2012 MSA RESULTS: CONTINUED STEADY IMPROVEMENT

Composite elementary reading scores have increased 26.2 points since 2003, while mathematics scores are up 27.7 points.

- Advanced Reading scores increased 18.9 points from 2003 to 2012.
- Advanced Math scores increased 28.2 points from 2003 to 2012.

Composite middle school reading scores are up 22.2 points since 2003, and mathematics has increased a remarkable 36.6 points.

- Advanced Reading scores increased 18.3 points from 2003 to 2012.
- Advanced Math scores increased 18.5 points from 2003 to 2012.

The Maryland School Assessment (MSA) is administered annually to students in grades 3–8 in reading and math. MSA data are used to meet federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requirements. MSA scores are reported in three categories:

- Basic - student is not meeting grade-level expectations.
- Proficient - student is passing standards.
- Advanced - student is performing well above standards.

Twenty-one of Maryland’s 24 school systems have at least 80 percent of their elementary students scoring in the proficient or better levels in reading (88.2%) and mathematics (87.7%).

In the middle school level, 17 systems have at least 80 percent of their students scoring in the proficient or better levels in reading, while 16 systems have 80 percent of their students hitting the proficiency target in mathematics.

Maryland will administer new Partnership for Assessment of Readiness of College and Careers (PARCC) assessments in 2014-2015.

“"Our teachers, our administrators, our parents, and our students are working together to move schools forward. Education is the cornerstone to Maryland’s future, and I believe we’re building a strong foundation for decades to come."

Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Charlene Dukes
President, Maryland State Board of Education

Martin O’Malley
Governor

July 2012
CONTRIBUTING FACTORS TO ACROSS-THE-BOARD
STUDENT IMPROVEMENT ON THE MSAs

For more information on MSA scores and school performance, visit MdReportCard.org.
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- Nearly 90 percent of all elementary students are meeting standards in both reading (88.2 percent) and mathematics (87.7 percent).
- Since 2003, the percent of Elementary Reading scores at the Advanced level has doubled and the percent of Middle School Reading scores has increased by a factor of 1.7.
- The percent of Elementary Mathematics scores at the Advanced level has increased more than three-fold since 2003 and the percent of Middle School Mathematics scores has more than doubled.
- More than half of all fourth grade Mathematics scores are now at the Advanced level (51.2 percent).

• Middle school reading scores have improved for all special services subgroups. For example, 63.4 percent of students eligible for free or reduced-price meals scored in the proficient range in 2008. By this year, that had risen to 70.6 percent.
• The percentage of English Language Learners at the elementary school level scoring in the Reading proficient or better range has jumped from 69.1 percent in 2008 to 77.8 percent in 2012.