


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

February 14, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Monique T. Felder, Interim Superintendent of Schools 

Subject: Curriculum Updates

During the November 9, 2023, discussion regarding agenda item 9.2, *Curriculum Updates*, Board member Ms. Lynne Harris, requested the following information:

Question

Please make sure there is a digital balance in education. We need to make sure that kids are picking up a book and reading versus always having their faces glued to a screen. Also, while the county is diverse, some schools have very little economic, cultural, or ethnic diversity, please make certain that our Professional Development is helping teachers teach the curricula to students who do not necessarily identify with the content of the materials presented.

Response

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) seeks to find vendor products that provide print reading materials. The selection of vendors that provide print reading materials is important because MCPS has immersion schools that teach social studies in Chinese, French, and Spanish. Therefore, materials must be provided in multiple languages.

MCPS provides professional development for teachers as well as guidance in lesson plans on sensitive topics. These experiences help teachers facilitate learning to prevent students from being traumatized as well as develop empathy for others who are not in their ethnic group.

If you have further questions, please contact Dr. Peggy A. Pugh, chief academic officer, or Ms. Niki T. Hazel, associate superintendent of curriculum and instructional programs, via email.

MTF:BJC:PAP:NTH:asj

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Executive Staff
Ms. Webb