



MCCPTA Briefing

MCCPTA News and Advocacy Update

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CURRICULUM & ACADEMICS

Three Questions to Understand Your Child's Curriculum



MCCPTA Curriculum Committee drafted three quick curriculum questions to assist parents.

1 What curriculum and materials will students be using?

This is an especially important year for K-8 math, as MCPS begins implementing Amplify Desmos Math. For literacy, elementary students use Amplify CKLA, and Grades 6-8 use Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA).

2 What should my child be learning this quarter?

Before or after Back-to-School Night, take a look at MCPS's [Refrigerator Curriculum](#). These one-page guides show what students in each grade should be learning during the quarter. Bookmark them and check back during the year.

3 Does what I'm hearing match the MCPS curriculum?

Ask about the units, texts, topics, and skills students will be working on. If what is happening in your child's classroom seems substantially different from the MCPS guide, ask the teacher about it. If you continue to have concerns about whether the MCPS curriculum is being implemented, contact your principal.

You can also explore MCPS's broader [Curriculum and Academics website](#) for information by subject and grade level.

MCPS Local Elementary School Parent Feedback Questionnaire for Gifted & Advanced Students (K–5)

Were you a parent of an MCPS elementary advanced or gifted child last year (school year 2025-2026)? The MCCPTA Gifted Education Committee (GEC) wants to hear from you!

Please take a few minutes to complete this short anonymous **GEC Elementary Parent Feedback Survey** for the 2025-2026 school year. We will aggregate and share data with our MCCPTA committee members to support advocacy efforts for our advanced learners in MCPS.

This survey should be filled out for each child who was advanced last year K-5th who was in their home elementary school. - central identification does not happen until end of 2nd, however, local schools are supposed to identify advanced students who would benefit from enrichment. See the **MCPS Elementary AEI POLICY** for more information.

Specific Focus: This poll strictly pertains to how needs were met in local neighborhood elementary schools K-5th. Do not answer based on experiences within Centers for Enriched Studies (CES) programs. (If your child was in local school last year, but CES this year, it is okay to answer based on SY 25-26)

Deadline: This poll will close on Friday, September 4, 2026.

Share Your Feedback for Next Year's School Year Calendar

MCPS is seeking your input as it works to develop the 2027-2028 AND 2028-2029 school calendar. Please complete [this survey](#) by Sept. 20 to share your input with MCPS.

May 2026		June 2026							July 2026	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY				
	1	2	3	4	5	6				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
14	15	16	17 Innovative School Of School For Students, Early Release Day For Students	18 Last Day Of School Early Release Day For Students	19 Systemwide Closure - Schools And Offices Closed	20				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27				
28	29	30								

Mon, September 15, 2026 · 7:00–8:30 PM EDT

NTIA Listening Session on Screen-Based Instruction in K–12 Schools

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) is holding a public listening session to hear directly from parents, educators, students, and child development experts about their experiences with screen time in the classroom.

Zoom Registration Link: https://ntia-gov.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_5d_mIac6So-Eb6Q5bJ93ag

School Meals Updates

Menus and Dietary Needs

Menus, including nutrition and allergen information, can be viewed on the **DFNS website**, through **MealViewer**. **MCPS Form 240-23**, Special Dietary Needs Form, may be used to request meal accommodations for students eating school meals.



Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA) In-Classroom Breakfast Program

MMFA is a state-supported program that offers all students, regardless of individual household income, a free, in-classroom breakfast each school day. In order to participate, a school must have at least 40 percent or more of its enrollment **eligible for free or reduced-price school meals**. Beall does not qualify for this program.

Free Meals at Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Schools

MCPS will continue to offer free breakfast and lunch at **60 schools through the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)**. CEP is a federal program that allows high-poverty schools to offer all children school meals at no charge.

Non-CEP Schools

Students who are not automatically eligible for free school meals may still qualify for Free or Reduced-Price Meals (FARMS) via the application. **FARMS applications can be submitted online**.

New Meal Prices

Meal prices increased this year. Breakfast is \$1.60. Lunch is \$2.85 for elementary school students and \$3.10 for middle and high school students. Students who qualify for reduced-price meals will continue to receive meals at no cost thanks to the **Maryland Cares for Kids Act of 2018**.

GET INVOLVED

Help Shape the Future of MCPS School Facilities

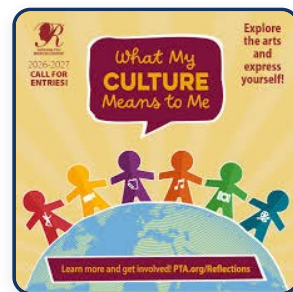
MCPS is seeking community members to serve on the Facility Advisory Committee for the 2026-2027 school year. Committee members will share their knowledge, experience and perspectives to help inform long-term planning for MCPS school facilities. Members of this committee will advise MCPS on a variety of topics related to the community's vision for school facilities and planning that are outside the six-year Capital Improvements Program (CIP) time frame, but that may require attention in the 10-15 year time frame or beyond.

If you're interested in helping shape the future of MCPS facilities, complete the application by Friday, Sept. 4.

If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to MCCPTA's Data Subcommittee chair, cipdata@mccpta.org or joseph@podiumarts.com.

Reflections Program

For over 50 years, Reflections has invited students in pre-K through grade 12 to create original artwork inspired by a student-chosen theme. Students explore their own thoughts, feelings and ideas, build artistic literacy and gain confidence. See the details [here](#).



■ GET INVOLVED

New Committee on Regional Programs

At its last Board of Directors meeting, MCCPTA approved forming a special Committee on Regional Programs, and needs volunteers from each of the six regions. Cluster coordinators, PTSA board members, and community members are all welcome. The committee will meet twice monthly. Its goal is to strengthen two-way communication, information-sharing, and feedback between MCPS, MCCPTA, and local PTAs, while advocating for accountability and data transparency so programs are comparable across regions in enrichment, course offerings, curriculum, and instructional quality. Interested? Email Rebekah Kuschmider at einstein2@mccpta.org.

★ CONGRATULATIONS

Jonathan Thessin to Chair MCCPTA Advocacy Committee

Congratulations to Beall MCCPTA Delegate and Richard Montgomery Cluster Coordinator Jonathan Thessin who will serve as the Chair of the MCCPTA Advocacy Committee! In this role, Jonathan will help shape the MCCPTA Advocacy Priorities, the countywide agenda that guides how MCCPTA advocates for our students and schools. Please join us to congratulate Jonathan!

■ JOIN US

Get Involved