

**Metropolitan Area Foreign Student Advisors -
2020 - 2021 - 2022 - 2023 - 2024 - 2025 Meetings**

Website: www.MAFSA.info

**2025-2026
November 7, 2025
10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

Virtual: ZOOM

Silvia Hoke is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: MAFSA GENERAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 7 2025
Time: Nov 7, 2025 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

**PLEASE BE CAREFUL WHEN ADDING INFORMATION TO THE AGENDA-IT
CAN BE EDITED AND SEEN BY EVERYONE WITH THE LINK!!**

**Topic: MAFSA General meeting
Times: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm (Eastern)**

**Facilitator: Silvia Hoke, Margarita Bohorquez, Candice Lenet
Timekeeper (reminders/agenda adjustments): Margarita
Notetaker (important reminders/next steps): Margarita
Transcript Trainer: TBD**

Objectives:

- Membership/Website Overview and Updates
- Secretary's Report
- Member Questions
- New Information for Charts
- New Business
- Schedule next meeting for: Charts Training

Schedule:

Time	Min	Activity
10:00 - 10:10	10"	Click here to sign in: MAFSA Sign-In November 7 2025 MEMBERS - Initial next to your name, make changes as necessary GUESTS - sign in at the bottom of the page
10:10 - 10:20	10"	Objective 1: Membership/Website Overview and Updates - Candice and Silvia Website was renewed for one year in April 2025. Thank you for your contributions! Donations will go towards the 2025-2026 website renewal fee due in April 2026. ● NOTE: A \$5 donation will be collected from every member/guest per <u>year</u> in order to support the MAFSA website. Please select how you wish to send your donation : Zelle, CashApp, PayPal, or check (include "Donation to MAFSA 2025-2026" in comments). P.S. <u>This is not a membership fee</u>, but a voluntary donation, therefore we cannot send an invoice. Make sure your payment is classified in the app as something OTHER than goods or services so it won't be mistaken for taxable income by the IRS. ● Silvia's email - hokesilvia@gmail.com (Secretary and maintains website) ● Candice - Membership Chair: Rules of membership - 3 members per school district, must attend one meeting per school year and complete a Charts Training session. Guests are always welcome. Members will receive the password in order to access the Charts on the website. Charts training date to be determined for new members/refresh. Date for next Charts Training:

10:20 - 10:30	10"	Objective 2: Secretary's Report - Silvia ● Review of Minutes from last meeting (see below and on website) ● By-laws can be reviewed here. RECORDING: MAFSA MEETING MAY 16 2025 (Click to watch the recording of the meeting, read the transcript or summary of the meetings, read the Chat conversations, and review the minutes created by AI Companion).
10:30 - 11:15	45"	Objective 3: Member Questions ● Discuss "Best Practice" committee (Jacob Smit, Chesterfield VA) ○ Survey Link ● Bangladesh (Sheena Cox, Norfolk VA) We have a family that will be possibly enrolling a 19-year-old student from Bangladesh. I have received all of the academic records from the family grades 9th-11th. The student appears to have begun high school in 2021-2022SY. Do you have any insight from transfer students from Bangladesh? Particularly transcript evaluations or course information. Is there a country profile available? 🇬🇧 Bangladesh According to the head school counselor at the current school, the family wants this student to begin high school all over, which we know that cannot happen. Also, it was found that the family submitted fraudulent academic records from the internet but have since provided signed and dated records from Bangladesh which have been submitted to me. The school administration is hesitant about enrollment but if the records don't show proof of graduation, then they must enroll. ● (Crystal Evans, Wythe County VA) Our county is growing in the number of ML students and we are looking at possibly testing a student for special education services who has been here for a little over 2 years. I know this must be done in their home language. How do different localities do this? Where do we find these trained people to do the assessments in the many different languages? ● (Laurel Byrd, West Point Public Schools VA) We have a student who came halfway through his Junior year (last year) and tested at WIDA level 3 (from Philippines). He is struggling and hasn't passed a single SOL or workkeys test. Graduation is now in question. Is there another way to help him with the VDOE requirements?

11:15 - 11:45	30"	Objective 4: New Information for Charts (Marissa Yzita - Charts Manager) • Transcript Evaluation Database (Silvia) - check here for Country Profiles. Updated Charts are now posted on the website for members to access via the password-protected page. • Add websites/portals (links) to our charts for each country (when available), so we can access information (test scores, etc.). ○ https://sigid.sep.gob.mx/SIGED/alumnos.html (Portal for Mexico Secundaria) ○ https://certificado.minedu.gob.pe/validate (Peru) ○ Cambridge IGCSE and Cambridge O Level: 19 August 2025 at 06:00 BST/UTC+1. Results available to download from Direct. https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/exam-administration/results/ ○ https://www.mineduc.gob.gt/med_val/WbfrmValidacion.aspx (Guatemala) ○ https://expedienteeducativo.gob.do/eue/main (Dominican Republic) ○ https://portal.fbise.edu.pk/fbise-conduct/result/ (Pakistan) ○ http://www.educationboardresults.gov.bd/ (Bangladesh) MCPS Math and Science alignment based on national curriculum for MSDE/MCPS: • Math • Science • All countries need review - suggest we divide up the countries. Suggested that all members start collecting information when they run across transcripts that differ from the information on the Charts, and add the info to the shared database: ○ Sign up HERE to review specific countries • Laos - (Ana Acevedo, DC and Marissa Yzita, Charts Manager)  Laos updates 2025.png • From last meeting: ○ Equatorial Guinea ○ Serbia ○ New Zealand
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		○ Aruba ● New counties to review: ○ Kyrgyzstan (Astrid Brueckner - DodEA) - not present Notes: Looking for grade equivalencies, is K mandatory, when do they graduate, what is required for graduation, grading scales, curriculum- math, science, social studies- what do they study so we can compare with our transcripts												
		Objective 5: New Business ● MAFSA Conference? Summer 2026 (Start planning soon) ○ Planning Subcommittee - add names here ● Present at MELLFIN Conference? May 2026 (Min Woo will invite us) ○ Interested potential presenters - add names here												
11:45 - 12:00	15"	Closing: Dates for 2025-2026 Meetings: (November 7, 2025, February 6, 2026, May 8, 15, or 22, 2026) -Notes: Please copy Silvia (hokesilvia@gmail.com) when exchanging information regarding MAFSA so she can update our Country Profiles Email Silvia if you are interested in being a charts trainer. MAFSA would like to develop a core group of 10 to help train. Sign up here: 1. Jackie Smith, HCPS (jcsmith1@henrico.k12.va.us) 2. Sara Wohlleb, Chicago Public Schools (swohlleb@cps.edu) 3. Lara Maquera, CCPS (MaqueraL@clarke.k12.va.us) 4. Lynnea Motter, Prince Edward County, VA (lynnea.motter@pecps.k12.va.us) 5.												
		Review Next steps from this meeting (Action Items) and Evaluation <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>What:</th><th>Who:</th><th>When:</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Updates to Charts - many countries need review</td><td>Everyone HERE</td><td>Continuous</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	What:	Who:	When:				Updates to Charts - many countries need review	Everyone HERE	Continuous			
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