

## Metropolitan Area Foreign Student Advisors - FY'21 Meetings

Website link: <https://www.mafsa.info/>

**Date: Friday, May 21, 2021**

Google Meet Link: <https://meet.google.com/var-rakj-vka>

Dial-in: (US) +1 601-732-5310

PIN: 932 617 953#

**Topic: MAFSA Spring 2021 meeting**  
**Times: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Charts Training**  
**1:00 pm - 2:00 pm - General Meeting**

**Attendees** (everyone signs in) :

Attendees for Transcript Evaluation training please sign in below (10:00 am):

NAME - School District - email

Johanna Fisher - FCPS- [jafisher@fcps.edu](mailto:jafisher@fcps.edu)

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**\*\*Attendees for General Meeting please sign in below (1:00 pm):**

**NAME - School District - email**

**Maribel Jahanbakhsh-Tehran- MCPS- [maribel\\_jahanbakhsh-tehran@mcpsmd.org](mailto:maribel_jahanbakhsh-tehran@mcpsmd.org)**

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**Jonathan Turner, Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) /**

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Victoria Rayo- [victoria\\_rayo@hcpss.org](mailto:victoria_rayo@hcpss.org)- howard county public schools

**Facilitators: Candice, Margarita & Silvia**  
**Timekeeper (reminders/agenda adjustments): Margarita**  
**Notetaker (important reminders/next steps): Silvia**

#### **Objectives:**

- Training Session - How to use the MAFSA Charts to evaluate foreign transcripts
- Overview of MAFSA membership, ByLaws, and Charts
- Review Action Items from Dec 2020 meeting: General Evaluation Chart Questions and Strategies Capture Sheet
- MAFSA Chart Updates: Hungary, North Macedonia, Spain
- New Business: Questions from Membership

#### **Next steps from previous meeting:**

- Complete Action Items.

#### **To prepare for this meeting:**

- Be ready to share best practices from your district re: credit by exam; preparations for influx of unaccompanied youth this fall

Schedule (180 minutes total)

Time	Min.	Activity
10:00 am - 12:00 pm	120"	<b>Objective 1: Transcript Evaluation Training</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Please sign in above</li> <li>2. Open the <a href="#">PowerPoint</a></li> <li>3. Download, sign, and file <a href="#">User Agreement</a> form</li> </ol>
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	60"	<b>BREAK</b>
1:00 - 1:10 p.m.	10"	<b>Objective 2: Overview of MAFSA membership, ByLaws, and Charts</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Please sign in above (even if you attended morning training session)</li> <li>2. Membership updates for 2021               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Three members per district. Members must attend one of 3 yearly meetings. Updates are made after each meeting. Guests are welcome beyond the 3 members.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. ByLaws review by Secretary - no changes at this time</li> <li>4. MAFSA website \$5 donation request               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. PayPal or Zelle - <a href="mailto:hokesilvia@gmail.com">hokesilvia@gmail.com</a></li> <li>b. CashApp - \$SilviaHoke</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Password for accessing charts - will be sent as soon as membership list is updated; MAFSA member vs website listserve - asking to join the website listserve does not make someone a MAFSA member. Only confirmed members will receive the password to access the Charts on the site's protected page.</li> </ol>
1:10 - 1:20 p.m.	10"	<b>Objective 3: Review Action Items from Dec 2020 meeting: Please complete below, one per district.</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <a href="#">General Evaluation Questions</a></li> <li>2. <a href="#">Strategies Capture Sheet</a></li> </ol>
1:20 - 1:30 p.m.	10"	<b>Objective 4: MAFSA Charts Updates:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hungary - Astrid Brueckner (DoDEA)                Communicated with Ileana Alamo-Ramos                Students with 2 years of 9th grade. Discovered that first year was intense English, and 2nd year was traditional with 12-15 subjects.                Common to go through year 13, so counted second year in Hungary as US 9th.             </li> </ol>

		<p>Regla Perez Pino - Look at credits rather than the years of schooling - important to know promotion requirements in own district before assigning grade level. Update Years 1-4 in Hungary to Grades 9 - 12 (send to Juana Terrazas)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. North Macedonia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New educational system in 2018</li> <li>Grade levels 1-9 is Primary, 10-13 is Secondary</li> <li>Update name to Republic of North Macedonia</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Spain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updates have been added to the school system chart already</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Additional Questions about transcripts if time allows <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. El Salvador (Anne Arundel) - saw a transcript with a 4 grade with an Aprobado comment. Suggested that a Pass be issued rather than a grade, and then confirm via contact with the school.</li> <li>b. Chile - new resource for checking curriculum: <a href="http://www.curriculumnacional.cl">www.curriculumnacional.cl</a></li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<p>1:30 - 1:50 p.m.</p>	<p>20"</p>	<p><b>Objective 5: New Business</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Credit by Exam: which tests are offered and what are criteria for taking them? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Some districts have math placement tests</li> <li>b. Question about giving credit for students with missing records - most districts do not grant credits if there are no records to confirm attendance.</li> <li>c. Tests for credits can be granted if students have proof they were in school, but not otherwise unless district has procedures for 'Oral Declarations'.</li> <li>d. AACPS - For Refugees only - meaning they are designated by status as a refugee- we have a form to award the core credits (6 total) that would be their 'declaration' but not someone who just says they can't get records.</li> <li>e. Jonathan Turner -MSDE-1:47 PM Here is the COMAR reference for Credit Through examination in MD. <a href="http://www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/comarhtml/13a/13a.03.02.04.htm">http://www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/comarhtml/13a/13a.03.02.04.htm</a></li> <li>f. PWC can award credits for Math using placement tests</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Preparation for expected influx of unaccompanied youth from Northern Triangle: how are LEA's handling intake and ESOL testing? <a href="#">10 Things Educators Need to Know about Unaccompanied Minors</a></li> </ol>
<p>1:50 - 2:00 p.m.</p>	<p>10"</p>	<p><b>Objective 6: Agenda items and Meeting Date/Format for 2021-2022</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Update on K WIDA assessments in MD (Ilhye Yoon, MSDE) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Update will happen in June 2021 and MSDE will send us new information.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Schedule next meeting date (October 2021) and format <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Suggested that fall meeting be virtual, then reassess</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

		<p>3. Action Items? - See Chart below</p> <p>4. Posted question on chat re: are districts accepting foreign exchange students?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loudoun - no</li> <li>Montgomery County, MD - yes</li> <li>Fairfax - yes</li> <li>Howard - yes</li> <li>Alexandria City - no</li> <li>Frederick County, MD - no</li> </ol>															
2:00 p.m.		<p><b>Review Next steps from this meeting (Action Items)</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="380 569 1338 1293"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="380 569 930 638">What:</th> <th data-bbox="930 569 1123 638">Who:</th> <th data-bbox="1123 569 1338 638">When:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="380 638 930 953"> <b>Update North Macedonia Chart</b>            New educational system in 2018            Grade levels 1-9 is Primary, 10-13 in Secondary            Update name to Republic of North Macedonia         </td> <td data-bbox="930 638 1123 953">Astrid will email Juana Terrazas</td> <td data-bbox="1123 638 1338 953">ASAP</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="380 953 930 1094"> <b>Update Years 1-4 in Hungary to Grades 9 - 12</b> </td> <td data-bbox="930 953 1123 1094">Astrid will email Juana Terrazas</td> <td data-bbox="1123 953 1338 1094">ASAP</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="380 1094 930 1226"> <b>Update membership list, send out new password for accessing Charts to all members</b> </td> <td data-bbox="930 1094 1123 1226">Silvia, Candice, Margarita</td> <td data-bbox="1123 1094 1338 1226">ASAP</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="380 1226 930 1293"></td> <td data-bbox="930 1226 1123 1293"></td> <td data-bbox="1123 1226 1338 1293"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	What:	Who:	When:	<b>Update North Macedonia Chart</b> New educational system in 2018 Grade levels 1-9 is Primary, 10-13 in Secondary Update name to Republic of North Macedonia	Astrid will email Juana Terrazas	ASAP	<b>Update Years 1-4 in Hungary to Grades 9 - 12</b>	Astrid will email Juana Terrazas	ASAP	<b>Update membership list, send out new password for accessing Charts to all members</b>	Silvia, Candice, Margarita	ASAP			
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2:00 p.m.		<p><b>Assess what worked well and what didn't in this meeting</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="380 1394 1338 1751"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="380 1394 857 1562">+ (What worked well)</th> <th data-bbox="857 1394 1338 1562">▲ (What to change in future meetings)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="380 1562 857 1751"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent training</li> </ul> </td> <td data-bbox="857 1562 1338 1751"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	+ (What worked well)	▲ (What to change in future meetings)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>											
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