Preparing World-Class Students

Maryland’s Plan for Education Reform
Maryland’s Reform Plan

Overview

• **Reform in Maryland**
  • History
  • Third Wave of Reform

• **Maryland’s Plan**
  • Higher Standards
  • Robust Data
  • Effective Educators
  • Strategic Help for Struggling Schools
  • Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics (STEM)
History of Reform in Maryland

“In Maryland, we believe in making the investments needed to build the nation’s best public school system to help us create jobs, expand opportunity, and move forward in this challenging new economy. The investments we make in education are investments in the future we all share.”

— Governor Martin O’Malley, January 12, 2012
Maryland’s Reform History

1977 - Project Basic Program

1989 - Sondheim Commission Report
  o Maryland’s 1st Wave of Education Reform
  o Maryland School Performance Program
  o The Maryland School Performance Assessment Program (MSPAP)

2001 - Visionary Panel for Better Schools
  o Maryland’s 2nd Wave of Education Reform
  o “Achievement Matters Most”
  o Bridge to Excellence Act (2002)
  o No Child Left Behind (NCLB),
  o Voluntary State Curriculum, MSA, HSA
“A world-class education is the single most important factor in determining not just whether our kids can compete for the best jobs but whether America can out-compete countries around the world.”

— President Barack Obama, July 18, 2011
Maryland’s Reform Plan

From National Leader to World-Class

Maryland’s Plan for Every Student
- A Challenging Curriculum
- A Meaningful Diploma
- A College and Career Pathway

Reforms Supported by Race to the Top Grant
- Competitive federal grant program
- Maryland won RTTT grant August 2010
- $250 million over four years
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Higher Standards

“In a global economy where the most valuable skill you can sell is your knowledge, a good education is no longer just a pathway to opportunity – it is a pre-requisite.”

— President Barack Obama
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**Higher Standards**

**Maryland’s Goal:** Ensure that all students are fully prepared for college and career in the 21st century.

- Common Core State Standards
- Maryland Common Core State Curriculum
- Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Assessments
“We owe it to our students, parents, teachers and administrators to uphold the highest standards of accountability and transparency, and that starts with establishing quality education data systems to ensure Maryland students graduate high school prepared for college and highly-skilled careers.”

— Governor Martin O’Malley
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Robust Data

**Maryland’s Goal**: Use data to support teaching and learning.

- Strengthen and expand statewide data system
- Provide accessible, real-time data
- Use data to improve instruction
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Effective Educators
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Effective Educators

**Maryland’s Goal**: Develop and support Great Teachers and Great Leaders.

- New statewide teacher and principal evaluations
- Equitable distribution of effective teachers and principals
- High-quality pathways for aspiring teachers and principals
- Expanded professional development opportunities
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Strategic Help for Struggling Schools

“Without question, we are determined that every student in our public schools receive equal access to a high-quality public education; that they have the tools to be successful; and that they will find themselves on a successful college or career path.”

— Bernard J. Sadusky, Ed.D., Interim State Superintendent of Schools
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Strategic Help for Struggling Schools

**Maryland’s Goal:** Turn around the lowest-achieving schools.

- Focus on teachers and leaders
- Identify root causes and customize support
- Address non-academic challenges
- Expand support to feeder schools
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Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)

“Students with STEM backgrounds are in demand today, so they can fill the jobs of tomorrow. Every student deserves a chance to excel in those fields.”

— Sen. Barbara A. Mikulski
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Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)

**Maryland’s Goal**: Prepare students to enter the national and global STEM workforce.

- New interdisciplinary STEM-based curriculum
- Increased number of STEM teachers; additional resources and professional development for current STEM teachers
- Internships, co-ops, and lab experiences for students
MARYLAND WELCOMES THE CHALLENGE OF THE FUTURE

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Questions / Discussion