

### HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS

- I. Beginning with the class who entered 9<sup>th</sup> - grade in the fall of 2005, students must pass four High School Assessments (HSA), along with specified earned credits, in order to receive a Maryland High School Diploma (COMAR 13A.03.02; TCPS Policy IKF). These are administered as end-of-course tests in the following subjects:
  - Algebra I (Algebra/Data Analysis)
  - Biology
  - English II
  - Government
- II. The Talbot County high school curriculum program offers these mandatory courses, including some in both academic and advanced placement options. All are (at minimum) aligned with the respective Voluntary State Curriculum and Core learning Goals, and therefore aligned with student's preparation for the HSAs. Through careful application of the Instructional Process by teachers, as supported and supervised by principals and curriculum staff, it is the Board's expectation that the vast majority of students will be successful in both the course and the tests on their *first* administration.
- III. When students are unsuccessful, appropriate assistance must be made available to the student in order to recover the academic credit, achieve an acceptable score on the test, or both. The Board directs the Superintendent to develop administrative regulations to provide guidance to schools in meeting these critical outcomes.