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INFORMATION

Office of Shared Accountability
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

September 17, 2015

MEMORANDUM

To: High School Principals

From: Maria V. Navarro, Chief Academic Officer

Subject: INFORMATION: ACT Participation and Performance for Montgomery County Public Schools Students

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Class of 2015 graduates outperformed graduates across Maryland and the nation on all sections of the ACT. For the past five years, MCPS graduates have outpaced the state and the nation in performance on the ACT.

ACT participation among MCPS students has steadily increased from 3,022 in 2011 to 3,545 in 2015, according to the ACT, Inc. report. More specifically, 34 percent of MCPS graduates in the Class of 2015 took the ACT; an increase of 4 percentage points compared to last year. ACT, Inc. has established benchmarks related to students' readiness for college-level coursework in English composition, algebra, social science, and biology. Consistent with last year, 77 percent of the Class of 2015 met the English Composition benchmark. For the remaining areas, 62 percent met the College Algebra benchmark (a 1 percentage point decrease), 64 percent met the Social Science benchmark (a 6 percentage point increase), and 58 percent met the Biology benchmark (a 3 percentage point increase). In addition to providing data on individual benchmarks, ACT also provides the percentage of graduates meeting all four college readiness benchmark scores. Forty-eight percent of the Class of 2015 met all four college readiness benchmark scores according to ACT, Inc. (an increase of 3 percentage points).

Further, MCPS graduates outscored their state and national peers in each of the four subject areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science (Table 1).

Table 1
Class of 2015 ACT Mean Subtest and Composite Scores for MCPS, Maryland, and the Nation

ACT Subtest	MCPS	Maryland	Nation
Composite	23.9	22.7	21.0
English	23.5	22.3	20.4
Mathematics	23.8	22.5	20.8
Reading	24.3	23.2	21.4
Science	23.7	22.5	20.9

Note. Results for MCPS are based on MCPS-verified records and may differ slightly from ACT records.

Consistent with trends of prior years, the average composite score for MCPS graduates continued to rise (23.9 in 2015 compared to 23.2 in 2011) (Table 2). A slight increase also was observed for graduates in Maryland (22.7 in 2015 compared with 22.1 in 2011), and for graduates across the nation there was a slight decrease from 21.1 in 2011 to 21.0 in 2015.

Table 2
Average Composite Scores for MCPS, Maryland, and the Nation 2010 Through 2014

Year	MCPS	Maryland	Nation
2011	23.2	22.1	21.1
2012	23.2	22.1	21.1
2013	23.4	22.3	20.9
2014	23.7	22.6	21.0
2015	23.9	22.7	21.0

Note. Results for MCPS are based on MCPS-verified records and may differ slightly from ACT records.

More detailed data on ACT participation and performance for the Class of 2015 graduates by student groups and by high schools are provided in the attached tables. The results are based on MCPS-verified records and may differ slightly from the data reported by ACT, Inc.

If you have questions about ACT participation and performance, please contact Dr. Kecia L. Addison, supervisor, applied research, Office of Shared Accountability, at 301-279-3194.

MVN:kla

Attachment

Copy to:

Executive Staff
 Dr. Addison
 Mrs. Collins
 High School Administrative Secretaries
 Ms. Powell
 Dr. Steinberg
 Mr. Koutsos
 Mr. Lloyd

Table A1
ACT Participation and Most Recent Mean ACT Composite Scores for the MCPS Classes of 2012–2015 by Student Group

Student Group	N Graduates				N Took ACT				% Took ACT				Composite Score			
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2012	2013	2014	2015	2012	2013	2014	2015	2012	2013	2014	2015
MCPS	10,322	10,448	10,664	10,353	3,094	3,065	3,143	3,524	30.0	29.3	29.5	34.0	23	23	24	24
Male	5,145	5,251	5,335	5,187	1,386	1,362	1,406	1,649	26.9	25.9	26.4	31.8	23	24	24	24
Female	5,177	5,197	5,329	5,166	1,708	1,703	1,737	1,875	33.0	32.8	32.6	36.3	23	23	23	24
Asian	1,564	1,549	1,696	1,628	373	352	406	512	23.8	22.7	23.9	31.4	25	26	26	26
Black or African American	2,248	2,231	2,309	2,363	718	648	654	801	31.9	29.0	28.3	33.9	18	18	19	19
Hispanic/Latino	2,199	2,299	2,462	2,416	414	390	461	474	18.8	17.0	18.7	19.6	20	21	21	21
White	3,962	3,907	3,772	3,514	1,485	1,532	1,493	1,586	37.5	39.2	39.6	45.1	26	26	26	26
Two or More Races	323	437	406	408	101	138	124	146	31.3	31.6	30.5	35.8	24	25	25	25
FARMS	2,303	2,427	2,590	2,628	565	530	607	618	24.5	21.8	23.4	23.5	18	19	19	19
Special Education	877	1,005	972	881	207	239	201	214	23.6	23.8	20.7	24.3	20	20	20	20
LEP	572	530	631	583	126	82	132	94	22.0	15.5	20.9	16.1	17	17	17	18

Note. The results are based on MCPS-verified records and may differ slightly from ACT records. Mean ACT composite scores are rounded to nearest integer. Scores are based on most recent ACT test. FARMS = Free and Reduced-price Meals System; LEP = Limited English Proficient. Results for MCPS American Indian and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students are included with all students, but are not reported separately.

Table A2
ACT Participation and Most Recent Mean ACT Composite Scores for the MCPS Class of 2015 by High School

High School	N Graduates	N Took ACT	% Took ACT	Composite Score
MCPS ^a	10,353	3,524	34.0	24
Bethesda-Chevy Chase	454	171	37.7	26
Montgomery Blair	650	152	23.4	27
James Hubert Blake	377	148	39.3	21
Winston Churchill	448	228	50.9	28
Clarksburg	461	133	28.9	22
Damascus	310	103	33.2	23
Albert Einstein	377	72	19.1	22
Gaithersburg	464	98	21.1	21
Walter Johnson	547	211	38.6	27
John F. Kennedy	351	88	25.1	19
Col. Zadok Magruder	378	117	31.0	24
Richard Montgomery	523	157	30.0	26
Northwest	474	112	23.6	22
Northwood	336	86	25.6	21
Paint Branch	450	119	26.4	20
Poolesville	297	144	48.5	28
Quince Orchard	411	185	45.0	23
Rockville	277	90	32.5	22
Seneca Valley	279	53	19.0	20
Sherwood	475	226	47.6	23
Springbrook	375	125	33.3	20
Watkins Mill	314	152	48.4	19
Wheaton	282	84	29.8	21
Walt Whitman	448	197	44.0	28
Thomas S. Wootton	551	273	49.5	27

Note. The results are based on MCPS-verified records and may differ slightly from ACT records. Mean ACT composite scores are rounded to nearest integer. Scores are based on most recent ACT test.

^a Includes graduates enrolled in special schools during Grade 12.

Table A3
ACT Participation for the MCPS Class of 2015 by High School and Race/Ethnicity

High School	Asian			Black or African American			Hispanic/Latino			White			Two or More Races		
	N Grads	N Took	% Took	N Grads	N Took	% Took	N Grads	N Took	% Took	N Grads	N Took	% Took	N Grads	N Took	% Took
MCPS ^a	1,628	512	31.4	2,363	801	33.9	2,416	474	19.6	3,514	1,586	45.1	408	146	35.8
Bethesda-Chevy Chase	27	8	29.6	71	26	36.6	57	16	28.1	276	109	39.5	23	12	52.2
Montgomery Blair	116	32	27.6	180	35	19.4	160	13	8.1	162	59	36.4	30	12	40.0
James Hubert Blake	31	15	48.4	181	69	38.1	71	21	29.6	80	37	46.3	--	--	33.3
Winston Churchill	113	43	38.1	30	8	26.7	45	22	48.9	249	151	60.6	--	--	40.0
Clarksburg	88	22	25.0	124	40	32.3	101	17	16.8	132	50	37.9	--	--	25.0
Damascus	--	--	18.8	30	11	36.7	55	10	18.2	199	74	37.2	--	--	50.0
Albert Einstein	50	16	32.0	91	24	26.4	153	13	8.5	77	18	23.4	--	--	--
Gaithersburg	60	20	33.3	124	27	21.8	167	20	12.0	92	28	30.4	--	--	10.0
Walter Johnson	71	24	33.8	58	24	41.4	90	25	27.8	299	127	42.5	29	11	37.9
John F. Kennedy	37	6	16.2	147	44	29.9	143	30	21.0	--	--	38.9	--	--	--
Col. Zadok Magruder	54	10	18.5	77	26	33.8	118	13	11.0	117	64	54.7	--	--	33.3
Richard Montgomery	144	43	29.9	83	27	32.5	120	22	18.3	148	57	38.5	25	8	32.0
Northwest	102	24	23.5	111	24	21.6	105	12	11.4	131	49	37.4	25	3	12.0
Northwood	24	6	25.0	91	30	33.0	156	22	14.1	52	25	48.1	--	--	27.3
Paint Branch	80	21	26.3	235	70	29.8	66	9	13.6	48	12	25.0	--	--	36.8
Poolesville	64	29	45.3	--	--	50.0	--	--	46.7	178	91	51.1	--	--	40.0
Quince Orchard	51	16	31.4	62	37	59.7	84	20	23.8	195	105	53.8	--	--	38.9
Rockville	29	7	24.1	44	14	31.8	88	22	25.0	107	45	42.1	--	--	--
Seneca Valley	30	4	13.3	101	21	20.8	64	7	10.9	64	16	25.0	--	--	27.8
Sherwood	56	25	44.6	88	42	47.7	59	19	32.2	253	132	52.2	--	--	47.1
Springbrook	56	21	37.5	151	63	41.7	129	31	24.0	32	10	31.3	--	--	--
Watkins Mill	37	17	45.9	125	83	66.4	116	38	32.8	22	10	45.5	--	--	23.1
Wheaton	29	11	37.9	66	23	34.8	160	38	23.8	22	8	36.4	--	--	--
Walt Whitman	53	15	28.3	23	8	34.8	40	10	25.0	305	148	48.5	27	16	59.3
Thomas S. Wootton	209	74	35.4	35	16	45.7	38	17	44.7	248	154	62.1	--	--	60.0

Note. The results are based on MCPS-verified records and may differ slightly from ACT records. Results for American Indian and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students are included with all students but are not reported separately. Results are not reported (--) for groups with fewer than ten graduates.

^a Includes graduates enrolled in special schools during Grade 12.

Table A4
ACT Participation for the MCPS Class of 2015 by High School, Gender, and Service Group

High School	Male			Female			FARMS			Special Education			LEP		
	N Grads	N Took	% Took	N Grads	N Took	% Took	N Grads	N Took	% Took	N Grads	N Took	% Took	N Grads	N Took	% Took
MCPS ^a	5,187	1,649	31.8	5,166	1,875	36.3	2,628	618	23.5	881	214	24.3	583	94	16.1
Bethesda-Chevy Chase	221	70	31.7	233	101	43.3	45	13	28.9	36	13	36.1	29	4	13.8
Montgomery Blair	341	80	23.5	309	72	23.3	204	21	10.3	42	9	21.4	47	3	6.4
James Hubert Blake	182	59	32.4	195	89	45.6	100	37	37.0	29	5	17.2	--	--	--
Winston Churchill	222	108	48.6	226	120	53.1	--	--	27.8	39	19	48.7	--	--	--
Clarksburg	239	70	29.3	222	63	28.4	124	24	19.4	48	10	20.8	--	--	23.5
Damascus	159	42	26.4	151	61	40.4	44	8	18.2	25	3	12.0	--	--	--
Albert Einstein	174	27	15.5	203	45	22.2	165	29	17.6	40	7	17.5	36	2	5.6
Gaithersburg	224	38	17.0	240	60	25.0	179	24	13.4	49	4	8.2	38	4	10.5
Walter Johnson	261	109	41.8	286	102	35.7	42	5	11.9	55	13	23.6	30	2	6.7
John F. Kennedy	160	29	18.1	191	59	30.9	174	45	25.9	26	3	11.5	27	4	14.8
Col. Zadok Magruder	193	58	30.1	185	59	31.9	122	15	12.3	30	4	13.3	--	--	14.3
Richard Montgomery	253	67	26.5	270	90	33.3	114	24	21.1	42	6	14.3	35	3	8.6
Northwest	254	70	27.6	220	42	19.1	121	17	14.0	43	4	9.3	--	--	--
Northwood	150	27	18.0	186	59	31.7	140	24	17.1	40	8	20.0	32	4	12.5
Paint Branch	216	46	21.3	234	73	31.2	131	33	25.2	28	6	21.4	--	--	25.0
Poolesville	149	80	53.7	148	64	43.2	24	8	33.3	--	--	31.6	--	--	--
Quince Orchard	205	87	42.4	206	98	47.6	92	40	43.5	42	13	31.0	--	--	23.5
Rockville	125	32	25.6	152	58	38.2	77	23	29.9	26	7	26.9	--	--	12.5
Seneca Valley	149	25	16.8	130	28	21.5	105	17	16.2	21	3	14.3	21	3	14.3
Sherwood	238	116	48.7	237	110	46.4	75	25	33.3	40	16	40.0	46	13	28.3
Springbrook	208	62	29.8	167	63	37.7	162	49	30.2	27	8	29.6	22	9	40.9
Watkins Mill	166	75	45.2	148	77	52.0	161	78	48.4	26	7	26.9	30	8	26.7
Wheaton	157	43	27.4	125	41	32.8	157	45	28.7	22	2	9.1	44	7	15.9
Walt Whitman	231	91	39.4	217	106	48.8	--	--	--	38	18	47.4	30	5	16.7
Thomas S. Wootton	285	138	48.4	266	135	50.8	24	8	33.3	31	20	64.5	--	--	≤5.0

Note. The results are based on MCPS-verified records and may differ slightly from ACT records. FARMS = Free and Reduced-price Meals System; LEP = Limited English Proficient. Results are not reported (--) for groups with fewer than ten graduates.

^a Includes graduates enrolled in special schools during Grade 12.

Table A5
Most Recent Mean ACT Composite Score for the MCPS Class of 2014 by High School and Student Group

High School	Asian	Black or African American	Hispanic/Latino	White	Two or More Races	Male	Female	FARMS	Special Education	LEP
MCPS ^a	26	19	21	26	25	24	24	19	20	18
Bethesda-Chevy Chase	24	21	27	28	26	27	26	21	22	20
Montgomery Blair	32	18	23	29	29	28	26	18	18	18
James Hubert Blake	23	19	19	25	22	20	21	19	19	18
Winston Churchill	29	23	25	28	27	28	27	18	23	21
Clarksburg	26	18	20	24	25	22	22	18	17	20
Damascus	28	18	24	24	25	24	23	20	18	20
Albert Einstein	25	20	20	23	15	22	22	20	19	17
Gaithersburg	25	19	19	23	25	22	21	20	17	20
Walter Johnson	27	21	24	28	26	27	27	21	25	17
John F. Kennedy	22	18	18	22	16	20	18	18	13	17
Col. Zadok Magruder	26	20	23	26	25	24	24	21	19	21
Richard Montgomery	28	23	22	28	29	27	26	21	20	19
Northwest	25	18	20	23	26	22	23	20	17	NA
Northwood	21	19	19	24	23	21	21	18	19	18
Paint Branch	22	18	19	24	21	21	19	18	15	15
Poolesville	32	23	23	27	27	29	27	21	24	NA
Quince Orchard	24	19	19	25	24	23	23	19	18	17
Rockville	24	18	20	24	21	23	22	19	18	14
Seneca Valley	22	16	21	22	23	20	19	18	17	15
Sherwood	24	19	22	24	26	23	23	20	18	15
Springbrook	23	18	19	25	NA	20	20	19	15	17
Watkins Mill	20	18	18	21	17	19	19	18	18	18
Wheaton	21	20	20	24	29	20	21	20	15	16
Walt Whitman	25	23	30	29	26	28	28	25	27	23
Thomas S. Wootton	28	22	25	28	26	28	26	23	23	NA

Note. The results are based on MCPS-verified records and may differ slightly from ACT records. Mean ACT composite scores are rounded to nearest integer. Scores are based on most recent ACT test. FARMS = Free and Reduced-price Meals System; LEP = Limited English Proficient. Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students are included with all students but are not reported separately. Scores are based on most recent ACT test. Results are not reported (--) for groups with fewer than ten graduates. NA = not applicable as there were no testers.

^a Includes graduates enrolled in special schools during Grade 12.