

Dear MCPS Community:

I am writing to provide you with an update on the evaluation and selection of new curricular and instructional materials for K-8 English language arts (ELA) and mathematics, including Algebra 1. As we shared in a June 29, 2018 [message](#) we decided to postpone the effort until the start of the 2018-2019 school year to address unanticipated issues in the selection process.

I am pleased to share that we reissued the Request for Proposal (RFP) on August 20, 2018, and are planning on completing the evaluation and selection of finalists by November 2018 with final Board of Education approval to occur in January 2019.

MCPS is engaging in this process to acquire the most innovative curriculum that will help the district develop instructional strategies that support every learner in every classroom; create high levels of student interaction with rigorous and complex text; and establish deep levels of mathematical understanding aligned to grade-level standards. Additionally, the RFP now includes the following key revisions based on the feedback received from a wide range of stakeholders including parents, community partners, students, teachers, administrators and staff:

- ❖ Clearer expectations for professional development before, during and after rollout.
- ❖ More explicit language to address the needs for special populations (advanced learners, students receiving special education services, and English Language Learners).
- ❖ Inclusion of tools to engage parents in new and innovative ways.
- ❖ A materials summary that clearly outlines scope and sequence that dives deep into concepts and builds on prior knowledge.

Similar to Curriculum 2.0, the new instructional materials will remain aligned to the [Maryland College and Career Readiness Standards](#). The standards will provide the continuity as MCPS moves to new curricular and instructional materials. Therefore, regardless of when a school transitions to the new materials, **all** MCPS students will receive the same high-quality instruction aligned to the standards. The new materials will have strong advantages in terms of readily available materials for acceleration, students with disabilities and English Language Learners and will offer a balance between paper/pencil, hardbound materials and digital content.

Our goal remains the same—continue to provide high quality and engaging instruction, alongside resources that support and advance opportunities and access to every single student in all schools. As part of this effort and commitment to having all students meet their potential, we are making these enhancements to our curricula and providing additional professional development to encourage innovation and ensure successful instruction across the district.

The changes to the curricula will require a multi-year and multi-pronged effort to ensure a successful transition. In the coming months, we will share a detailed rollout plan which will include a timeline for when schools will begin implementation of the new curriculum.

During the next several months, we will continue to work with staff, members of the community and other stakeholders to gather feedback and further define the curriculum selection process. The timeline for the work is as follows:

Date	Action
August 2018	Release RFP
October-November 2018	Evaluation and Selection of Finalists
November 2018	Vendor finalist presentation to stakeholder and community groups
December 2018	Finalize recommendations
January 2019	Proposal for adoption by the Board of Education

We value your feedback and support and invite you to provide comments and pose questions about the evaluation and selection of new curricular and instructional materials through this [survey](#).

As we work through the process of selecting the finalists we will provide members of the community with opportunities to learn more about the finalists and their proposed curricular materials for the district. We thank you for your patience and ask you to continue to work with us as we move through the vendor evaluation and selection process in the coming months.

Please visit our [website](#) for regular updates on the curriculum selection process.

Thank You.

Best Regards,

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