

April 2023 Updates for Blueprint Steering Committees

Policy Area 1- Early Childhood Education

The Office of Early Childhood hosted the Early Learning Launch on April 15, 2023. The event featured school readiness activities, resources from community partners, a school bus tour, and support for prekindergarten and kindergarten applications. Over 170 families attended the event to learn about early childhood initiatives in Charles County.

Policy Area 2- Diverse Teachers and Leaders

Charles County Public Schools hosted two informational sessions in the month of April for current teachers to learn about the National Board Certification process and the supports provided by CCPS. Participants had the opportunity to attend sessions either virtually or in-person. National Board Certified Teachers (NBCT) receive additional salary increases. CCPS has created specific supports for teachers pursuing this certification to include information about the process, guidance from mentors, and peer feedback.

Policy Area 3- College and Career Readiness (CCR)

The Early College Program provides accepted students with access to tuition-free college courses. Through this program, students earn college credits that can transfer following their high school graduation. Representatives from CCPS and the College of Southern Maryland reviewed applications and scored essays to determine the eligibility of students during the month of April. 80 students were accepted into the one-year graduate certificate program and 90 students were accepted into the two-year Business Administration associate degree program.

Policy Area 4- More Resources to Ensure All Students are Successful

In the January 2023 monthly Blueprint update, a presentation about the Charles County Department of Health grant request to Maryland Community Health Resources Commission to implement a school-based health center (SBHC) at Indian Head Elementary School was shared. The grant to the commission would cover the cost of employee salaries and benefits, furniture and supplies, training and other non-construction related needs. This expansion of services aligns with the goals of the Blueprint, as well as the needs of the community. The grant team has learned the grant money will be awarded contingent on receiving the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funds requested from the Charles County Board of Commissioners.

Policy Area 5- Governance and Accountability

Charles County Public Schools received feedback on its March 15, 2023 submission of the Blueprint Plan that was submitted to the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and the Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB). CCPS received positive and actionable feedback to expand the plan. MSDE has provided several opportunities for school systems to revise plans through June 27, 2023. The schedule is listed below.

Revision Group	LEAs Revise Plans	MSDE Reviews Plans	MSDE Submits Recommendations to AIB
1	April 26 - May 9	May 10 - May 15	May 16
2*	May 16 - May 30	May 31 - June 5	June 6
3*	June 6 - June 20	June 21 - June 26	June 27