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Director of Curriculum
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WICOMICO COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DIVISION OF INSTRUCTION
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Dear parent/guardian:

State law requires that all English Language Learners, Grades K-12 in public schools in Maryland participate in an assessment called the MCAP English Language Proficiency assessment annually. The purpose of the assessment is to gain insight on how students are mastering the acquisition of the English language. The goal of the assessment is to measure your child's ability to speak and write about academic topics. As a part of the assessment, your child will participate in four tests that focus on the following areas: Reading, Writing, Listening, and Speaking. Your child is identified as an *English language learner*. Your child will take the test every year until his/her scores meet the criteria to exit the language support program (MCAP ELP 4.5 overall). Scores from ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 can be used in many ways. Parents can use the scores to advocate for their child. Teachers use the scores to plan instruction and assessments. Districts use the scores to evaluate their language support programs, to monitor student progress in acquiring English, and to determine if a student is eligible to exit an English language support program. Scores are also used to meet federal and state accountability requirements.

This year, we will be administering the MCAP ELP between January 9th and February 17th. Your ELL teacher or School Test Coordinator will let you know the exact dates that your child will be assessed.

To learn more about your child's assessment, please contact your child's school. Please feel free to contact the Office of Assessment and Accountability if you have any questions regarding the MCAP ELP assessment at 410-677-4477.

Sincerely,

Karen Hitch

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