MOU for the development of the Disciplinary Literacy modules - Part 2.

May Update: USDE Amendment has been approved 5:14. The MOU is in the final approval stages. April Update: The MOU has been written and reviewed by both parties. It will be sent to the AG's office following the INCE approval from USDE.

July Update: Initial draft of 60 modules continues to be reviewed and approved for production. MSDE and MPT are currently negotiating with proposals. The approval of the contract is being completed for a rating of a 4.

June Update: The Mathematics modules from the first wave have begun to be reviewed and tested. Final dates are expected this June. MPT continues to expect to be finished by the end of June.

August Update: (Part 1) Pearson- 54 out of the 60 intervention/benchmark modules are being updated. (Part 2) MPT- The MOU is in the final stages of being completed for an estimated 60 modules. The project is concerned about the end date, June 30, 2015 but is working with the vendor to confirm delivery.

Summary of Critical Race To The Top Projects

Critical Milestones & Target Ranking							
No.	Project	July Ranking	Feb - Mar	Apr - May	Jun - Jul	Aug - Sep	End Date
43 21	Develop Online PD on Educator Instructional Improvement Content	3	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve multi-year contract for nine Online Professional Development Courses 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vendors for Online Professional Development courses begin development 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review first round of drafts from vendors • Provide input for improvement and enhancement 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review final drafts of courses from vendors • Provide input for improvement and enhancement • Migrate completed courses to Learning Management System 	July 2015
	<p>Updates since last board report</p> <p>March Update: The award for nine professional development courses is on the BPV agenda for April 2, 2014.</p> <p>May Update: Vendor selection process has been initiated and development for progress. A meeting will be held on April 23rd and 24th. Design sessions will begin at that time.</p> <p>August Update: Modules continue to be developed and reviewed by MSDE from both vendors.</p>						
48 57	Extend Student Learning and Improve School Culture, Climate, and Support	4	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview bid board candidates (Hiring expected in late February) • Interview Behavior Specialist (Hiring expected in late February) 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct onsite training and technical assistance for behavioral teams 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct onsite training and technical assistance for behavioral teams 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct onsite training and technical assistance for behavioral teams • Complete discipline plans 	September 2014
	<p>Updates since last board report</p> <p>March Update: Candidates have been selected and are in the final stages of the hiring process.</p> <p>May Update: Subject matter experts are being identified to plan training events. Succession planning for the two onsite trainings April Update: 48 57 has all personnel required to complete the tasks above. By April 30th the project is expected to conduct two onsite trainings</p> <p>June Update: MSDE continues to prepare for onsite training events in June. Requests and needs of Grant Awardees are being tracked throughout the month of June to ensure the success of these events.</p> <p>July Update: Progress reports and comments have been modified and submitted for the upcoming training events. Additional funding continues to be provided for PGCPD and Baltimore City Schools</p> <p>August Update: 3 training conferences were completed and focused on the needs of Tamaround Schools in Prince George's County Public Schools and Baltimore City Public Schools</p>						