



12 Magnolia Street
P.O. Box 1029
Easton, Maryland 21601-1029
Tel.: (410) 822-0330 FAX : (410) 820-4260

July 6, 2011

School Year: 2011-2012

Dear TCPS Title I Families,

Each year, all Talbot County students are required to take the Maryland School Assessment tests (MSA)- standardized tests that measure student achievement. The results of these tests are used to determine whether schools are meeting target goals for student achievement set by the state. The state standards are known as “Adequate Yearly Progress” (AYP). If a school has not reached these state standards for two years in a row the school is identified as being in “school improvement” and parents have the option to transfer their child to another school through the Title I Transfer Option process.

Easton Elementary School is a Title I school in “school improvement” because it did not make the AYP targets in 2010 and 2011. Easton Elementary School did not make AYP because the **Special Education Reading** subgroup in 2010 and 2011 did not meet targeted goals. In addition in 2011 Easton Elementary School did not make the AYP targets in the following Math subgroups: Special Education, FARMS and African American. Easton Elementary students have the option to transfer to White Marsh Elementary School or St. Michaels Elementary School. Transportation to the new school is provided by Talbot County Public Schools.

To help you better understand the Title I Transfer Option process and your options, the following is enclosed in this packet:

- Easton Elementary School MSA testing information for reading and math for SY 2010-2011. This school data shows you how your child’s school is performing for all students and for all subgroups.
- St. Michaels and White Marsh Elementary School’s MSA testing information for reading and math for SY 2010-2012. These pages show how the two schools are performing that you can select for your child to transfer to compare with Easton Elementary.
- Title I Application to Request Transfer
- Frequently Asked Questions.

Title I Schools “in improvement” receive additional resources to support activities to increase the level of student achievement. For example, Easton Elementary receives:

- Additional resources for teacher training,
- Additional staff to provide intervention programs,
- Interventions for students who have difficulty meeting the standards,
- Additional Materials for instruction, and
- Additional staff to support parent involvement including an interpreter and parent liaison.

Parents are encouraged to get involved in helping to support school improvement at Easton Elementary Elementary. Parents can help improve their child’s achievement by:

- Seeing that your child attends school every day,
- Participating in parent engagement activities,
- Attending all parent teacher activities,
- Monitoring my child's progress,
- Ensuring that my child completes homework assignments, and
- Serving on the school improvement teams.

We encourage you to use this information to determine the option that works best for you. Please also contact your school's principal to discuss your current school's progress and to see what new improvements and initiatives are planned for next year. If you choose to transfer your child to either St. Michaels or White Marsh Elementary, please submit your Title I Application to Request Transfer no later than **August 12, 2011** to the Title I Office at The Talbot County Education Center, 12 Magnolia St., Easton, MD 21601. Additional information about the Title I transfer option is also displayed on the Talbot County Public Schools and Easton Elementary School websites: WWW.EASTONELEMENTARY.ORG **OR** WWW.TALBOTSCHOOLS.ORG.

As of March 1, 2012, the Title I Transfer Option will end for current enrollees for the 2011-2012 School year. Any newly registering students who enter after February 29, 2012, will be eligible for transfer for the 2011-2012 school year.

If you have any questions or concerns, and want to discuss your options further, please contact the TCPS Title I Office at 410-822-0330.

Sincerely,

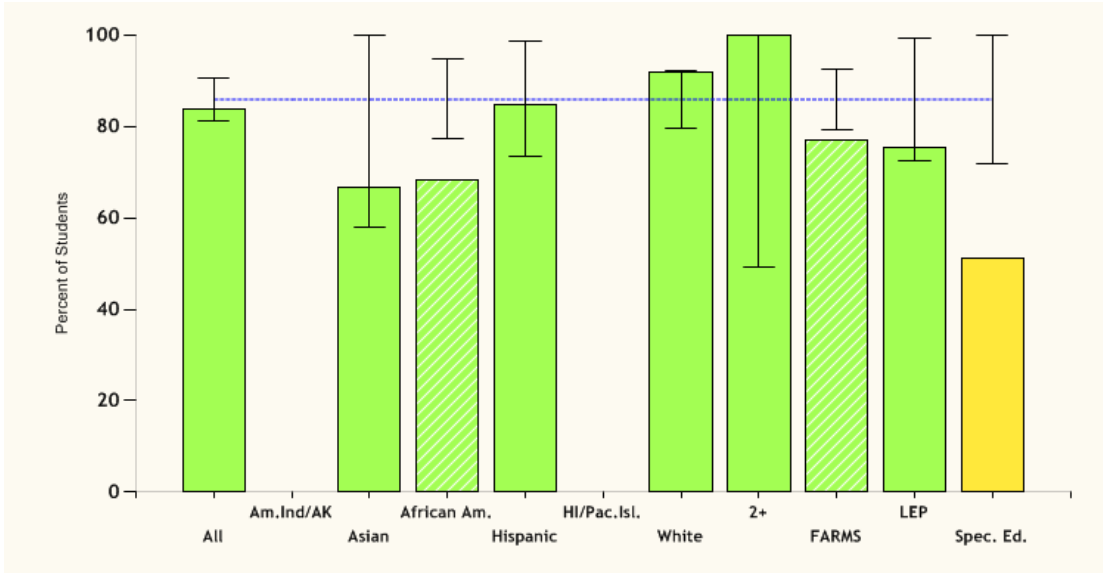
Sherry R. Sutton, Ed.D.

Title I Specialist

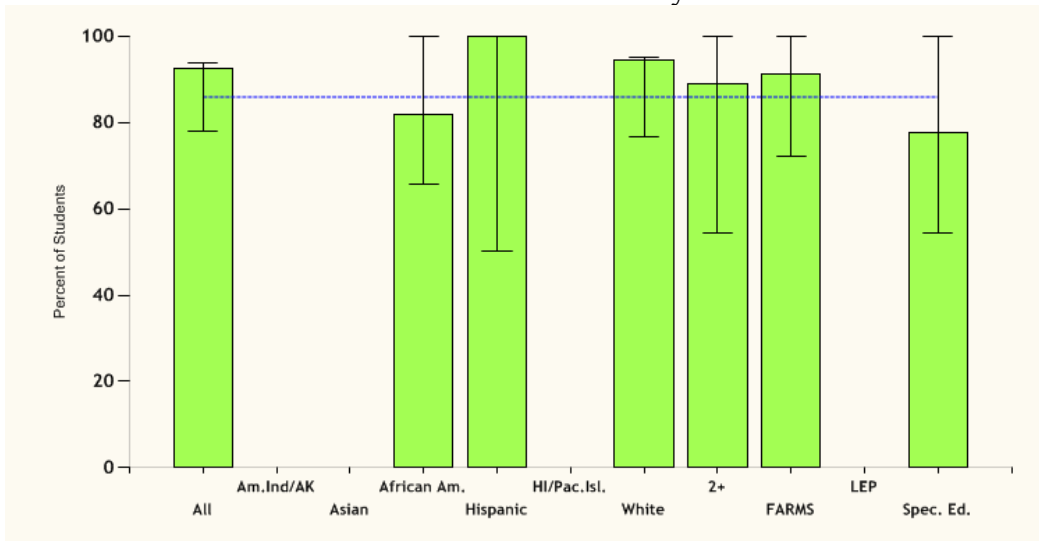
AYP Data incorporating MSA and Alt-MSA Information for School year 2010-11:

2011 AYP Reading Proficiency Comparisons

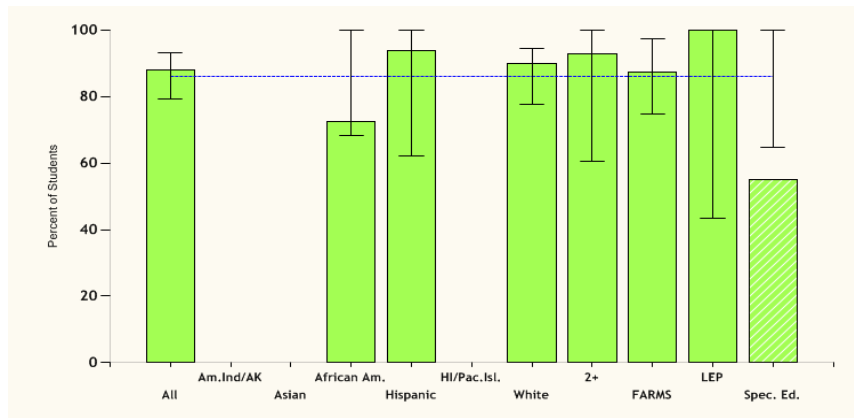
EastonES



White Marsh Elementary

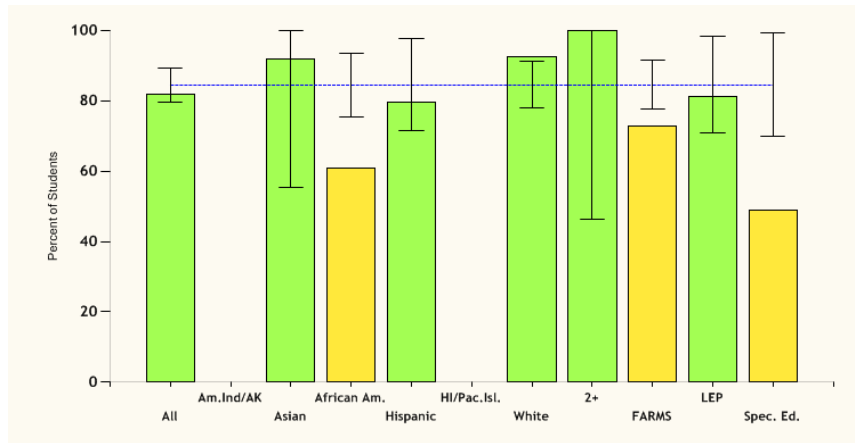


ST. Michaels ES

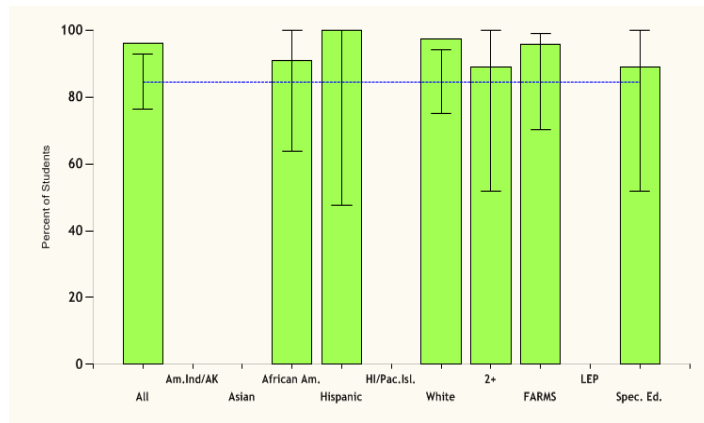


2011 AYP Math Proficiency Comparisons

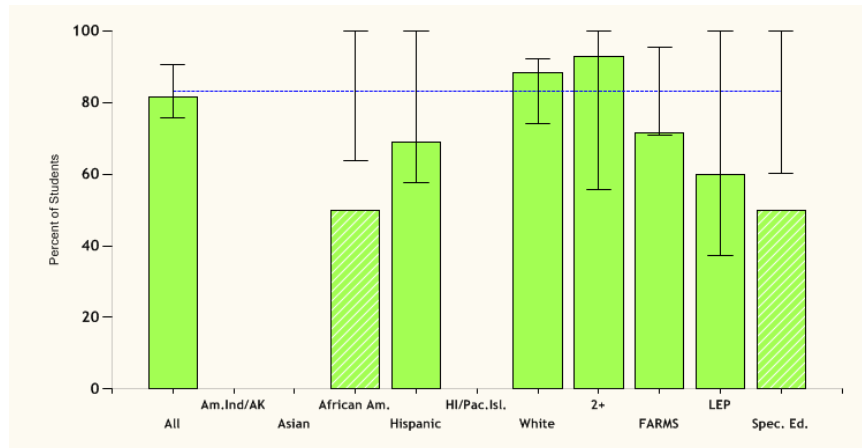
Easton Elementary School



White Marsh ES



St. Michaels



Talbot County Letterhead
Easton Elementary School
Title I Application to Request Transfer
School Year: 2011-2012

Deadline Date: _____

Student Name: _____ Student's Grade: _____
Please Print

Student Address: _____
Please Print

Parent/Guardian Name: _____
Please Print

Daytime Telephone Number: _____ Evening Telephone Number: _____

Return the completed application via mail, fax or hand deliver to: TCPS Title I Office
 12 Magnolia Street
 Easton, MD 21601

Write the numbers in the blank boxes next to each school beginning with number 1 as your first choice, 2 for your second choice.

| Write "1" for your 1 st Choice and "2" for your 2 nd choice | School Name/Address | Telephone Number | Grades |
|---|--|------------------|--------|
| | White Marsh Elementary School 4322 Lovers Lane Trappe, MD 21673 | 410-476-3144 | K-5 |
| | St. Michaels Elementary School 100 Seymour Ave. St. Michaels, MD 21663 | 410-745 - 2882 | K-5 |

I am aware that transportation for my child to attend the school(s) above will be provided.

Students living in the Easton Elementary School attendance area would be offered three transportation options. (Please put a check by the option that applies)

_____ **Option 1**

- Student will be transported to and from regular bus stop on an extended bus route.
- Student will be on the bus for no longer than 1 hour and ten minutes.

_____ **Option 2**

- Select bus stop in either the ST. Michaels Elementary School or White Marsh Elementary School attendance area
- Parent transports to and from bus stop

_____ **Option 3**

- Parent transports to and from either St. Michaels Elementary School or White Marsh Elementary School

*If you have any questions or need assistance completing this application, please call Dr. Sherry Sutton, Title I Specialist at 410-822-0330.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is AYP?

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is how the federal government through the No Child Left Behind Act determines if public schools are meeting its student achievement goals. Talbot County School receives the data from the Maryland School Assessment tests administered each year in March. Student scores are grouped in one of three categories: basic (below grade level), proficient (on grade level) and advanced (above grade level).

How does a school meet AYP?

AYP is determined by the number of students in grades 3-8 in a school that score proficient or advanced on the MSA. Each spring you will receive your child's scores in the mail for all sections of the test. These scores determine the schools AYP status. A school must meet the state targets for progress overall and for all subgroups within the school (low income students, students with disabilities, African American, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, American Indian, limited-English proficient students).

What does it mean that my school hasn't met AYP?

It means that, even if your school has made continued progress, more is needed. There is a portion of students at your child's school that are scoring in the basic range-below grade level on the test.

Who can apply to a different school through the Title I Transfer Option Process?

Students at Title I schools that have not met AYP for two or more academic years in a row.

Do I have to choose a school? Can I stay at the school that I currently attend?

No you do not have to choose a school. Choose the schools that works best for your children-this includes your current school. If you are happy with your school, you may remain there without doing anything at all for next school year.

Please note that the Title I Public School Choice Transfer Option with transportation applies as long as your child's home school is in school improvement. If this home school comes out of school improvement your child may remain at the school of choice but no transportation can be provided. He/she may remain in the school of choice until she/she has completed the highest grade in that school. This transfer option does NOT apply to your child's feeder middle/high school. School choice ends at the elementary level. Your child would continue grades 6-12 in the district attendance area where you reside.

Where can I get more information about this process?

Contact the Title I Office at 410-822-0330 for more information.

What are Talbot County Public Schools and the Maryland Department of Education (MSDE) doing to improve student achievement?

Harford County Public Schools is in the process of creating a system of great schools by:

- Allocation of Title I funding to each school
- Giving principals more autonomy to make decisions based on the students/community needs
- Involving families as partners

MSDE provided professional development and technical support to Talbot County Public Schools in:

- Understanding and interpreting needs assessment data
- Providing technical assistance to support the implementation of Talbot County Public Schools' School Choice Option