

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

January 22, 2015

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Joshua P. Starr, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Maryland State Department of Education Graduation Rate Release

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide you with graduation rate data scheduled to be released by the Maryland State Department of Education on Tuesday, January 27, 2015.

The graduation rate for Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) students for the 2013–2014 school year is 89.7 percent. This represents a 2.9 percentage point increase in the past three years. Additionally, MCPS has exceeded this year’s four-year cohort graduation rate Annual Measurable Objective by 2.1 percentage points for all students.

Table 1 provides trend data on the graduation rates for all MCPS students, by subgroup. Between the 2010–2011 cohort and the 2013–2014 cohort, the graduation rate increased for all subgroups. Students receiving special education services showed the largest improvement with an increase of 7.8 percentage points. Other notable increases in graduation rates are those students receiving Free and Reduced-price Meals System (FARMS) services (5.8 percentage point increase), Black or African American students (5.1 percentage point increase) and Hispanic/Latino students (4.7 percentage point increase).

Table 1
Final Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Trends for District by Subgroup for
Students in 2010–2011, 2011–2012, 2012–2013, and 2013–2014

Subgroups	2010–2011 Cohort	2011–2012 Cohort	2012–2013 Cohort	2013–2014 Cohort	3-year Rate Change
All Students	86.8	87.4	88.3	89.7	2.9
Asian	94.3	95.2	96.2	97.0	2.6
Black or African American	81.3	82.3	83.9	86.4	5.1
Hispanic/Latino	75.3	76.7	77.5	80.0	4.7
White	93.9	94.0	94.7	95.2	1.3
Two or More Races	92.0	90.8	92.9	93.4	1.4
Special Education	62.5	62.8	67.5	70.4	7.8
LEP	49.2	53.1	52.1	54.0	4.8
FARMS	75.2	76.6	78.1	81.0	5.8

Note. American Indian or Alaskan Native students and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students are included in the All Students group but not reported separately. LEP = Limited English Proficient. Change across cohorts is calculated from unrounded numbers and then the difference is reported to the nearest tenth.

Table 2 provides trend data on the four-year graduation rates for the All Students group for each MCPS high school. Of particular note are the increases of more than three percentage points in the graduation

rate from the 2010–2011 cohort to the 2013–2014 cohort at several MCPS high schools. These include Albert Einstein High School (increase of 4.0 percentage points), Gaithersburg High School (increase of 3.6 percentage points), Walter Johnson High School (increase of 3.3 percentage points), Col. Zadok Magruder High School (increase of 3.9 percentage points), Quince Orchard High School (increase of 6.3 percentage points), Rockville High School (increase of 7.0 percentage points), Seneca Valley High School (increase of 3.7 percentage points), Watkins Mill High School (increase of 7.2 percentage points), and Wheaton High School (increase of 4.1 percentage points). Ten other high schools also experienced increases in the four-year adjusted graduation rate.

Table 2
Final Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Trends by High School for
Students in 2010–2011, 2011–2012, 2012–2013, and 2013–2014

	2010–2011 Cohort	2011–2012 Cohort	2012–2013 Cohort	2013–2014 Cohort	3-year Rate Change
All Schools	86.8	87.4	88.3	89.7	2.9
Bethesda-Chevy Chase	93.8	94.4	96.7	93.7	-0.1
Montgomery Blair	85.8	85.4	88.4	87.5	1.7
James Hubert Blake	89.9	88.6	91.2	89.9	0.0
Winston Churchill	96.5	97.2	97.4	98.4	1.9
Clarksburg	89.1	88.6	92.4	90.2	1.1
Damascus	93.3	92.3	93.7	93.3	0.0
Albert Einstein	79.9	79.5	78.2	83.9	4.0
Gaithersburg	76.2	76.9	78.3	79.8	3.6
Walter Johnson	91.7	96.7	94.5	95.0	3.3
John F. Kennedy	82.0	81.5	77.5	80.1	-1.9
Col. Zadok Magruder	86.2	88.6	88.9	90.1	3.9
Richard Montgomery	90.3	89.3	88.6	89.8	-0.5
Northwest	92.5	91.1	94.8	92.8	0.3
Northwood	81.7	81.6	85.2	84.4	2.7
Paint Branch	86.6	87.5	88.0	89.2	2.6
Poolesville	98.5	97.8	96.9	98.4	-0.1
Quince Orchard	88.6	88.3	91.8	94.9	6.3
Rockville	83.1	85.7	90.5	90.1	7.0
Seneca Valley	79.5	81.5	82.1	83.2	3.7
Sherwood	93.4	92.9	93.6	95.1	1.7
Springbrook	83.3	81.5	85.5	85.1	1.8
Watkins Mill	83.5	85.3	85.1	90.7	7.2
Wheaton	74.1	76.1	68.6	78.2	4.1
Walt Whitman	95.4	95.1	93.6	97.3	1.9
Thomas S. Wootton	97.2	98.7	98.3	97.5	0.3

Note. Change across cohorts is calculated from unrounded numbers and the difference is reported to the nearest tenth.

If you have any questions about these data, please contact Mr. Geoffrey T. Sanderson, associate superintendent for shared accountability, Office of the Chief Academic Officer, at 301-279-3553.

JPS:MVN:GTS:ls1

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Executive Staff