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INFORMATION

Office of Shared Accountability
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

October 4, 2011

MEMORANDUM

To: High School Principals

From: Adrian B. Talley, Associate Superintendent 

Subject: INFORMATION: 2010–2011 Grade 10 PSAT Participation

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you of a business rule change that affects the PSAT participation rate calculation. Based on input from stakeholders, including principals, the Office of Shared Accountability (OSA) revised the formula that is used to calculate Grade 10 PSAT participation. This new business rule is being applied beginning with the 2010–2011 school year. The rationale for this rule change is that Regulation JEB-RA, *Placement, Promotion, Acceleration, and Retention of Students*, was revised in 2010 to base the promotion of Grade 10 students on credits earned. The revised regulation may be found at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/policy/pdf/jebra.pdf. As a result, Grade 10 repeaters who took the PSAT in the prior year but did not test the current year will be included in the participation rate calculation.

A total of 706 students who repeated Grade 10 in 2010–2011 had PSAT scores in the prior year. As these students are now included in the participation rate, the revision increased the overall participation rate. Rates from years prior to 2010–2011 are not directly comparable without considering this rule change. Prior years' data cannot be adjusted (reconstructed for comparability) because the fundamental basis and rationale for the promotion decision was different.

The attached Tables A1 and A2 provide data on Grade 10 PSAT participation by school and student group for 2010–2011. The data are reported based on the new rule. If you have questions about the PSAT participation data, please contact Dr. Vasuki Rethinam, supervisor, Applied Research Unit, OSA, at 301-279-3564 or via e-mail.

ABT:vr

Attachments

Copy to:

- Executive Staff
- Mrs. Collins
- Mrs. Green
- Dr. Rethinam
- Dr. Steinberg
- Dr. Mugge


Approved: 
Frieda K. Lacey, Deputy Superintendent of Schools

Table A1
 Percentage of MCPS Grade 10 Students Who
 Took the PSAT in 2010–2011 by Cluster Group and High School

High School	N Students ^a 2011	N Students Took PSAT 2011	% Students Took PSAT 2011
All Students	11532	10457	90.7
Blake	526	458	87.1
Paint Branch	457	421	92.1
Sherwood	547	521	95.2
Springbrook	477	354	74.2
Churchill	515	492	95.5
Richard Montgomery	542	497	91.7
Poolesville	316	311	98.4
Rockville	306	286	93.5
Wootton	589	571	96.9
Clarksburg	458	395	86.2
Northwest	599	576	96.2
Quince Orchard	460	424	92.2
Seneca Valley	351	336	95.7
Blair	763	713	93.4
Einstein	382	332	86.9
Kennedy	361	318	88.1
Northwood	381	338	88.7
Bethesda-Chevy Chase	508	474	93.3
Walter Johnson	544	519	95.4
Wheaton	232	207	89.2
Whitman	493	465	94.3
Damascus	348	328	94.3
Gaithersburg	515	409	79.4
Magruder	445	315	70.8
Watkins Mill	417	397	95.2

Note. Results are calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on October 13, 2010, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, students enrolled in English for Speakers of Other Languages Levels 1 or 2, and special education students who were eligible to take the Alt-MSA (e.g., students enrolled in learning for independence, extension, or community-based special education programs). Students who repeated Grade 10 in 2011 and took the PSAT in the 2009–2010 school year but did not take the PSAT in the 2010–2011 school year are included in the numerator.

^aStudents who took the PSAT received scores for all three subtests, namely, critical reading, math, and writing. Students who completed at least part of a subtest received a score for that test. PSAT test takers missing scores for one or more subtests were 0.3% in Grade 10.

Table A2
 Percentage of MCPS Grade 10 Students Who Took the PSAT in 2010–2011 by
 Cluster Group, High School, Racial/Ethnic, Gender, and Service Group

Cluster Group and High School	All		AS		BL		HI		WH		MU		Male		Female		Spec. Ed.		ESOL		FARMS	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
All	11532	90.7	1564	97.2	2611	88.4	2724	82.3	4134	94.7	472	94.5	5900	89.5	5632	91.9	1269	84.1	475	77.1	3324	82.8
Blake	526	87.1	43	97.7	236	84.7	106	76.4	122	95.9	16	100.0	252	82.1	274	91.6	37	67.6	3	--	167	76.0
Paint Branch	457	92.1	73	97.3	247	90.7	69	87.0	45	97.8	22	95.5	238	89.9	219	94.5	34	88.2	1	--	161	87.6
Sherwood	547	95.2	59	100.0	81	97.5	67	92.5	310	94.8	27	92.6	279	97.8	268	92.5	46	89.1	30	90.0	71	91.5
Springbrook	477	74.2	52	96.2	202	81.2	168	54.2	42	92.9	13	76.9	279	73.1	198	75.8	60	63.3	28	50.0	242	60.3
Churchill	515	95.5	111	96.4	34	94.1	38	92.1	309	95.5	23	100.0	274	95.3	241	95.9	58	84.5	0	--	28	96.4
Richard Montgomery	542	91.7	125	95.2	90	87.8	114	86.0	182	93.4	29	100.0	255	90.6	287	92.7	48	83.3	34	55.9	133	88.0
Poolesville	316	98.4	65	100.0	16	93.8	23	100.0	197	98.0	15	100.0	148	98.0	168	98.8	23	95.7	0	--	22	95.5
Rockville	306	93.5	35	91.4	39	94.9	101	90.1	116	95.7	14	100.0	162	93.2	144	93.8	38	92.1	19	84.2	105	87.6
Wootton	589	96.9	184	99.5	32	100.0	41	95.1	299	95.0	31	100.0	295	96.9	294	96.9	46	91.3	7	85.7	36	97.2
Clarksburg	458	86.2	73	94.5	135	80.7	102	78.4	137	92.0	10	100.0	221	82.4	237	89.9	57	80.7	13	69.2	143	79.0
Northwest	599	96.2	106	100.0	169	93.5	109	97.2	187	95.7	27	96.3	312	93.9	287	98.6	80	88.8	0	--	153	94.1
Quince Orchard	460	92.2	64	98.4	76	84.2	99	88.9	202	94.1	18	100.0	244	91.4	216	93.1	66	87.9	11	90.9	121	85.1
Seneca Valley	351	95.7	33	100.0	121	95.0	84	95.2	98	94.9	14	100.0	183	96.7	168	94.6	38	94.7	22	90.9	147	93.9
Blair	763	93.4	115	97.4	193	92.2	248	88.3	172	98.3	34	100.0	390	94.4	373	92.5	58	87.9	63	92.1	311	89.4
Einstein	382	86.9	30	100.0	83	90.4	177	82.5	73	87.7	19	89.5	195	84.1	187	89.8	45	84.4	30	90.0	185	83.8
Kennedy	361	88.1	34	97.1	143	87.4	147	84.4	28	96.4	8	100.0	178	84.3	183	91.8	58	84.5	18	77.8	194	84.5
Northwood	381	88.7	18	94.4	102	88.2	159	87.4	87	90.8	13	84.6	193	90.2	188	87.2	68	83.8	20	75.0	178	85.4
Bethesda-Chevy Chase	508	93.3	23	91.3	82	92.7	81	87.7	303	95.4	18	88.9	251	92.4	257	94.2	43	88.4	11	72.7	49	77.6
Walter Johnson	544	95.4	76	100.0	43	90.7	105	93.3	292	95.2	27	100.0	281	96.1	263	94.7	68	88.2	24	91.7	63	92.1
Wheaton	232	89.2	16	87.5	49	93.9	145	86.9	19	94.7	3	--	135	85.2	97	94.8	24	83.3	32	84.4	154	90.9
Whitman	493	94.3	64	96.9	17	88.2	36	86.1	352	94.9	23	95.7	239	95.0	254	93.7	56	89.3	25	72.0	17	82.4
Damascus	348	94.3	11	90.9	31	90.3	39	84.6	245	97.6	21	81.0	165	93.9	183	94.5	44	84.1	0	--	45	82.2
Gaithersburg	515	79.4	48	95.8	141	82.3	191	67.5	115	88.7	18	77.8	263	76.8	252	82.1	69	69.6	35	62.9	231	71.9
Magruder	445	70.8	66	90.9	95	68.4	139	48.2	127	85.8	17	82.4	241	66.4	204	76.0	44	63.6	24	25.0	160	53.1
Watkins Mill	417	95.2	40	100.0	154	96.1	136	92.6	75	96.0	12	91.7	227	96.0	190	94.2	61	95.1	25	96.0	208	93.8

Note. Results are calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on October 13, 2010, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, students enrolled in ESOL Levels 1 or 2, and special education students who were eligible to take the Alt-MSA (e.g., students enrolled in learning for independence, extension, or community-based special education programs). American Indian and Pacific Islander students are not reported separately but are included with all students. Results are not reported (--) for groups with fewer than five students. Students who repeated Grade 10 in 2011 and took the PSAT in the 2009–2010 school year but did not take the PSAT in the 2010–2011 school year are included in the numerator.

AS = Asian; BL = Black or African American; HI = Hispanic/Latino; WH = White; MU = Two or More Races; Spec. Ed. = Special Education; ESOL = English for Speakers of Other Languages; FARMS = Free and Reduced-price Meals System.