

October 2023 Updates for Blueprint Steering Committees

Policy Area 1- Early Childhood Education

The CCPS Title I Office continues to develop partnerships with childcare providers who operate or serve children in Title I school zones. Fifteen childcare providers attended Title I's Childcare Providers Collaboration meeting on October 18, 2023. Through this partnership, Title I will continue to support early childhood programs, assist in the Maryland EXCELS program, provide learning resources, and offer free training to early childhood providers aimed at building professional knowledge and providing Core of Knowledge credits in the Maryland EXCELS program. Additionally, providers working towards accreditation will receive site visits, materials, and support from the Title I Early Childhood Community Liaison.

Policy Area 2- Diverse Teachers and Leaders

The Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB) and Maryland State Board of Education (MSDE) was scheduled to share career ladder updates with LEA reps, association reps, and other selected individuals on October 27, 2023. The meeting was cancelled and was rescheduled November 17, 2023. Additional updates will be shared in the November updates.

Policy Area 3- College and Career Readiness (CCR)

Students in grades 9 through 12 who attend Henry E. Lackey, La Plata, Maurice J. McDonough, Thomas Stone, and Westlake high schools have the opportunity to earn high school graduation requirements outside of the regular school day by completing an extended-day course for original credit. As North Point and St. Charles high schools operate on a block schedule versus a period schedule used by the five other high schools, students at North Point and St. Charles are currently eligible to complete eight credits per school year. The courses are taught using the online APEX/Edmentum learning platform with deadlines set for unit completion. The first semester courses started on October 16, 2023, and run until January 19, 2024. A total of 237 high school students have taken advantage of this free opportunity.

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

CCPS hosted an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) night on October 26, 2023, at Hanson Middle School. Over 600 guests were present to participate in an evening of family games, activities, and crafts from all over the world. There were many CCPS students present at the event to help facilitate and perform including students from North Point High Schools criminal justice and World Language National Honors programs and performers from the Phoenix International School of the Arts (PISOTA).

Policy Area 5- Governance and Accountability

The AIB is providing each district with an opportunity to collaborate with a strategic facilitator over the 2023-24 school year. The purpose of the collaboration between the strategic facilitator and the district is to support the transformation required by the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. The focus of the work will be around establishing a career ladder, strengthening the grow-your-own program, and evaluating current CTE pathways. The AIB will pay each strategic facilitator up to \$100,000 for their work with a district. CCPS is happy to welcome Jason Dougal, Chief Operating Officer of National Center on Education and the Economy, as its strategic facilitator.