

MAFSA Meeting - October 26, 2018

Welcoming remarks!

Transcript analyses 10-11 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

Passing member list. Please sign in. To maintain membership, you must attend 1 meeting a year.

New MAFSA website is being launched soon. Please do not share with anyone except MAFSA members. Please

We have 174 schools in our school system in Baltimore County public schools, and over 7,000 English Language learners. Candice shared more biographical information about BCPS. A lot of students from Nigeria.

IGCSE background given by Margarita and introduced Keith Lucey. Keith is from Cambridge International in New York.

IGCSE = O Levels. IGCSE is also equal to the ICE certificate.

Over 70 subjects including 30 languages are covered.

IGCSE exams are very rigorous and all constructive responses and connected to classroom work.

Statement of IGCSE results are very important and students must hold on to them for life.

IGCSE Core is a one year program, and highest grade is a C. IGCSE Extended exams are taken over two year, and the highest grade is an A*.

Keith will share PP with and I'll send it to Candice.

When looking at high school equivalency consider how many core subject (science, math, history, science) exams they passed. Don't consider non-core subjects for equivalency purposes (i.e. art, music, etc.).

IGCSE scores are always released the second week of August every year.

October exams - scores released in December
Only India has exams in March and results are released by summer.

Math course is integrated, so we can look for papers they sat for and check the syllabi on Cambridge website to see what topics they actually covered.

Be sure to share with families that any withholding of information (i.e. IGCSE scores) can affect any future college enrollment. Stanford student's acceptance was rescinded.

IGCSE is Common Core aligned

Global Perspectives course = (k-12) can be seen at IGCSE levels and is equivalent to the AP Capstone course.

Candice continued with agenda items

- Unaccompanied minors over 18 - what would suffice as an educational program

- WIDA Screener
MSDE picked paper option due to technological glitches still present
LEAs shared how they're scheduling families to maximize testing times

- Awarding English Credit with new exit criteria
In Baltimore County only ESOL level 4 (on screener) and above get English 9 or higher credit.

Howard County grants one English credit if a student is ESOL 2, 2 credits for ESOL 3, 3 credits for ESOL 4, and so on.

****IAE in MCPS should consider granting English credit if a student scores a 3.5 or higher on the WIDA screener.

- College readiness approach by different LEAs:
One of the biggest points is making clear to families that college prep here is very different from most countries abroad. In

many countries, one final test determines readiness whereas here all grades count in addition to SAT and/or ACT scores. Also make clear that there may be different pathways or diploma certificates here. Consider the whole individual when advising students, especially if they don't want to pursue a college education. Arundel county emphasizes financial literacy for preparing students beyond high school. LEAs emphasized the importance of "counseling" students on educational and other goals and how to meet them.

Action Items:

Consider scheduling a separate MD meeting and invite MSDE (Ilhye Yoon) to speak to English credits, WIDA Screener and ESSA. We can do it at MCPS RHRC in APR.

Adjust our MAFSA charts to reflect A level and O level grading scales, and include additional notes describing core subjects vs. elective subjects, distinguishing core tests and extended tests, program length (core - 1 yr., extended - 2 yr.), and maximum scores (core=C, extended=A*).

Margarita to help Candice create a Google Classroom for MAFSA