

MAFSA Meeting
Minutes for May 4, 2011
Submitted by Silvia Hoke

Meeting was hosted by Prince William County, VA

10:00 – 11:00 – Transcript discussion

11:00 – 2:00 – General Meeting

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Best Practices for MAFSA members – Amy Harris from Anne Arundel County was not present. Final draft of committee will be shared at the October meeting.

3. Charts updates:

- India – Montgomery County not present to share
- CAP exam - no changes yet – FYI only
- Nigerian discussion JSS3 exam grading scale has only A,C,P,F with no B grades. PGCPS will bring samples to next meeting
- Finland – Fairfax County: grading scale change (need to add a failing grade)
- Colombia – Add ‘Bajo’ as a possible D on grading scale
- Philippines – Prince William County had question about some schools going to 7th grade in primary school, making First Year High School equivalent to 8th. Other districts have seen this from private schools in Philippines – need documentation of every grade in school if parents claim this.

4. Discussion on AYP and impact on ELL students needing 5 years to complete high school requirements (Frederick County). The State of MD is ‘requiring’ a 4-year cohort for graduation, but this cannot be mandated.

The MSDE packet ‘Ensuring Equal Educational Opportunities for English Language Learners’ was shared and will be posted on the MAFSA website. The good news from MSDE is that there is a measure of how AYP is helping students graduate on time. Decisions will need to be made that benefit all students, to include their eligibility to stay in High School until the age of 21 and taking their civil rights into account.

October 15-16 there will be a meeting for State Title III Directors and the Office of Civil Rights will present.

Next meeting: October 5, 2012 in Prince George’s County

Possible Agenda items:

Sudan	Colombia
Nigeria JSS 3	Philippines
Azerbaijan	
Update on AYP from Frederick County	