



Pikesville High School

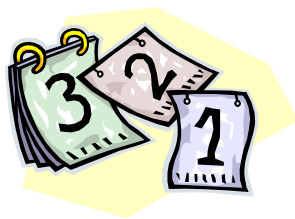
Pikesville High School Newsletter

7621 Labyrinth Road Baltimore MD 21208 PH 410-887-1217 Fax 410-486-8436

Principal: E. L. Mitzel, Jr.

Assistant Principals: Allen Brown, Joy O'Brien, Kevin Whatley

Calendar of Events



<i>March 24-26</i>	<i>School Play</i>	<i>7:30</i>
<i>March 27</i>	<i>School Play</i>	<i>1:30</i>
<i>March 30</i>	<i>Senior Presentation</i>	<i>2:30</i>
<i>March 31</i>	<i>Winter Sports Ceremony</i>	<i>7:00</i>
<i>March 31</i>	<i>End of 3rd quarter</i>	
<i>April 1</i>	<i>Senior Mock Interview Day - All Seniors</i>	
<i>April 4 - 8</i>	<i>HSA testing - Seniors only</i>	
<i>April 13</i>	<i>Hadassah's "Check it out" Breast Cancer Awareness Program</i>	
	<i>Junior & Senior females only</i>	
<i>April 14</i>	<i>Distribution of Report Cards</i>	

April 14	Talent Show	7:00
April 18 - 25	Spring Break	
April 26	School Reopens	
May 2	Interims - Seniors	
May 2	McCormick Unsung Hero Banquet Hunt Valley Marriott	6:30
May 9	Interims	
May 12	Parent conferences	2:30 - 5:00
May 16-June 3	HSA Testing	
May 26	Senior Prom	
May 27	Last day for Seniors	
May 30	Memorial Day - school closed	
June 1	Commencement rehearsal Towson University	8:30
June 1	Commencement Exercise	7:30
June 7	PTSA	7:00
June 15	3 hour early dismissal	
June 16	3 hour early dismissal	
June 17	3 hour early dismissal Last day for students	

Athletic Calendar

All athletic information may be found on the PHS website: www.phs.edu



Carson Scholars

A very special congratulation to **Evan Honig**, who has been selected as Pikesville's newest Carson Scholar! Congratulations to the following students: **Daniel Adamson and Stephanie Honig**. They have been renewed as Carson Scholars for the 2010-11 school year.

Second Semester Goals

It's hard to believe that we're into the second half of the school year! We are now already at the mid point of the third quarter. Interims were sent home on March 7 and Parent Conferences were held on March 10. NOW is the time to get in contact with your child's teacher and/or counselor to make arrangements to ensure their success for the third quarter and the remainder of the year.

Graduating Seniors need to be enrolled in the correct classes to ensure that they graduate this spring. Please make sure you are in contact with the school if you have any questions about graduation requirements. This is a crucial time to talk with your child about setting challenging goals and working hard to complete all school work and home assignments.

High School Assessment Update

Members of the Class of 2011 must take AND pass the 4 High School Assessments in order to earn their Maryland Diploma. Your child should be taking advantage of intervention opportunities available in each of the core areas: social studies, math, science and English. Parents are encouraged to get additional information on our website or on the following site: <http://www.mdk12.org/parents/index.html>

Student Scheduling

The scheduling process for the 2011-12 school year is underway. Students received academic advisement in their class and were given registration materials. Teachers have worked and advised students on their recommendations for placement for next year. Students will be receiving a **Final Course confirmation** at the end of March with the courses they have selected. Staffing and resources are allocated based on student course selection and enrollment. As these resources become tighter we have very limited flexibility for changes. **Students will not be permitted to make changes in their schedule once schedules have been finalized.** Please discuss with your child and his/her counselor their academic plan so your schedule is accurate when you receive it this summer. Thank you for your support.

Student Absences

This is a reminder that all student absences must be coded based on the State of Maryland absence codes. Parents should send a note with a signature and date that specifies the reason for the student's absence. Family trips and vacations are not coded as an excused absence. According to Board Policy 5120 missing **5 unexcused absences** will result in a failing grade for the quarter. I caution you to submit requests to the principal's secretary for extended absences, in advance, so you have the correct information as you make plans for your family.

Student/Parent Involvement

As valued members of the school community, your presence is requested at the many upcoming school events including: concerts, art shows, sporting events and theatre productions. You are encouraged to read the newsletter carefully for details on upcoming events or consult our school website. We need your participation. Please come support your child and our school. www.pikesvillehs.org

Order your 2011 yearbook today!

We are having an amazing year at Pikesville High School, and our yearbook staff is working hard to capture all of the great stories of the year. The 2010 – 2011 yearbook is a Limited Edition with unlimited stories. Your student only gets to experience the school year once. Make sure that they get to experience it again and again with our school's yearbook. Order your yearbook today. www.jostensyearbooks.com

ALL A'S SECOND QUARTER

First Name	Last Name
Taylor	Brown
Amanda	Charlow
Katia	Gonzales
Justine	Guevarra
Anne	
Evan	Honig
Matthew	Kirshner
Andrew	Layton
Jory	Parson
Neil	Posner
Mitchell	Rock
Sam	Rombro
Kara	Seidel
Emily	Starobin
Ron	Boger
Anna	Dizik
Rebecca	Hirsch
Matthew	Oshrine
Samantha	Shapiro
Natalie	Benamor
Emily	Bernstein
Joshua	Borris
Holly	Given
Stephanie	Honig
Lindsay	Kelly
Joshua	Polikov
Arianne	Schreier
Elizabeth	Atkins
Austin	Blank
Jason	Burtnick
Aaron	Chafitz
Lord Byron	Fernando
Benjamin	Greenberg
Tori	Kovelman
Mark	Nathanson
Claire	Postman

HONOR ROLL - 2ND QUARTER

Andrea	Aguilo	Redmond Kline	Vios	Katherine	Goldberg
Alexa	Ain	Olivia	Adams	Mark	Grinblat
Robin	Ayala	Scott	Adamson	Brian	Grossman
Justin	Beitler	Earl	Aguilo	Alyssa	Heilbrunn
Sheena Micah	Briones	Bianca	Alberca	Ruth	Hirsch
Taylor	Brown	Hazel Mae	Alturas	Rachel	Hoffman
Christina	Carrington	Samantha	Andres	Stephanie	Honig
Dianne	Castillo	Amber	Anthony	Mackenzey	Kaplan
Amanda	Charlow	Katelynn	Baseman	Lindsay	Kelly
Ethan	Copeland	Sara	Beauchamp	Dmitriy	Khanivetsky
Stephen	Dorris	Ron	Boger	Haile	Kostin
Marina	Eisenstein	Ivan	Booth	Akshay	Kumar
Mekael	Ejigu	Malina	Bruckman	Cheyenne	Laprade
Tajmah	Ellis	Michael	Bryant	Sarah	Lipman
Nicole	Elover	Blair	Burgin	Joshua	Macklin
Lavinia	Fanua	Camille	Chider	Darius	Major
Jesse	Fidel	Kori	Christian	Kara Jane	Maquiling
Halle	Fridman	Kevin	Cruz	Emily	Massuda
Xavier	Fuery	Karol Venice	Cubebe	Martin	McCollugh
Esther	Fuzayl	JeninaEzra	David	Kristol	McKnight
Dylan	Gal	Prince Loren	Diculen	Jason Mark	Medrano
Edward	Gertsenov	Anna	Dizik	Taylor	Moss
Rebecca	Gillespie	Yefim	Fayngersh	Lauren	Mullin
Katia	Gonzales	Nathan	Feldman	Jennifer	Murphy
Jordan	Griffin	Benjamin	Fink	Andrew	Nova
Justine Anne	Guevarra	Evan	Fisher	Tete	Obot
Gulnara	Guseynova	Jason	Foland	Lauren	Offermann
Shelly	Harel	Michelle	Glazer	Shannon	Peretz
Mallory	Harris	Brock	Goldner	Matt	Peterson
Taylor	Hentzman	Gregory	Goldstein	Joshua	Polikov
Evan	Honig	Mitchell	Goldstein	Lishai	Purrio
Dominic	Horodowicz	Daniel	Greenberg	Ryan	Raigrodski
Kali	Jackson	Gabriel	Gregorzak	Nihil	Rajendran
Alexander	Jerome	Cory	Gutterman	Ita	Roberts
Kayla	Johnson	Rebecca	Hirsch	Michelle	Rombro
Morgan	Jones	Steven Daniel	Iringan	Ashley	Romero
Sydney	Jones	Kyle	Jones-Carver	Jessica	Rubin
Danielle	Karpa	Ariel	Koenig	Arienne	Schreier
Matthew	Kirshner	Mara	Koren	Milana	Shapsay
Sheri	Kornblatt	Lacey	Kurlander	Alan	Shinkar
Ilana	Kornblatt	Elizabeth	Lavin	Rachael	Siegel-Berele
Harrison	Kovelman	Danielle	Lee	Liza	Varhaftik
Allison	Kramer	Spencer	Levin-Friedman	Matthew	Wartzman
Andrew	Layton	Robert	Monfred	Daniel	Adamson
Adam	Leneski	Sabah	Muktar	Daniel	Barakh

Daniel	Lewis	Paul Dominique	Musngi	David	Bekkerman
El'za	Lipartiya	Christien Jake	Ormita	Rebecca	Borenstein
Troy Anthony	Manapsal	Matthew	Oshrine	Ashley	Borenstein
Jason	Meeker	Jennifer	Piekarz	Spencer	Bowersox
Axel	Mezas Rodriguez	Rachel	Rosenberg	Zachary	Brandes
Jesse	Moody	Rachel	Rudo	Jason	Burtnick
Benjamin	Moschel	Alanna	Schloss	Steven	Buxbaum
Ian	Moss	Samantha	Shapiro	Aaron	Chafitz
Luke	Needleman	Ori	Shimony	Wendy	DeLeon Guerra
Shannon	Nichols	Jaren	Silver	Amanda	Delgado
Lyle Jobe	Novabos	Menelik	Solomon	Alex	Dishal
Jory	Parson	Morris	Spekterman	James	Edwards
Karolina	Paterek	Laurence	Spekterman	Jennifer	Eisenberg
Ryann	Plotkin	Andrew	Stern	Lord Byron	Fernando
Neil	Posner	Praneeth	Thalla	Hannah Margarita	Gallardo
Anthony	Prezenchuk	Solomiya	Tsymbalyuk	Daniel	Glasser
Hira	Rahman	Tyler	Weinblatt	Max	Gold
Evan	Raigrodski	Marc	Weiner	Benjamin	Greenberg
Sarah	Rasch	Sydney	Weiss	Nina	Horodowicz
Sabina	Rasoulov	Briana	Winer	Nicholas	Koppenhaver
Van Simon	Requiron	Michael	Zak	Jared	Kurlander
Mitchell	Rock	Tzvi	Zeller	Douglas	Lavin
Sam	Rombro	Jasmine	Alicea	Tea	Lee
Maury	Sall	Samuel	Appleby	Theodore	Lyketsos
Jesse	Salsbury	Tova	Bardos	Rachel	Margulies
Cara	Saval	Joseph	Bell	Aye	Maung
Daniel	Schwartz	Natalie	Benamor	Paulina	Miller
Kara	Seidel	Mariah	Benjamin	Arielle	Moschel
Hannah	Seidman	Emily	Bernstein	Mark	Nathanson
Zachary	Shackelford	Ben	Bernstein	Maxwell	Needleman
Elise	Shanholtz	Joshua	Borris	Claire	Postman
Alexandra	Shearer	Taylor	Brown	Michael	Razumovsky
Jori	Shearer	Niccolo	Brown	Rachel	Riter
Alexandra	Sigalov	Evan	Carrington	Rebecca	Riter
Hannah	Sopher	Jordan	Carrington	Nitin	Sampathi
Emily	Starobin	Benjamin	Chang	Kevin	Saval
Max	Sterling	Young-Ju	Cho	Lutfiya	Shakarova
Abigail	Suldan	Diane Kristy	Cortez	Daniel	Shear
Clydel June	Tabacolde	Torie	Davis	Ashley	Swift
Crei Therese	Tabligan	Emedi	Ekpenyong	Riddhi	Trivedi
Max	Tsirtsan	Mitchel	Fine	Mikhail	Tsirtsan
		Laurie	Fisher		
		Niv	Gafny		
		Holly	Given		

Rules and Regulations

No hats nor hoods for our security, please

In order to be safe in the building, staff must be able to identify all students. Hats and hoods interfere with our ability to do that because our surveillance system is mounted in our ceilings.

We cannot lock the building because of relocatable classrooms, so we are vigilant about this rule.

We catch students from other schools regularly because they enter with headgear so people won't see their faces.

We need our students to make our job easier by following this simple rule.



Cell Phones



According to the *Student Handbook*, cell phones or any other wireless communication device must be turned off during regular instruction hours and stored in a locker, book bag, purse, or automobile. MP3 players should not be used during the day, and earpieces should be stowed in backpacks unless needed for specific classes. Having a cell phone on your person is an immediate disqualification for state tests, A.P. tests, and S.A.T. tests. Unfortunately, we had a few students who had to learn this the hard way this year.

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Check Out Our Web Page:

Wondering what exactly should be done to prepare for a college entrance exam? Want to know what's important to colleges when they read a student's application? These and many other questions are answered for you right on our webpage. Check it out for yourself at www.pikesvillehs.bcps.org



Requirements for Passing to the Next Grade:

To pass GRADE 9, students must pass English 9 or social studies 9 and enough of their other classes to have earned at least 4 credits.

To pass GRADE 10, students must pass English 10 or social studies 10 and enough of their other classes to have earned at least 9 credits. Also, they must have passed English 9 and social studies 9.

To pass GRADE 11, they must have earned at least 13 credits during their first three years of high school, and they must be enrolled in all courses necessary to complete their graduation requirements

Thinking about Summer School ?

Summer School Courses are for students who failed a course for the year. Registration for summer school will occur at PHS during May. Summer school courses will be taught at Owings Mills HS with a **very strict attendance policy**, so you would be wise to keep this in mind as you plan your vacation.

More information will be available from the counselors in May.

Checklist for 4yr College-Bound JUNIORS:

- With the help of your counselor, determine which college entrance exam is the right one for you. The ACT is the best test for many students; the SAT is for others. **It can be a major mistake to select the test which is wrong for you**, so make your decision carefully.
- Register for the ACT or the SAT if you plan to take either of these in the spring. But, for either test, you are strongly advised to register ASAP since everything is done on a "first come--first served basis." This is especially important if you prefer one test center over another.
- Remember that college entrance exams are NOT intelligence tests. Instead, they are tests of how much you prepared for them. **No one should ever take one of these exams without lots of practice, practice, practice.**
- If you're planning to apply to a military academy and are presently in grade 11, now is the time to contact your congressman or senator or both.

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

The following scholarships (plus others) are now available for seniors headed toward college. We strongly encourage you to apply for the ones that you're eligible for. Try www.fastweb.com or www.collegeprowler.com for more info.

Graduation 2011



The countdown to Commencement 2011 has officially begun!

Graduating seniors and their parents, relatives, and friends should reserve Wednesday, June 1, 2011, to celebrate the Commencement of the Class of 2011. The day will begin with a mandatory rehearsal for all graduating seniors at the Towson Center Arena at **7:50 a.m.** and will culminate with the Commencement ceremony at **7:30 p.m.** that evening. Seniors will receive 7 complimentary tickets to the Commencement ceremony for their invited guests.

In preparation for graduation, seniors should have completed and returned the diploma verification form to their English teacher. Any candidate for graduation who has not submitted this form needs to see Mrs. Adess in Room 106 ASAP.

Seniors participating in the Commencement ceremony must wear a cap and gown. Students planning on borrowing a cap and gown must do so from a member of the Class of 2010 due to the upgrade in fabric last year. Representatives from Balfour will be at PHS on March 24th and 25th to assist seniors in ordering their caps and gowns. The cost of a cap and gown is \$28.00 through March 31st; beginning April 1st the cost will increase to \$38.00. Cap and gown order forms may be picked up in the Main Office or from Mrs. Adess. All cap and gown orders must be placed directly with Balfour. Orders may also be placed online at www.balfour.com.

On March 17th seniors and their parents met with the PTSA, the Senior Class President, Mrs. Adess, and the administrative staff to discuss the end of the year calendar of senior events (final exam schedules, the Senior Prom and After-Prom parties, the Senior Picnic, cap and gown/ticket distribution, and Graduation). A copy of the informational newsletter will be mailed to parents who were not able to attend the meeting.

Look for additional updates and more specifics concerning graduation in future newsletters and on the school web page. Questions concerning graduation may be directed to Mrs. Susan Adess, the graduation coordinator at sadess@bcps.org.





Yearbook News

We are having an amazing year at Pikesville High School, and our yearbook staff is working hard to capture all of the great stories of the year. The 2010 – 2011 yearbook is a Limited Edition with unlimited stories. Your student only gets to experience the school year once. Make sure that they get to experience it again and again with our school's yearbook. Order your yearbook today. www.jostensyearbooks.com

You can also access the Jostens' site to purchase a yearbook from www.phs.edu and from edline.

Parents of Seniors

It is not too late to recognize your graduate with a baby ad. We still have a few pages available. Forms are available on the phs.edu site as well as edline.

Yearbook Distribution

The Pikesville yearbook covers the complete year including spring sports, proms, and graduation. In order to include these events, the book is not distributed until early August. Watch the website for the distribution date. Distribution will occur on the same date as fall sports registration.



Please contact rlleiby@bcps.org for any questions regarding the yearbook, portraits, or baby ads.



PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

THURSDAY, May 12, 2011

2:30-5:00 P.M.

On Thursday, May 12, 2011, teachers will be available to confer with parents about student scholastic progress. Private conferences may be arranged from 2:30-5:00 p.m.

Choice 1:

Please go to our website, www.phs.edu click on the Faculty and Staff banner at the top of the page, click on the Faculty & Departments site on the left side of the page. You can click on each subject, find your child's teacher, and click on their name. You will be taken immediately to their email address. If you do not have email access, please use the form below.

Choice 2:

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE APPOINTMENT FORM

I (we), _____ parent(s)

of _____ desire an appointment with:

(To be filled out by the parent and delivered to the teacher)

(To be filled out by the teacher and returned to the parent)

1. _____
Teacher

Teacher Signature Time Room

2. _____
Teacher

Teacher Signature Time Room

3. _____
Teacher

Teacher Signature Time Room

4. _____
Teacher

Teacher Signature Time Room

5. _____
Teacher

Teacher Signature Time Room

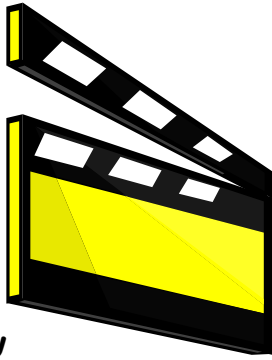
6. _____
Teacher

Teacher Signature Time Room

7. _____
Teacher

Teacher Signature Time Room

It is the responsibility of the student to deliver this form to the teacher and return to the parent.



Talent Show

The PHS Talent Show has been rescheduled for Thursday, April 14th at 7:00. Please mark your calendars and come out to support the class of 2011. Tickets are only \$5, a bargain for an amazing line-up!



Senior Prom: May 26, 2011

Senior Prom invitations have been distributed. Tickets will go on sale around the end of March. Any senior bringing an outside guest needs to obtain an approval form (from room 205 or 200) and turn it in for approval before they purchase tickets.



Senior Gift:

The class of 2011 will be planning a tree planting event. 8-10 Cherry Blossoms will be planted on the PHS campus, leaving PHS a bit more beautiful. The seniors thought this aligned well with their class color- GREEN!

Jennifer Meltzer

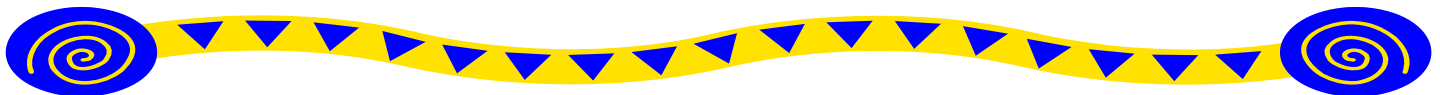
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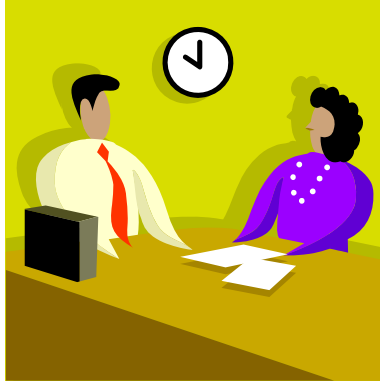
Social Studies Department

Class of 2011 Advisor

Pikesville High School



Seventy-five Student Service Learning hours is a Maryland STATE REQUIREMENT for graduation. If your senior has not met the requirement yet, he/she MUST complete those hours as soon as possible. These hours MUST be completed at a nonprofit organization, a charity or other organization serving the community, such as a hospital, a nursing home, a soup kitchen, homeless shelter, school, library, park and recreation council, etc. There are fewer than 100 days until graduation. If your senior needs hours and is not working on them now, he/she MUST start immediately!!



SENIOR MOCK INTERVIEWS – APRIL 1

In order to help prepare our seniors for life after high school, Pikesville High School will hold a Senior Mock Interview Event from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. Friday, April 1, in the school library. We are seeking adults from a variety of careers to volunteer as interviewers on that morning. Our goal is to create a realistic interview experience for each of our seniors, along with some helpful individualized feedback. Interviews will be approximately ten to fifteen minutes in length, with time allowed after each one for the interviewer to complete a written assessment on a provided form. We need at least 30 volunteers to make our project successful. We will provide questions for you to use, or you may use your own. Will you consider giving your morning on April 1 to meet with our seniors and share your professional expertise? If you can join us, please contact me by phone or email. I thank you in advance for your support of our terrific school and community, and most of all, our terrific seniors!

Mary Murray

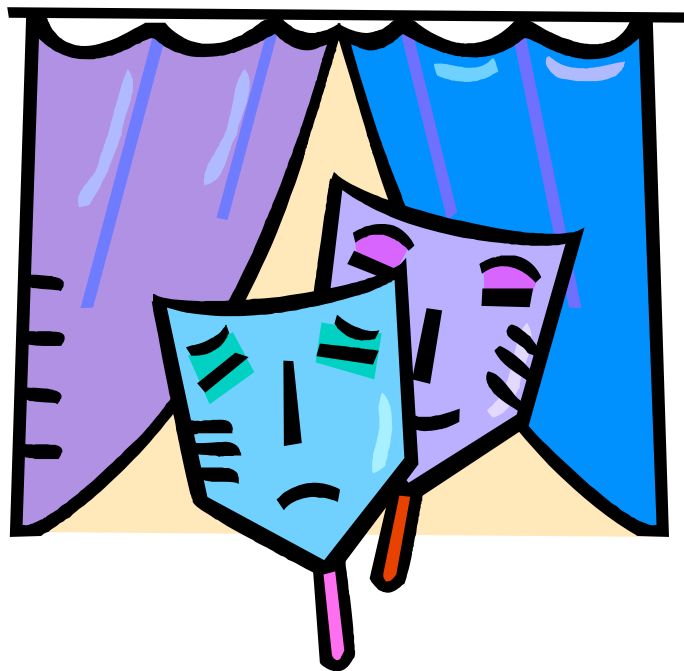
Coordinator

School to Career Transition Program

Pikesville High School

mmurray2@bcps.org

410.887.1222



**This year's spring musical is Stephen Sondheim's
A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum.
Join us for a "Comedy Tonight" on March 24 – 26 at 7:30pm
and March 27 at 1:30pm.**

Pikesville High
2010AYP: Met

School Identified for Improvement: **No**

Attendance Rate %	School		County		State	
	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009
Elementary	--	--	95.1	95.8	95.3	95.6

All indicators must be "Met" to make

All Students	Attendance Rate		Graduation Rate	
	Percent Proficient		Participation Rate	
	Reading	Mathematics	Reading	Mathematics
All Students	Met	Met	Met	Met
Am. Indian/Alaskan Nat.	--	--	--	--
Asian/Pacific Islander	Met	Met	na	na
African American	Met	Met	Met	Met
White (non-Hispanic)	Met	Met	Met	Met
Hispanic	na	na	na	na
Free/Reduced Meals	Met	Met	Met	Met
Special Education	Met	Met	na	na
Limited Eng.	Met	na	na	na

"na" indicates too few students for AYP rules. "--" indicates no students in the

Middle	--	--	94.8	95.0	94.9	94.9
High	92.4	93.1	92.1	92.2	92.1	92.4
Graduation Rate %	94.40	90.88	86.08	83.56	86.55	85.24

Teacher

% of certificates:

Standard Professional	41.8	41.1	35.7	36.7	32.4	33.8
Advanced Professional	49.1	46.4	59.4	57.5	59.8	55.8
Resident Teacher	3.6	0.0	1.2	1.0	1.5	1.5
Conditional Teacher	5.5	10.7	1.7	2.8	1.9	3.9

% of classes NOT taught

Highly Qualified Teachers	8.3		6.8		8.3	
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"--" indicates no students in the category

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP)

Each year, schools, school systems, and the state are required to measure how much progress students are making in reading and mathematics.

By the end of the school year in 2013-2014, the federal No Child Left Behind Act requires that 100% of students be proficient or above proficient in reading/ language arts and mathematics. Schools, school systems, and the state must make yearly targets in order to reach the 100% goal. This is called Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). The yearly targets are called Annual Measurable Objectives.

To make AYP, schools must achieve the Annual Measurable Objectives in reading and mathematics for the all students group and for each student subgroup, and they must test at least 95% of the students. In addition, elementary and middle schools must meet yearly targets for attendance, and high schools must meet yearly targets for graduation. School systems and the state must meet the yearly targets in reading and mathematics in all categories and must meet both the attendance and graduation targets for all students.

Beginning in 2009, science is measured in grades 5 and 8 and by the High School Assessment in biology. Science is not part of AYP.

Results In Nine Categories

The results for students are reported in nine different categories. The categories are: all students, students who are receiving free or reduced price meals (FARMS), students receiving special education services, students who know no or very little English (limited English proficient), and five racial/ethnic groups.

Results for these groups, the disaggregated data, may be found on the web site of the Maryland State Department of Education at MdReportCard.org.

Schools and Systems in Improvement

Schools that do not make the targets, the Annual Measurable Objectives, in the same subject or other reported area for two consecutive years are identified for School Improvement. A school system that does not meet the annual targets

in the same reported area for two consecutive years at the elementary, middle and high school levels is identified for System Improvement. The list of Schools in Improvement may be found on the web at MdReportCard.org.

Participation Rate

Participation Rate is based on the number of students enrolled on the day of testing. Federal regulations require that at least 95% of the students enrolled on the testing day take the test. Students who are unable to take the test at the regular time or during the make-up time because of a medical emergency do not count against the school's participation rate.

Attendance Rate

Attendance Rate is the percentage of students in school for at least half of the average school day during the school year. Attendance is an AYP measure for elementary and middle schools. Yearly targets are set for attendance so that by the end of school year 2013-14, the state, schools, school systems will achieve an attendance rate of at least 94%.

Graduation Rate

Graduation Rate is the percentage of students who receive a Maryland high school diploma during the reported school year. It is a required AYP measure for high schools. Yearly targets are set for Graduation Rate so that by 2013-2014, all schools will meet the performance standard of a 90% Graduation Rate.

Dropout Rate (when Graduation Rate is not available)

Dropout Rate is the percentage of students dropping out of school in grades 9 through 12 in a single year. Students who re-enter school during the same year in which they dropped out are not counted as dropouts.

Teacher Qualifications

The percentage of teachers in each category is based on the number of teachers who have credentials and are teaching core academic subjects as defined by the federal government under the No Child Left Behind Act. The core academic subjects are English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history and geography. Teachers who are teaching other subjects are not included in these totals.

Standard Professional Certificate. A Standard Professional Certificate indicates the teacher meets all certification requirements.

Advanced Professional Certificate. The Advanced Professional Certificate requires three years of satisfactory professional school-related experience, and a master's degree or a minimum of 36 semester hours of post baccalaureate course work.

Resident Teacher Certificate. The Resident Teacher Certificate is issued to a teacher in an approved alternative preparation program at the request of a local school system superintendent.

Conditional Certificate. The Conditional Certificate is issued only at the request of a local school system superintendent to an applicant who has a bachelor's degree but does not meet all certification requirements.

Highly Qualified Teachers. "Highly qualified" is specifically defined by federal law. Teachers must meet minimum requirements both in content knowledge and teaching skills. Teachers must have a bachelor's degree, full state certification and demonstrate content knowledge in the subjects they teach.