



Douglas Strader, Ed.D.
Chief Accountability Officer

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

You have received your child's Individual Student Report for the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) in English Language Arts and/or Math. Attached is information and resources about the MCAP State assessments. These annual exams offer an informative snapshot of a student's achievement and progress. The goal is to ensure every student graduates ready for college, a career, and a successful life.

This past Spring 2019 was the last year that Maryland used the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College Careers (PARCC) assessments. Starting with the 2019-2020 School year students in the state of Maryland will be assessed using brand-new Maryland developed assessments. The attached flyer, ***Understanding the MCAP Individual Score Report for English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics Tests***, provides answers to some basic questions, including:

- ✓ What information you will find on the MCAP Individual Student Report
- ✓ Where you'll find more information about the MCAP score report
- ✓ How the results will be used

As you review your child's report, please keep in mind:

Your child's MCAP scores cannot be compared with any other tests

It is not possible to score "lower" or "higher" on MCAP relative to any other test your child has taken in the past. These state assessments will allow you to see your child's academic growth from one grade to the next, and progress toward college-and career-readiness for the first time.

MCAP results are not just a set of "numbers," but a roadmap to opportunity

Your child's results provide a useful snapshot to:

- ✓ Identify specific skills where there's room for growth,
- ✓ Spot strengths your child can build on, and
- ✓ Help a teacher tailor instruction to your child's needs.

Please remember that each state assessment provides just one measure of your child's performance. It is not the *only* indicator of student progress. I strongly encourage you to start a conversation about your child's academic progress by speaking with a teacher, attending a PTA meeting, and browsing the resources created for parents about the curricular standards and MCAP assessments.

Please contact the Testing Office at 301-702-3860, if you require additional information.

Attachment

Sincerely,

Douglas Strader, Ed.D.
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