MARYLAND SCHOOL ASSESSMENT -- READING
November 2002

GENERAL INFORMATION

✓ Testing will occur over two days.
- March 3 and March 4, 2003
- A make-up schedule will be provided.
- Testing will take approximately 90 minutes per day; each testing session will be broken into smaller time blocks.

✓ These testing companies have been involved in developing the assessment for reading.
- Grades 3, 5, and 8: Harcourt Educational Testing- Stanford 10 Assessment (SAT 10)
- Grade 10: CTB-McGraw Hill- Terra Nova

✓ Students will work independently during the entire testing period. Discussions or group work will not be part of the assessment.

✓ Accommodations will be consistent with a student's IEP, 504 plan, or LEP plan.

TEST ITEMS

✓ **Item Types.**
- All grades will have selected response items (SR) and brief constructed response items (BCR).
  - **Selected Response Items.** These items will offer four answer choices.
  - **Brief Constructed Response Items.** These require students to write an answer consisting of a few sentences.

	Selected Response	Brief Constructed Response
Grade 3	X	X
Grade 5	X	X
Grade 8	X	X
Grade 10	X	X

- ✓ **Augmented Items.** Augmented items were written to the Maryland English Language Arts Content Standards in Reading in grades 3,5, and 8. Augmented items for grade 10 were written to the Maryland English Core Learning Goals.
    - During the item writing, standards from the Maryland English Language Arts Content Standards in Reading and the indicators from the English Core Learning Goals were organized under three reading processes: general reading processes, informational reading processes and literary reading processes.
    - These reading process standards have been clarified to ensure that augmentation items assess Maryland standards.

SCORES

- ✓ A norm-referenced and a criterion-referenced score will be reported for each student.
    - **Criterion-Referenced Score**. Selected items from the Stanford 10 and the Terra Nova along with items created for Maryland will provide the Maryland criterion-referenced score. Criterion-referenced results will be published before school starts in fall 2003. An overall criterion-referenced score will be reported for the Maryland School Assessment based on the criterion-referenced items on the test.

        - Adequate yearly progress (AYP), the federal government's accountability measure, will be based on a school's criterion-referenced score.

    - **Norm-Referenced Score.** The Terra Nova and the Stanford 10 will provide the norm-referenced score. In 2003, the norm-referenced results will be reported before school ends in June 2003. Plans for releases in future years are being discussed. The norm-referenced test (NRT) component will include word study, vocabulary and reading comprehension.

    - An overall reading score will be reported by proficiency level – for example, Basic, Proficient, or Advanced. These levels will be determined through a Standards Setting Process that will occur in the future. Maryland plans to report scores General Reading Processes, Informational Reading Processes and Literary Reading Processes.

- ✓ Maryland will have its own rubrics for scoring the brief constructed response (BCR) items.
    - Grade appropriate, 0-3 scale rubrics are being developed for scoring the brief constructed response (BCR) items.