

News Release: PGCPs PARCC NIGHT EVENT SERIES MET WITH OVERWHELMING SUCCESS, FINAL PARCC EVENT APRIL 6

April 1, 2016

For Immediate Release

CONTACT:

Office of Communications

301-952-6001

communications@pgcps.org (<mailto:communications@pgcps.org>)

UPPER MARLBORO, MD – Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) families gather for participation in PARCC Nights. The four-night event series provides parents with the opportunity to learn about the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and Maryland College and Career Ready Standards.

In a district-wide effort to provide comprehensive PARCC information to parents and students, the Departments of Testing, Research, and Evaluation; Curriculum and Instruction; Special Education, and other PGCPS offices collaborated to produce the parent-focus series.

During the events, parents received information from Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) officials about the PARCC exam, and how to help their child prepare for the assessment. PGCPS officials explained PARCC Student Home Reports, and how to prepare students for success through rigorous instruction.

The events featured breakout sessions for parents of students in PreKindergarten through high school, including English Language Learners and special education students. From the offered breakout sessions, parents selected two sessions of interest to attend. The sessions included:

- All About PARCC Testing
- PARCC Accessibility Features and Accommodations for Students with Disabilities and English Language Learners
- The PARCC Connection with English Language Arts Instruction in Elementary Schools
- The PARCC Connection with English Language Arts Instruction in Middle Schools
- The PARCC Connection with English Language Arts Instruction in High Schools
- The PARCC Connection with Math Instruction in Elementary Schools
- The PARCC Connection with Math Instruction in Middle Schools
- The PARCC Connection with Math Instruction in High Schools

"It is really important for parents to come to PARCC Night because parents are able to learn more about PARCC and what it really means," said Cecilia J. Roe, Director of Instructional Assessment, & Professional Learning for MSDE. "This event equips parents with the needed information to dispel misconceptions about the assessment, and learn how to advocate for their child. Parents are children's first advocates and the most important advocates, so it is critical that they have this information to best help their child," added Roe.

"This is about more than PARCC. We are involving parents in being an advocate for their child," said Yakoubou Ousmanou, Executive Director of Testing, Research, and Evaluation for PGCPs. "When parents come to PARCC Night, they will learn about curriculum, and other components that a child needs in order to be successful. "We worked hand in hand with the Departments of Curriculum and Instruction and Special Education to provide parents with comprehensive information and resources in one place to meet the needs of every child," added Ousmanou.

The final PGCPs PARCC Night is Wednesday, April 6, 2016 at Laurel High School from 6-9p.m.

-30-

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPs), one of the nation's 20th largest school districts, has 201 schools and centers, more than 133,000 students and nearly 20,000 employees. The school system serves a diverse student population from urban, suburban and rural communities located in the Washington, DC suburbs. PGCPs is nationally recognized for college and career-readiness programs that provide students with unique learning opportunities, including dual enrollment and language immersion.

Login for editors (<http://ektron.pgcp.org/login.aspx>)