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**TO:** Members of the Maryland State Board of Education  
**FROM:** Jack R. Smith, Ph.D. *JRS/CLN*  
**DATE:** October 27, 2015  
**SUBJECT:** Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Assessment and Accountability Update

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**PURPOSE:**

To provide information and highlights of the 2015 high school PARCC results.

**BACKGROUND:**

During the school year 2014-2015, the PARCC assessments were the state assessments for English Language Arts and Mathematics in grades 3-8 and high school (Algebra I, Algebra II and English 10). The Algebra II assessment was administered to students as one of the indicators to determine college and/or career determination. These initial score results are a new baseline from which we will move forward. The PARCC assessment sets new goals for our students and higher expectations that are aligned to the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards. The new PARCC assessments are simply a reflection of how statewide assessments have evolved over time to meet higher standards that promote college and career readiness in the 21st century for all students.

It is important to remember that this year's PARCC assessment results cannot be compared to test scores from the state's previous assessments. The PARCC assessment is a very different test that uses extended tasks and technology-enhanced items to more accurately measure students' critical thinking, problem solving, and writing skills, which are all necessary for students to succeed in their education and/or career field after high school.

In addition to providing a snapshot of the performance of students at the high school course level, PARCC scores will be used to set baseline data for school performance as required by Maryland's Elementary and Secondary Act (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver. In the coming months, the department will ask the State Board to approve amendments to the flexibility waiver that was approved in March 2015 around accountability and teacher/principal evaluation. These amendments will be submitted to the United States Department of Education for final approval.

**The 2014-2015 PARCC High School Assessment Results**

The scores below are reflective of a change in the statewide assessment administered in the 2014-15 school year.

	Tested Count	Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		Level 4		Level 5	
		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Algebra I	61849	8047	13	17713	28.6	16759	27.1	18196	29.4	1134	1.8
Algebra II	40583	13058	32.1	10919	26.9	8430	20.8	7820	19.3	356	0.9
English 10	55653	11886	21.4	10045	18	11628	20.9	15651	28.1	6443	11.6

The five reporting levels were adopted by the PARCC Governing Board as part of the performance level setting process in August-September 2015. The PARCC consortium, along with the Advisory Committee on College Readiness (ACCR), a partnership with institutions of higher education representing consortium states, determined that levels four and five would meet college and career readiness. In Maryland, scores that meet the graduation assessment requirement have not been determined by the State Board. A recommendation by the department will be presented to the State Board for approval in January 2016.

**Maryland High School Assessment (HSA) Results**

The 2014-2015 school year was the final year for the administration of the Algebra I and English 10 HSA. These assessments were provided for graduating students and those students re-testing after successfully completing the course(s). Due to the re-instatement of the Government HSA, students who graduated during the 2014-2015 school year were not required to participate in the Government HSA. Students taking the Biology HSA in 2014-2015 were required to pass the assessment. Results for all HSA assessments will be published on the Maryland Report Card. Results for the HSA status will be presented to the State Board when other high school data (graduation rate, dropout rate, etc.) for 2015 graduates is presented.


**CONCLUSION:**

PARCC state data will be reported on the Maryland Report Card website at 12:00 p.m. on October 27, 2015. School and central office staff will review, analyze, and interpret this information, share it with their school communities, and use it as a planning tool to guide actions to improve the learning of all students.

**ACTION:**

For information only. No action required.

Attachment

  
 Attachment - Tab D


## Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Assessment and Accountability Update

**October 27, 2015**

Dr. Henry Johnson, Interim Deputy State Superintendent  
 Dr. Douglas Strader, Director of Assessment  
 Chandra Haislet, Director of Accountability


## Agenda

- New Test, New Baseline
- Reportable Scores
- Maryland High School PARCC Results
- Resources for Understanding
- Timeline and Next Steps




### New Test, New Baseline

The first year of new assessments are a baseline from which to progress and measure against moving forward.



1990-2001 Maryland Functional Testing → 2003 -> High School Assessment → 2015 -> PARCC Algebra I, Algebra II, English 10

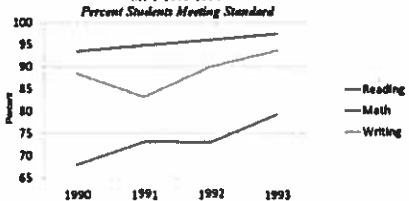


### New Assessment: Baseline Year through Year 4


The Maryland Functional Test (MFT) was administered in the 1990's. The greatest improvement over time was in mathematics (11% increase).

*MFT 1990-1994*

*Percent Students Meeting Standard*

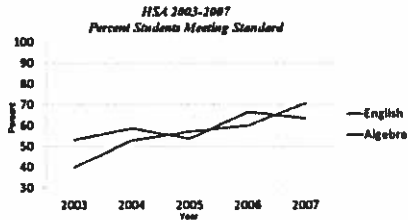


MFT Gr 9	Percent Meeting Standard			
	1990	1991	1992	1993
Reading	93	95	96	97
Math	66	73	73	79
Writing	88	83	90	94



### New Assessment: Baseline Year through Year 5

The High School Assessment (HSA) was administered in the 2000's. The greatest improvement was in English with a better than 30% gain in the first 5 years of the assessment.



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
English	39.8	52.0	57.3	60.1	70.9
Algebra	53.3	58.8	52.8	66.0	63.3



### Reported Scores

In order to have a reportable score for 2014-2015, a student must have participated in both the spring performance-based (PBA) and late spring end-of-year (EOY) testing window.

- In 2014-2015, students that completed only the PBA OR EOY do not have reportable scores.
- All students who took either the PBA or EOY met the high school participation requirement.
- In 2015-2016, the PARCC assessments will be given during one window after 80% of course completion.



### Maryland 2015 Results: PARCC Test Takers

- Over 90% of students who completed each PARCC high school assessment completed both the PBA and EOY.

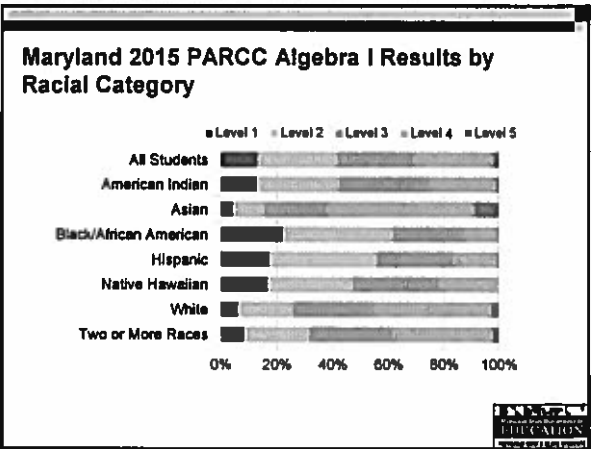
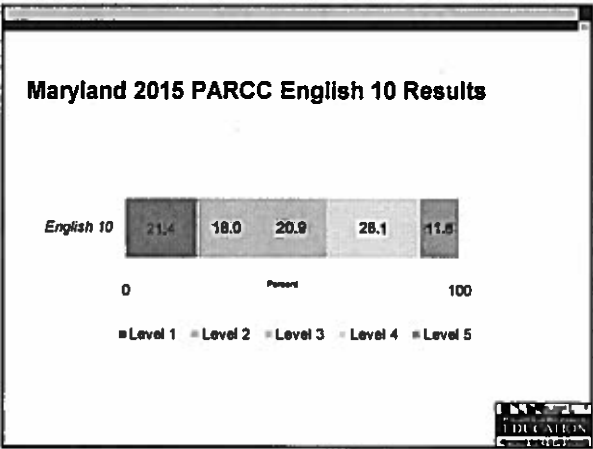
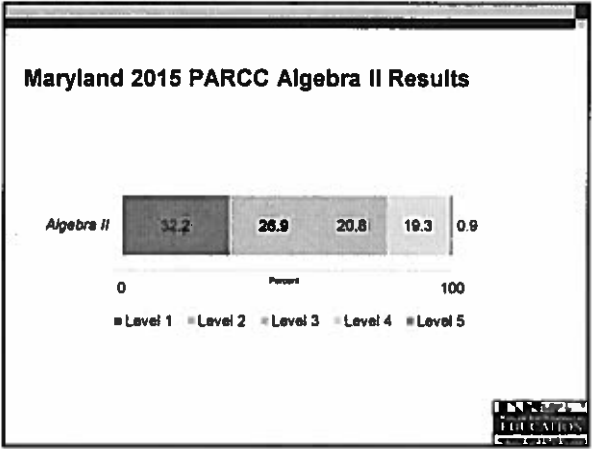
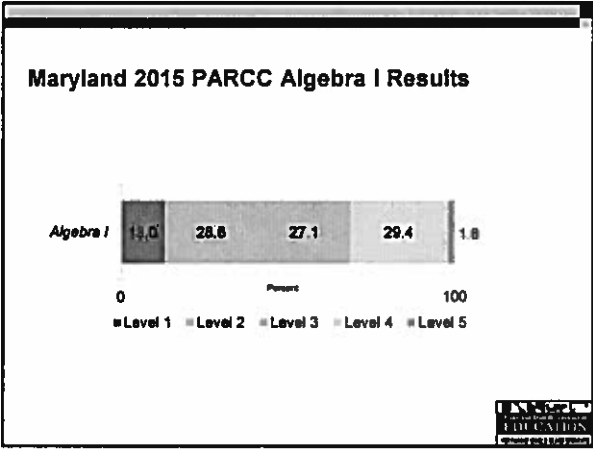
Algebra I = 58,885      Algebra II = 37,644      English 10 = 52,169

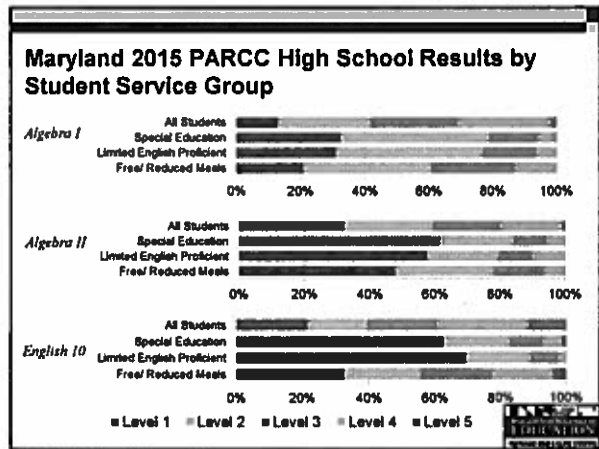
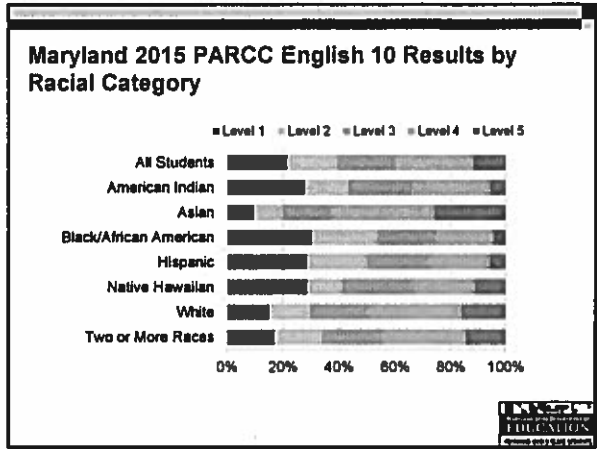
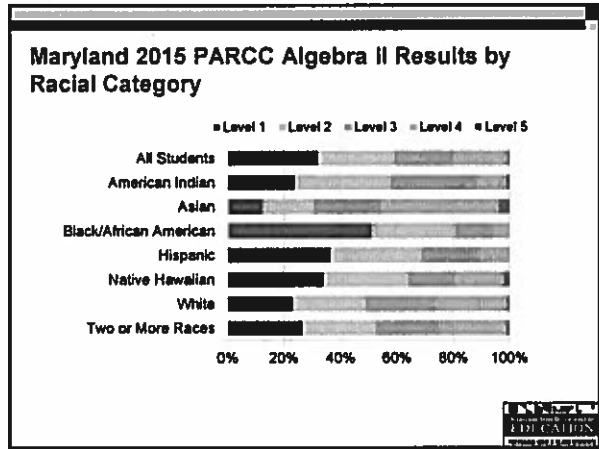


### Maryland 2015 Results: Performance Level Description

- PARCC performance levels describe how well students met the academic expectations.
  - Level 5: Exceeded expectations
  - Level 4: Met expectations
  - Level 3: Approached expectations
  - Level 2: Partially met expectations
  - Level 1: Did not yet meet expectations
- The Maryland State Board of Education will determine the performance level to meet the graduation assessment requirement which equates to achievement of Maryland College and Career Ready Standards.







### The Score Report

**POSTASSESSMENT LITERACY**  
 See if your child's score meets or exceeds the state standard for English Language Arts/Literacy.

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS / LITERACY**  
**Grade 10 Assessment Report, 2014-2015**

This report provides information about how your child performed on the PARCC English Language Arts/Literacy assessment. It shows whether your child met or exceeded expectations and if your child is on track for college and career.

The test is not too difficult and does not test reading or writing skills. Other students, such as grade 10 teachers, students, and others who take the test will help determine your child's assessment results and needs.

To learn more about the test and to view sample questions or practice tests, visit [test.illustrations.org](http://test.illustrations.org).

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS / LITERACY PERFORMANCE**

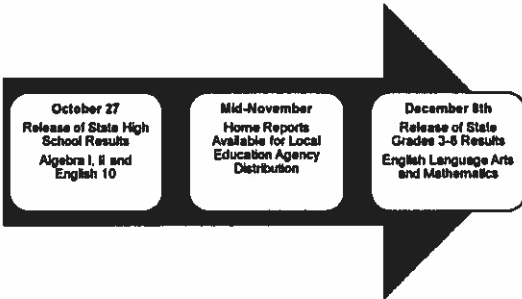
**Level 3**  
 Top performance at level 3 indicates a score of 300.

Score ranges for each level:  
 Level 1: 100-150 | Level 2: 150-200 | Level 3: 200-250 | Level 4: 250-300 | Level 5: 300-350

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✓ Resource for parents: <http://understandthecore.org>

## Timeline for Release of PARCC Results



## Accountability Update

(Elementary and Secondary Education Act – ESEA)

- The ESEA stakeholder workgroup is meeting to finalize school accountability recommendations. (November-December 2015)
- The State Board will receive recommendations on the use of PARCC data to determine Year 1 accountability baselines for schools in December 2015, with final approval in January 2016.
- MSDE will prepare ESEA amendments on school accountability for discussion by the State Board in December 2015 and review by the General Assembly.
- The U.S. Department of Education must accept and approve the plan after its submission.

