



Mohammed Choudhury
State Superintendent of Schools

TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Mohammed Choudhury
DATE: September 28, 2021
SUBJECT: Local School System Virtual Program Update

PURPOSE:

To share information related to SY 2021-2022 approved virtual learning programs in Maryland's local school systems.

BACKGROUND/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

Local School Systems (LSS) developed virtual program options for a limited number of students. At the August Board of Education meeting members requested an update on the status of the virtual programs once the school year began. This report will provide an update on enrollment of students in virtual programs as well as an update on some of the factors related to the monitoring timeline.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This presentation reflects LSS virtual program data as of 9/14/21 including enrollment numbers, class sizes, number of virtual teachers, and the attendance policy. Virtual program information from several LSSs will be presented. A review of the monitoring steps and the timeline MSDE will follow to ensure student success through access to equitable and quality LSS virtual programs will be shared.

ACTION:

For information and discussion

ATTACHMENTS:

Local School System Virtual Program Update.pptx
LSS Educator and School Data
LSS Virtual Enrollment



Local School System Virtual Program Update

Maryland State Board of Education
September 28, 2021

Acceptance to a Virtual Program



Primary Criteria

- Student grade level
- Compromised family health issues
- Applicant met certain priorities
- Regular attendance during SY 20 – 21
- Successful completion of virtual classes in SY 20 – 21

Statewide Student Applications and Interest Surveys

- 46,095 received

Primary Reasons for Student Non-Acceptance



- Did not meet LSS criteria for acceptance
- Application submitted after enrollment period
 - Several LSSs extended enrollment or offered a second enrollment period
- Submitted application was incomplete
- Family withdrew application
- Limited staff and/or resources available
- Program reached locally planned capacity

Virtual Program Data Collected 9/14/21



Student Enrollment:

Grade Band Levels	Student Enrollment #s	Percentages
K – 5	14,838	3.9%
6 – 8	5,610	2.7%
9 - 12	4,288	1.6%
Statewide Total	24,736	2.9%

Classroom Data:

Grade Band Levels	Average Class Size	# Virtual Educators
K – 5	20	2,186
6 – 8	25	700
9 - 12	23	409

Local school system curriculum facilitated by local educators with required daily synchronous instruction

- Grades K -5
- 8,989 students enrolled
- Enrollment re-opened to meet family concerns and LSS COVID metrics

Combination of local school system and vendor curriculum facilitated by local educators or vendor educators

- Grades 6 - 12
- 2,218 students enrolled
- Enrollment period not extended or re-opened

Combination of local school system and vendor curriculum facilitated by local educators with required daily synchronous instruction

- Grades K - 12
- Enrollment:
 - 202 elementary students
 - 116 middle school students
 - 170 high school students
- Enrollment period extended
- Accommodations and services provided by the student's home school staff

Local school system curriculum facilitated by local educators with required daily synchronous instruction in each course

- Grades 1-5
- 129 students enrolled
- Enrollment period extended
- Accommodations and services provided by the student's home school staff
- Additional seats made available to students in surrounding school systems

Blended virtual program that utilizes vendor content facilitated by vendor educators

- Grades 6 - 12
- 172 students enrolled
- Participating in the Eastern Shore of Maryland Educational Consortium (ESMEC)

In alignment with in-person attendance policies:

- **COMAR 13A.08.01.01.3 (03 – 05)**
- **Maryland Student Records System Manual**

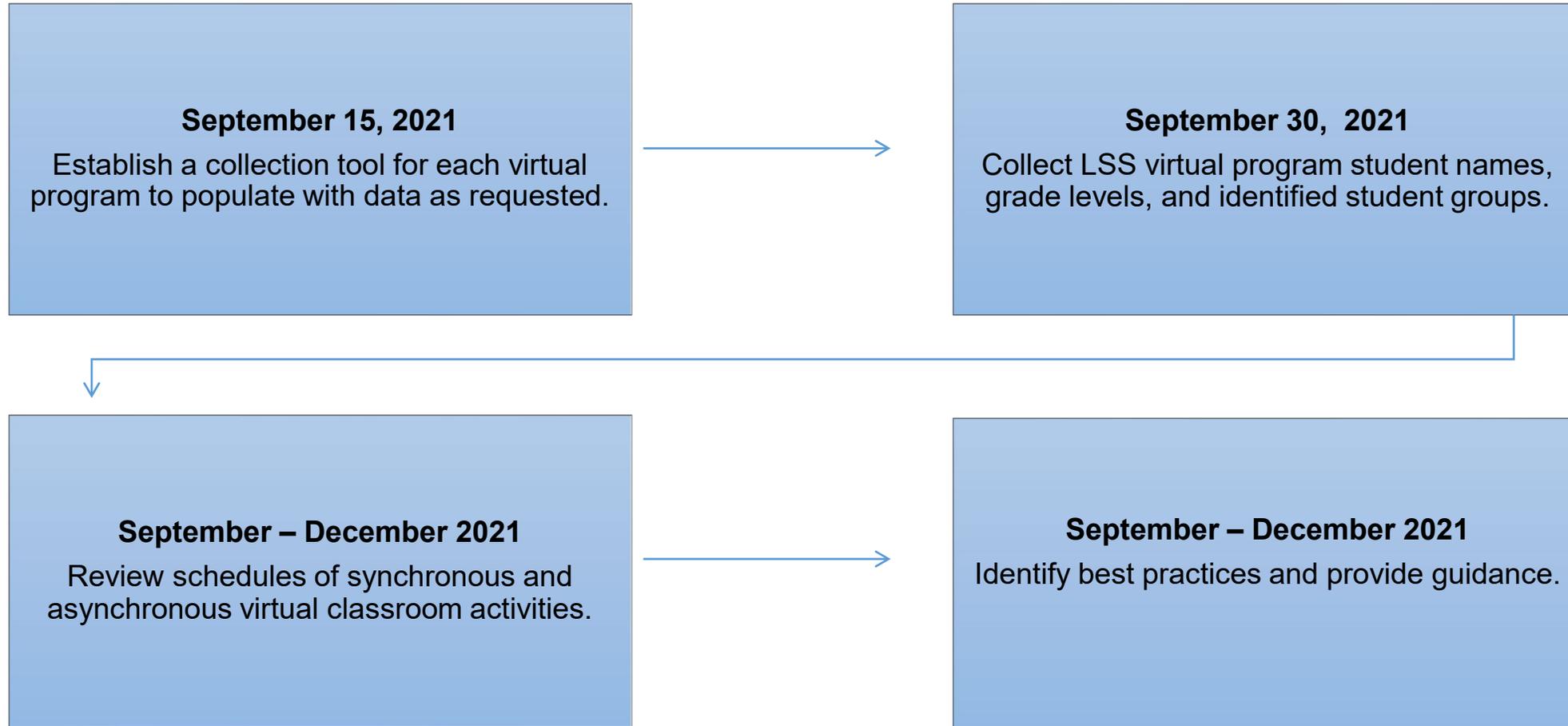
Collection and Monitoring Areas of Focus



Maryland State Department of Education “Look Fors” in LSS Virtual Programs:

- System strategies for **closely monitoring student performance**, engagement, and attendance
- Parental supports and communication that includes **technical assistance (Help Desk)**
- Student engagement in **synchronous sessions**
- **Professional Learning opportunities** to support virtual educators
- Presence of Universal Design for Learning Principles and **Social Emotional Learning**
- **Tutoring opportunities** and office hours
- **Special Education and English Learner supports**
- Media program available to all virtual students
- Assistance to students regarding time management and organization

Monitoring Timeline



Virtual Learning Program Collection Tool



Enrollment Grade Bands Student Groups Class Size	Grades Grade Bands Overall and student groups Subject areas
Instructional Time Grade Bands Synchronous	Attendance Grade Bands Student Groups
Staffing Grade Bands	Student Non-contact Grade Bands

Note: The collection tool is not finalized. MSDE is receiving feedback from DLAC and LSSs.

Local School System (LSS) Virtual Program Enrollment Data

Local School System	Student Enrollment in Grades K-5	Student Enrollment in Grades 6-8	Student Enrollment in Grades 9-12	Total Enrollment	Percent of Total LSS Enrollments
Allegany	93	13	0	106	1.4 %
Anne Arundel	178	206	185	569	0.7 %
Baltimore City	548*	327*	413	1,288	1.7 %
Baltimore County	1322	915	955	3,192	2.9 %
Calvert	79	99	64	242	1.6 %
Caroline	0	14	18	32	0.6 %
Cecil	96	101	137	334	2.3%
Charles	191	95	289**	575	2.2 %
Dorchester	0	12	18	30	0.7 %
Frederick	517	361	345	1,223	2.9 %
Harford	320	283	330	933	2.6 %
Howard	508	94***	n/a	602	1.1 %
Kent	0	1	11	12	0.7 %
Montgomery	1,535	800	755	3,090	2.0 %
Prince George's	8,989	1,911	307	11,207	8.8 %
Queen Anne's	0	20	21	41	0.6 %
Somerset	0	0	9	9	0.3 %
St. Mary's	77	118	141	336	2.0 %
Talbot	30	16	3	49	1.1 %
Washington	202	116	170	488	2.3 %
Wicomico	129	86	86	301	2.2 %
Worcester	24	22	31	77	1.2 %
LSS Total	14,838	5,610	4,288	24,736	2.9 %

* may enroll additional students- still reviewing and finalizing parent appeals

** 15 applications still pending

*** grade 6 only

LSS Virtual Program Educator and Class Size Data

Local School System	Number of virtual educators supporting the grades K - 5 program	Number of virtual educators supporting the grades 6 - 8 program	Number of virtual educators supporting the grades 9-12 program	Average virtual class size for grades K- 5	Average virtual class size for grades 6 - 8	Average virtual class size for grades 9 - 12
Allegany	6 (+support)	1 (+support)	0	15	13	0
Anne Arundel	11	14	14	30	35	35
Baltimore City	35 (Grades K- 8)		31	25	35	18
Baltimore County	48	47	32	45	35	50
Calvert	10	12	13	23	25	25
Caroline	0	11	13	0	24	22
Cecil	4	9	52	35	40	40
Charles	28	19	6.5	25	25	25
Dorchester	n/a	11	13	n/a	24	22
Frederick	18	18	18	28	24	17
Harford	19.5	21	35	28	32	32
Howard	37	16*	n/a	24	24	n/a
Kent	n/a	5	5	n/a	1	11
Montgomery	64 (+support)	49 (+support)	61 (+support)	25	26	28
Prince George's	1,864	360	23	27	23	14
Queen Anne's	0	11	13	n/a	24	22
Somerset	n/a	n/a	13	n/a	n/a	22
St. Mary's	7	12	15	25	25	23
Talbot	5 (+support)	15	13	27	30	30
Washington	16	12**	12**	28	28	25
Wicomico	11	11	13	26	24	22
Worcester	2	11	13	12	24	22

*- grade 6 only

** secondary teachers teach both middle school and high school students