



**MARYLAND ASSESSMENT GROUP**

School Improvement for Educational Achievement

# **Transforming Maryland Education Through Policy and Practice**

**FINAL**

**Maryland Assessment Group  
2024 Annual Conference**

**November 18-20, 2024  
Ashore Resort & Beach Club  
Ocean City, Maryland**

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**MARYLAND ASSESSMENT GROUP**

School Improvement for Educational  
Achievement

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Conference Planner MIXT MEDIA MARKETING

Email: [casey@mixtmediamarketing.com](mailto:casey@mixtmediamarketing.com)

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**MARYLAND ASSESSMENT GROUP  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**NOVEMBER 18-20, 2024  
ASHORE RESORT & BEACH CLUB  
OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND**

**MAG BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**The MAG Board of Directors wishes to thank the vendors and sponsors for their financial support. Their support and contributions reduce the cost of this conference for Maryland educators.**

*Conference arrangements provided by Casey Andersen, MIXT MEDIA MARKETING*

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## **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18**

12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.      **REGISTRATION**  
Lower Terrace Lobby

### **VENDOR DISPLAYS IN SALON A (Tideline A)**

Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. – Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., Salon B  
**Local Accountability Coordinators' Meeting**  
**Led by Simeon Sanders & Geoff Sanderson, MSDE**  
Local Accountability Coordinators and MSDE staff will gather for a formal state meeting.

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Conference Room 1/2

#### ***“Hacking the Brain to Study Better”***

**Presenters: Judith V.T. Wilson Retired- Montgomery County Public Schools**

Come and discover how the brain learns best. Many current study techniques are now known to be counter-productive. However, educational neuroscience research now has presented us with better study practices and strategies (that enhance long-term memory) for improving students'™ learning. Walk-away with ideas to use at home or school.

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Conference Room 3

#### ***“Unlock the Power to Transform Classroom Instruction”***

**Presenters: Stacy Blair – Renaissance**

Renaissance Next is a powerful new teacher experience that advances instruction and empowers educators with in-the-moment recommendations to support instructional decisions, including planning for whole-class instruction, small group work, and individual practice. Renaissance Next streamlines teachers' workflows by seamlessly bringing lessons, resources, and activities together—helping them to better personalize teaching and truly See Every Student.

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Conference Room 4/5

#### ***“Leveraging Data Literacy through School-Level Data Monitoring Approaches”***

**Presenters: Dr. Kecia L. Addison & Erika McCrea - Montgomery County Public Schools**

Empowering educators with data literacy and monitoring skills transforms student outcomes. This session highlights how our district's professional learning initiative enhances teachers' ability to interpret student data, track progress, and inform instruction in core content areas, fostering a data-driven culture for continuous academic improvement.

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18**

4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Tideline B

***“ADAM Overview”***

**Presenters: Pearson**

Participants will get an overview of the Assessment Delivery and Management (ADAM) platform LEA and school staff will be using to assign accommodations, manage proctor groups, and access reports.

4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Conference Room 1/2

***“Mastering State-Wide Testing: Innovative Strategies and Systematic Solutions”***

**Presenters: Mandy Verme & Brok Hess - Ivymount School**

This collaborative presentation will include strategies on conducting state-wide testing. A facilitated discussion will have audience participants share new ideas and how various systems are used to increase efficiency and decrease errors. Bring your strategies to share and walk away with new ideas to implement this spring!

4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Conference Room 3

***“Unpacking Inequities and Crafting Solutions”***

**Presenters: Worcester County Public Schools Dispro Team**

This presentation will detail how one district tackled disproportionality in special education identification and discipline through systemic change. We will discuss addressing biases and systemic issues through implementation science, a school improvement process, and data analysis. Learn our strategies for promoting equity, fair practices, and improved student outcomes for all children.

4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Conference Room 6

5:45 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. **DINNER BUFFET** - Atlantic Ballroom

6:45 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Opening remarks

*(Included in your conference registration fee.)*

*Garden Salad Bar*

*Meat Lasagna*

*Vegetarian Lasagna*

*Chicken Piccata*

*Sautéed Green Beans with Garlic and Olive Oil*

*Garlic Bread*

*Selection of Cakes and Pies*

*Coffee & Tea Station*

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**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18**

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER** - Atlantic Ballroom



***Partnering with Maryland to Drive Student Success***

**Priscilla Rodriguez, Senior Vice President,  
College Readiness Assessments**

**College Board**

Join Priscilla Rodriguez, Senior Vice President of the SAT Suite of Assessments at College Board, as we discuss the transformative power of the SAT Suite of Assessments in Maryland's education landscape. This keynote will highlight how the SAT Suite directly connects students to advanced pathways aligned to Maryland's Blueprint for Education, creating access for all students and opening doors to college and career opportunities.

A first-generation American who credits the PSAT/NMSQT, SAT and AP classes with changing her trajectory, Priscilla is passionate about the generational impact of education and is deeply committed to access and equity. Prior to leading the College Readiness Assessments division, Priscilla created and launched the College Board Opportunity Scholarships (now called the BigFuture Scholarships), a unique program that annually awards thousands of students with millions of dollars in scholarships simply for taking important college planning steps during high school. Prior to joining College Board, Priscilla was a Senior Vice President at the Poses Family Foundation. There she developed and managed Understood.org, the Webby-winning online resource for parents of children with learning and attention issues. Prior to leading Understood.org, Priscilla worked as a strategy consultant for large foundations and non-profit organizations at the Bridgespan Group. She began her career in investment banking and private equity.

Priscilla earned her MBA from the Harvard Business School and her bachelor's degree in finance and marketing from the University of Virginia. She lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband, two daughters, and dog.

**8:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m., Cocktail Reception, Tideline A  
Sponsored by Pearson**

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**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**REGISTRATION** - Lower Terrace Lobby

7:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST** - Atlantic Ballroom

*(Included in your conference registration fee.)*

*Orange and Cranberry Juice*

*Season's Picked Fresh Whole Fruit Sliced Seasonal Fruits and Berries*

*Freshly Baked Morning Muffins and Pastries*

*New York Style Bagels | Regular and Flavored Cream Cheese*

*Individual Low-fat Fruit and Greek Yogurts*

*Coffee & Tea Station*

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER** - Atlantic Ballroom



***Beyond for Learning: Classroom Assessments as Learning***

***Dr. Laine Bradshaw***

**Vice President of Classroom Solutions**

**Pearson**

We know that classroom assessments are often seen as assessments for learning, shifting the focus from evaluation to student growth. But did you know that they can also be assessments as learning? Join us for a thoughtful discussion on classroom assessment practices with Dr. Laine Bradshaw, founder of the Navvy classroom assessment system. Drawing from extensive experience crafting and implementing hundreds of micro-assessments meaningfully integrated with teaching and learning cycles, Dr. Bradshaw will introduce and unpack key elements that transform assessments beyond mere tools for learning into powerful experiences of learning. As a former tenured professor of Quantitative Methodology and expert in Mathematics Education, she has partnered with teachers and leaders across the country to rethink and innovate the use of assessments in the formative process. Whether you're a teacher, leader, or someone curious about assessment innovation, this discussion invites you to explore how formative assessments can drive real-time learning, shaping both instruction and engagement for the benefit of all learners.

Dr. Laine Bradshaw is the Vice President of Classroom Solutions at Pearson. As a tenured associate professor of quantitative methodology in the College of Education at the University of Georgia (UGA), she created Navvy, a student-friendly and learning-focused classroom assessment system, in close collaboration with educators. Navvy leverages proprietary psychometric methods Dr. Bradshaw developed to give short yet reliable, on-demand assessments that celebrate learning achievements and pinpoint student needs. As an author, researcher, and edtech entrepreneur, Dr. Bradshaw was named among UGA's "40 under 40" alumni for 2021. She has received teaching, research, and community engagement awards from her university, and her scholarship has been recognized through awards from NCME and AERA. Dr. Bradshaw has a Ph.D. in research, evaluation, measurement, and statistics and an M.Ed. in mathematics education. She has published numerous peer-reviewed research articles in top journals on the topic of diagnostic psychometrics and formative assessment.

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10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Tideline B

***“Accountability Taskforce Update: Federal Accountability”***

**Presenters: Scott Marion – Center for Assessment**

The Maryland Assessment and Accountability Task Force, a representative group of Maryland education leaders, has been meeting regularly since May to deliberate over and make recommendations to improve Maryland’s state assessment and school accountability systems. This session will feature Dr. Scott Marion, Executive Director of the Center for Assessment and one of the Task Force facilitators, presenting the Task Force’s recommendations for improving Maryland’s school accountability system. Dr. Marion will solicit participants’ feedback throughout the session.

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Conference Room 1/2

***“From Bored to Engaged: Creating Lessons that Inspire”***

**Presenters: Despina Moniodis, Carrie Tiedeken, and Allie Racioppi - Kennedy Krieger School and Kennedy Krieger Fairmount**

As educators, we are invested in student learning, but how do we motivate students to invest in their own learning? It is challenging to design and deliver lessons that provide the necessary content, meet individual student needs, and sustain student attention. Learning should and can be fun, without burning us out as educators! Join us as we explore strategies that capture student interest, create meaningful and memorable learning experiences, and ignite (or reignite) the joy of teaching.

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Conference Room 3

***“How Schools Can Get Better at Getting Better”***

**Presenters: Dr. Ronald S. Thomas - Towson University**

Studies have shown that improvement planning often does not result in significantly reducing learning gaps and increasing the learning of all students, despite the hard work of educators. This presentation will show how the research-based strategies of improvement science, a systems approach, and equitable practices can be used to capture the passion of stakeholders; incorporate protocols in which the push for improvement is blame-free; honor the perspectives of all stakeholders by incorporating discreet data; facilitate a convergent root cause analysis process; implement high-leverage practices to replace inequitable systems with more equitable ones, and use rapid iterative cycles of small-scale field tests.

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Conference Room 4/5

***“Transition to the New PGCPS Assessment and Reporting Platform (PARP)”***

**Presenters: Christopher Gardy - Prince George’s County Public Schools**

With the Maryland Department of Education’s (MSDE) transition from Pearson Access to Pearson’s Assessment and Management (ADAM) System, we would like to share Prince George’s County Public Schools experience making the transition to the ADAM platform, which we have renamed as the Prince George’s County Public Schools Assessment and Reporting Platform (PARP), for our district and local assessments. This presentation aims to provide insights into our experiences with the platform as both an assessment delivery and reporting tool. Additionally, we will offer a basic understanding of the platform’s functionality and address any questions regarding the real-life use of ADAM with teachers and students.



## **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

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11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Tideline B

### ***“Accountability Taskforce Update: Assessment System”***

**Presenters: Scott Marion – Center for Assessment**

The Maryland Assessment and Accountability Task Force, a representative group of Maryland education leaders, has been meeting regularly since May to deliberate over and make recommendations to improve Maryland’s state assessment and school accountability systems. This session will feature Dr. Scott Marion, Executive Director of the Center for Assessment and one of the facilitators of the Task Force, presenting the Task Force’s recommendations for Maryland’s next-generation state assessment system. Dr. Marion will be soliciting participants’ feedback throughout the session.

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Conference Room 1/2

### ***“Performance Reporting in ADAM”***

**Presenters: Elizabeth Pennington - Pearson**

How can data inform instructional decisions? This session will focus on the new MCAP reporting data available at the LEA/school level. Understanding the data available and how it is expressed can open doors to using the information to impact student learning.

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Conference Room 4/5

### ***“Creating a Test Ready Culture in Schools”***

**Presenters: Simene' Walden – Prince George’s County Public Schools & Pretty Healed Enterprises, LLC**

This session will present ways to rally schools together before, during, and after tests. We will include celebration strategies and how to provide parents with the resources to assist their child. We will include key protocols teachers can implement to prepare students and execute without error during testing days.

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Conference Room 6

### ***“Finding Your Big Bank for the Buck: Ensuring for Continuous Improvement in Mathematics”***

**Presenters: Laura Liccione, Dr. Richard McKee, & Sandra Miralia - Prince George’s County Public Schools**

In this session, participants will learn about and engage in Improvement Science practices and tools that made noticeable gains in mathematics teaching and learning. Hear from improvers how change ideas were measured for efficacy in addressing a problem, through a Plan Do Study Act (PDSA) cycle. Leave with ideas and tools to get started!

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**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **LUNCH** - Atlantic Ballroom

*(Included in your conference registration fee.)*

*Artisan Sandwiches  
(Black Forest Ham & Gruyere)  
(Roasted Turkey & Swiss)  
(Roasted Vegetable)  
Coleslaw  
Potato Chips  
Fruit  
Coffee & Tea Station*

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Exhibit Hall, Tideline A

**Dessert  
Vendor Discussions**

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## **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

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2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Tideline B

### ***“Science of Reading and Assessment Practices”***

**Presenters: Karen Hitch & Dr. Renee Hall - Wicomico County Public Schools**

Join us for an enlightening exploration into the dynamic fusion of assessments and the science of reading in elementary education. In this empowering presentation, we delve into the crucial role assessments play in fostering literacy proficiency among young learners. Grounded in the latest research and insights from the science of reading, attendees will discover practical strategies for designing and implementing assessments that effectively identify students' strengths and areas for growth. During the session, participants will dig deeper into practices with formative and diagnostic assessments to identify struggling readers. Don't miss this opportunity to elevate your teaching practice and empower students to become confident, proficient readers!

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Conference Room 1/2

### ***“Stress & Tests”***

**Presenters: Judith V.T. Wilson Retired - Montgomery County Public Schools**

Discover what's happening in the brain when students feel anxiety or stress. Hear about several educational classroom strategies that can help students feel better prior to tests. Find out how practicing mindfulness can bring back students focus, concentration, calmness, and relaxation. Walk-away with several mindfulness exercises to start practicing tomorrow.

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Conference Room 3

### ***“Leveraging MSDE Data for Accountability and Transparency: CLF’s Data Dashboard for its Public Charter Schools”***

**Presenters: Tekin Tuncer - Chesapeake Lighthouse Foundation (CLF)**

This session focuses on how CLF’s Data Dashboard (<https://clfmd.org/data-dashboard>) utilizes MSDE data to ensure accountability and transparency for its public charter schools in AACPS and PGCPS. Attendees will learn how key metrics such as MCAP, MD Report Card, NWEA MAP and college readiness data drive data-informed decisions, improving school performance and stakeholder engagement. Please bring a laptop to participate in this session.

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Conference Room 4/5

### ***“Literacy Policy Updates”***

**Presenters: Stephanie Dale – MSDE**

The MSDE Branch of Literacy Programs and Initiatives is excited to provide information on the newly adopted Comprehensive PreK – Grade 3 Literacy Policy. The presentation will include information on stakeholder feedback, a review of the data that led to the adoption of the policy, policy revisions and amendments, and next steps for supporting Local Education Agencies.

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## **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Tideline B

### ***“Introducing Star Early Literacy”***

**Presenters: Emily Oliver - MSDE and Stacy Blair, Larry Ehert, & Gretchen Guffy - Renaissance Learning**

MSDE is pleased to announce a partnership with Renaissance Learning to implement a new assessment system for kindergarten and pre-kindergarten students in Maryland. Learn about assessment administration, reporting, and instructional implications.

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Conference Room 1/2

### ***“Assessing Brilliance: Feedforward Approaches for Next Generation Learners”***

**Presenters: TJ Heck – Cognia, Jill Wertheim – WestEd, & Rosanna Haywood – Montgomery County Public Schools**

Explore innovative interim assessments aligned with OpenSciEd curriculum which incorporate Learning Center Rubrics providing “Feedforward” instructional guidance to help educators recognize student brilliance and support deeper student sensemaking. Cognia and WestEd partners will highlight gaps in current assessment systems and demonstrate how an integrated interim assessments can more effectively support the success of all students.

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Conference Room 3

### ***“A Journey Toward Measuring Equity in Schools”***

**Presenters: Eva Yiu, PhD & Mary Klyap, PhD – Howard County Public Schools**

Equity is a concept that school systems strive to achieve but challenging to measure. HCPSS developed an Educational Equity Framework to define and measure equity in schools. Presenters discuss the framework's elements, indicators, and data dashboards. Participants will hear how collaboration with other offices/stakeholders helped refine tools. Participants will gain insights into operationalizing equity in their settings.

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Conference Room 4/5

### ***“Accessing College and Career Readiness Across Maryland”***

**Presenters: Bard Keeler & Joi Jones – College Board**

Access to college and career readiness begins with access to opportunity. Within this context, we will review Maryland’s SAT Suite of Assessment and Advanced Placement participation and performance data followed by a discussion of College Board programs and services that support districts expanding access to opportunity. Topics include AP Access courses, Pre-AP opportunities, Career Kickstart, and BigFuture.

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Conference Room 6

### ***“The Intersection of AI and Data in Schools”***

**Presenters: Beth Kawecki & Matthew Riese - PowerSchool**

Breaking down data silos is essential for enabling AI to access all organizational data from a single, centralized location. By integrating data from various sources into a unified platform, schools and districts can fully leverage AI's potential. This session will address key considerations and best practices for the responsible use of AI in education, offer resources and tools to support AI implementation, and demonstrate how PowerSchool is integrating AI with your data.

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## **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Tideline B

### ***“End-to-End Guide to MCAP Assessments”***

**Presenters: Chris DeLong - ETS, Angela Kellogg & Elizabeth Pennington - Pearson**

The end-to-end process of creating fair and valid assessments to determine student understanding of statewide and national standards is long and cyclical. In this session, ETS and Pearson, the development and administration vendors for the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP), will explain the process and interactions from item and test creation to test administration and reporting.

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Conference Room 1/2

### ***“Academic Integrity: Safeguarding Standardized Test”***

**Presenters: Adei Snyder - MSDE**

Educate educators and administrators on current trends in academic dishonesty and best practices for ensuring the integrity of testing procedures. Topics will include data validity, secure test administration, prevention, and the affect breaches have on MCAP. Possible 2 sessions.

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Conference Room 3

### ***“Decoding Formative Assessment: Using a Conceptual Framework to Improve Practice”***

**Presenters: Terry Morgan & Gail Charles-Walters - RISE for Tomorrow**

Teachers’ understanding of formative assessment shapes its impact on student success. What began as an effort to improve its application evolved into a powerful tool for educational growth. This session reveals a conceptual framework that streamlines planning, enhances target instruction, and fosters teacher reflection.

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Conference Room 4/5

### ***“CCR Updates: Guidebooks, Feedback, and Thought Partnership”***

**Presenters: Zachary Carey – MSDE**

The Maryland State Department of Education is excited to provide updates related to College and Career Readiness (CCR) support, along with providing collaborative opportunities to engage and provide feedback in order to guide future work. The presentation will include information on the recently released CCR Readiness Guidebooks, background on the CCR Standards, and opportunities for collaborative opportunities for input.

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Conference Room 6

### ***“Data-informed decisions: Leveraging your assessment data”***

**Presenters: Stacy Blair – Renaissance**

Are your students on track to achieve grade-level benchmarks? Are they prepared to succeed on the MCAP? How many may need additional support or intervention? How can you best leverage assessment data to support and enhance student learning? Join us as we examine practical, proven strategies for using data from Renaissance Assessments to inform instructional decisions—at both the student level and the district/school level—to help keep students on track for mastery of Maryland standards.

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**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

*5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., Cocktail Reception, Tideline A*  
**Sponsored by Renaissance**

**7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., DINNER - Atlantic Ballroom**  
*(Included in your conference registration fee.)*

*Seafood Chowder*  
*Ocean Club Salad Bar*  
*Carved Peppercorn Crusted Prime Rib with Au Jus or Horseradish Cream Sauce*  
*Orange Roughy with Crowned Shrimp Imperial*  
*Maryland Baked Chicken with Old Bay Seasoning*  
*Lyonnaisse Potatoes*  
*Sautéed Seasonal Vegetables*  
*Cheddar Biscuits and Sweet Cream Butter*  
*Sundae Bar | Hand-dipped Premium Vanilla Ice Cream, Chocolate and Strawberry Sauces,*  
*Caramel, Sprinkles, Nuts, Cherries, and Whipped Cream*  
*Coffee & Tea Station*

**MAG Networking/Happy Hour – Taproom and Shore Deck**  
*Wear your badges for MAG drink specials!*  
**8:00 p.m. – until? (not too late, you have sessions to go to tomorrow)**

## **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20**

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Tideline B

### ***“Understanding Adaptive Testing: ELA”***

**Presenters: Sukkeun Im - Pearson & Emily Oliver - MSDE**

What is a Multi-Stage Test? How does this differ from a CAT? This presentation will discuss how each stage is selected using an algorithm that uses the student’s performance on previously answered items and their difficulty level. Participants will learn about the theory behind MST assessments and how they precisely measure a student’s knowledge and ability.

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Conference Room 1/2

### ***“Attend to the Whole Child: Non-Academic Factors within MTSS”***

**Presenters: Jonathan Strout – Renaissance**

Addressing non-academic barriers to student learning will be essential this school year. However, gathering the right non-academic information and pairing it with academic data can be challenging. Join us to learn practical strategies for proactively identifying and addressing non-academic barriers using evidence-based universal screening within an MTSS framework. We'll explore:

- Which non-academic factors can affect student outcomes the most
- How leaders are making data-driven decisions to improve school climate
- How schools are using non-academic data to determine tiered interventions

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Conference Room 3

### ***“Grade 5 and 8 Reporting Category Changes”***

**Presenters: Jeremy Marcus-Wenger – MSDE**

The Spring 2025 administration will see a change in the grade 5 and 8 Maryland Integrated Science Assessment system reporting categories. Participants will learn about the new reporting categories and the reasons for the change.

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Conference Room 4/5

### ***“Systematizing School Improvement Planning”***

**Presenters: Anna Harding, Nicole Howard, and Nuria Williams - Anne Arundel County Public Schools**

Discover practical strategies for systematizing school improvement planning through hearing AACPS lesson filled journey. This session will cover data-driven decision-making, stakeholder engagement, goal setting, action planning, and sustainable improvement practices. Equip yourself with tools to create effective, collaborative plans and resources that drive continuous growth and enhance educational outcomes.

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## **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20**

9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Tideline B

### ***“Understanding Adaptive Testing: Math”***

**Presenters: Sukkeun Im - Pearson & Adei Snyder - MSDE**

What is a Computer Adaptive Test? This presentation will discuss how each item or item set is selected using an algorithm that uses the student’s performance on previously answered items and their difficulty level. Participants will learn about the theory behind CAT assessments and how they precisely measure a student’s knowledge and ability.

9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Conference Room 1/2

### ***“Data-Driven Instruction and Interventions to Support Students with IEPs”***

**Presenters: Dr. Joseph Bostic, Jr. – Montgomery County Public Schools**

This proposal outlines the data-driven approach and interventions designed to support students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) at Northwood High School. The goal is to improve academic achievement, social-emotional development, and overall school experience for students receiving special education services by leveraging targeted interventions, progress monitoring, and collaborative efforts between staff, families, and support teams.

9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Conference Room 3

### ***“Scientific Literacy and Writing”***

**Presenters: Jeremy Marcus-Wenger – MSDE**

Constructed responses on the Maryland Integrate Science Assessment are a critical factor in determining a student’s scale score, though current trends indicate this is an area for growth. Participants will learn about MISA constructed response items and dissect student examples to determine methods for supporting student writing in science.

9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Conference Room 4/5

### ***“Tools to support data-driven MTSS”***

**Presenters: Stacy Blair – Renaissance**

Renaissance offers a streamlined approach to a data-driven, equity-based MTSS to help teachers efficiently and effectively meet the holistic needs of all students. By offering an array of connected tools designed to strengthen MTSS and RTI implementations, educators are equipped to drive system-level decisions and effective whole child supports at each tier. As part of the Renaissance Ecosystem, our MTSS solution connects with tools for creating comprehensive assessment systems and providing purposeful instruction and practice. Join us to learn about this purposeful tool.

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## **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20**

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. **BREAKFAST** - Atlantic Ballroom  
*(Included in your conference registration fee.)*

*Orange and Cranberry Juice  
Seasonal Fruits and Berries  
Freshly Baked Morning Pastries and Muffins  
An Assortment of Breakfast Cereals, Individual Low-fat Fruit, and Greek Yogurts  
Farm Fresh Scrambled Eggs  
Hardwood Smoked Bacon, Grilled Ham  
Hash Browns  
Buttermilk Pancakes, Warm Maple Syrup, Whipped Butter  
Coffee & Tea Station*

11:15 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. **KEYNOTE SPEAKER** - - Atlantic Ballroom



### ***Likes, Comments, and Posts***

**Gary Miller**

**Associate Vice President of Content and  
Implementation for Curriculum Associates**

**Curriculum Associates**

There are hundreds of social media platforms and at their core is the idea of bringing people together to create, share or exchange ideas. In this talk, we will extract ideas from a variety of research including the Education Recovery Scorecard, John Hattie, Grant Wiggins, and Curriculum Associates' State of Student Learning. Our goal is to multiply our impact with a positive, asset-focused group mindset around "go forward" strategies to transform our schools and energize our efforts on behalf of student achievement.

Gary Miller serves as the Associate Vice President of Content and Implementation for Curriculum Associates. In this role, Gary travels across the nation delivering motivational keynotes, coaching sessions, and presentations for sales meetings, conferences, and workshops. Now entering his 33rd year in education, Gary holds a master's degree in Instruction and Education, spent ten years as a classroom teacher and served as the Director of School Improvement for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Known for his passion for equity and "saying like it is," Gary tackles the hard topics head on, challenges the status quo with a belief we can always be better, and reminds us of why we do what we do.

### **Closing Remarks**

**Professional Development Point (PDP) Certificates and Door Prizes**

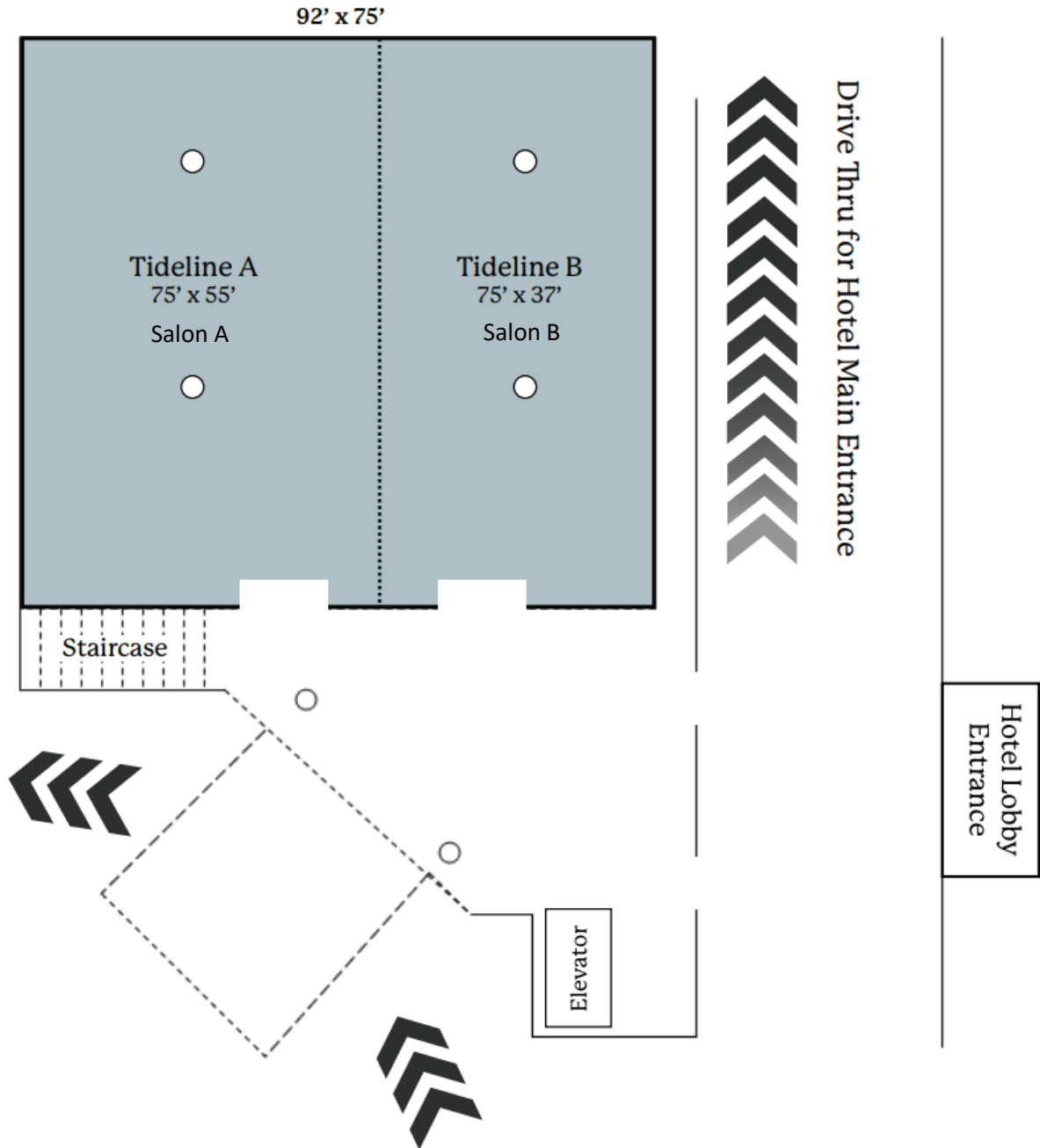
12:30 p.m. – Professional Development Credit Certificates will be distributed.

Join us on [X](#) - [@MDAssessmentGrp](#)

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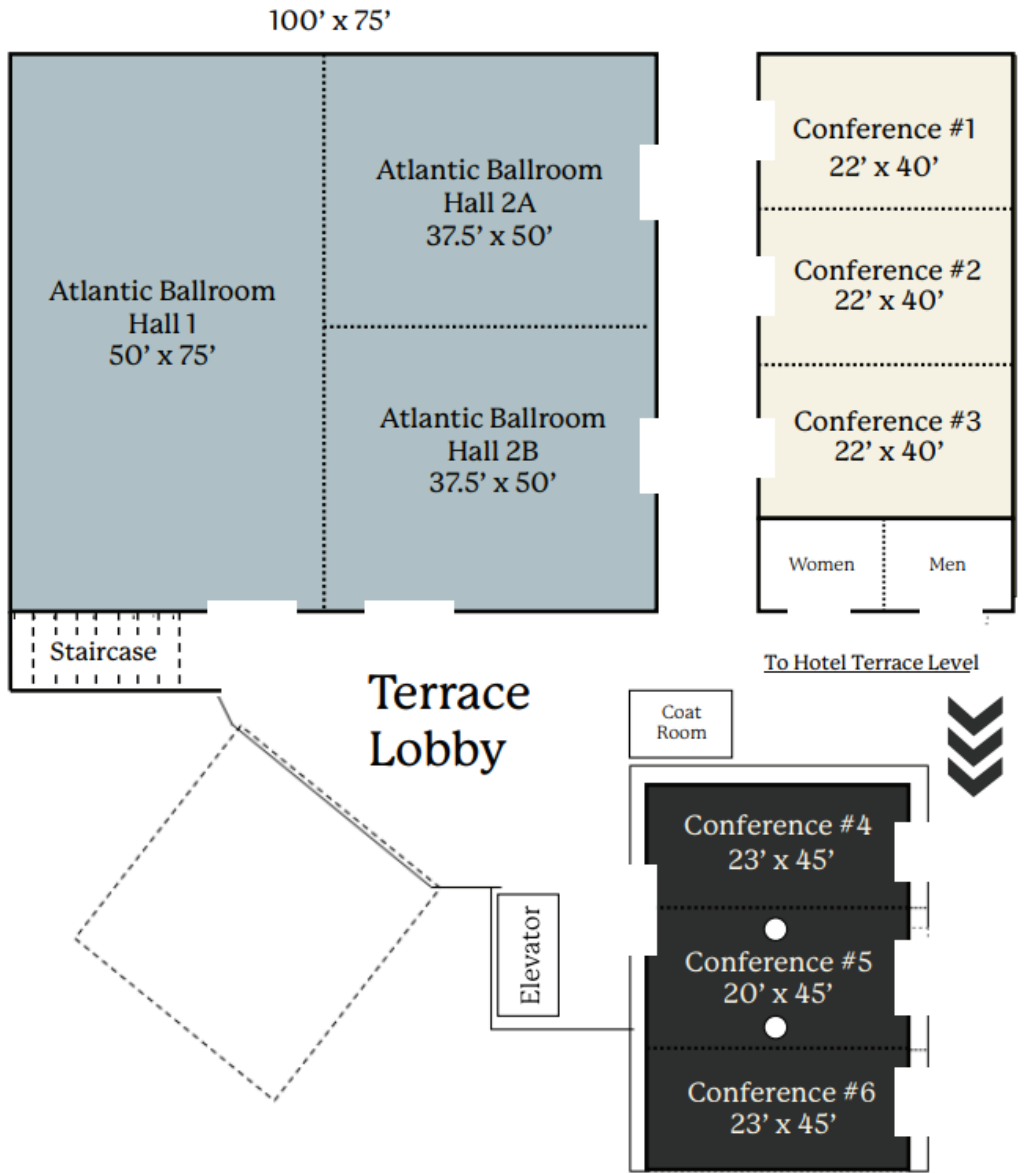
# Floor Layout | First Level

## GRAND BALLROOM



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Floor Layout | Terrace Level

**ATLANTIC BALLROOM**

## Information about CDP/PDP credit

In August of 2024, the Maryland State Department of Education has significantly updated licensure requirements for Maryland educators. Educators are now required to work with their supervisor to develop [individualized professional development plans](#) (IPDPs) which encompass all the professional development activities the educator should traverse prior to renewing their license. For each activity completed, educators earn [professional development points](#) (PDPs), as opposed to CPD credits, for license renewals. PDPs are measured as follows:

- 1 clock hour is equivalent to one PDP.
- 1 semester hour of college credit is equivalent to 15 PDPs.
- One MSDE-approved Continuing Professional Development (CPD) credit is equivalent to 15 PDPs.
- One Continuing Education Unit (CEU) is equivalent to 10 PDPs.

Educators may accrue PDPs by completing any professional development activities described in [professional development points](#). The Maryland Assessment Conference offers the opportunity to earn credit by attending or presenting at a professional conference.

Individuals that complete the entire Maryland Assessment Group conference will receive a PDP certificate form at the conclusion of the Wednesday's Keynote address. The credit form that MAG provides, a copy of the program, and possible receipt for attendance should be all a participant needs (but this may vary by district). Some districts require PDPs to be entered into [TEACH](#) The Educator Application and Certification Hub.

<https://marylandpublicschools.org/about/Pages/DEE/Certification/Individualized-Professional-Development-Plan.aspx>

<https://marylandpublicschools.org/about/Pages/DEE/Certification/Professional-Development-Points.aspx>

<https://certificationhub.msde.maryland.gov/#/>

### Promoting Maryland Best Practices Through Local MAG Presentations

In alignment with MAG's mission, we encourage LEAs and schools to submit presentations to that promote best practices in the area of assessment, instruction, and educational research and accountability. Those individuals who submit an LEA or school-based presentation (out-side of vendor sponsored presentations) will be entered into a drawing for a two-night stay (standard room) at the conference hotel.

**Eligible Entrants:** Anyone who submits a speaker proposal for the MAG 2024 conference (as determined in the final program) is automatically entered. One entry PER PERSON - regardless of how many presentations they may have. Event sponsors and attendees on their behalf are not eligible.

**Details:** The hotel room can only be used for the current year's conference or next year's conference. It's non-transferable from the winner to any other attendee unless formal permission from a MAG board member is provided. Winner must be present to claim the award which will be drawn at the conclusion of the Wednesday closing activities. **By accepting the hotel room, the awardee understands MAG IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INCIDENTALS, ROOM CHARGES, PARKING, OR ANY OTHER CHARGES OUTSIDE OF THE STANDARD HOTEL ROOM COST. Awardee is solely responsible for any damages or additional costs outside of this standard hotel room amount.** If award is not used by the following MAG conference, the room will be forfeited.

**Marketing:** The winning entrant agrees to be featured in possible future marketing materials unless notification of preference to not be included is sent via email to [casey@mixtmediamarketing.com](mailto:casey@mixtmediamarketing.com), at which time your request will be honored.

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## Participating Sponsors and Vendors

*Please visit our sponsors and vendors in the Vendor Exhibit Hall, Tideline A*

ORGANIZATION	REPRESENTATIVE	SPONSOR LEVEL
Pearson	Elizabeth Pennington	Platinum
Renaissance	Amanda Pottinger	Platinum
Curriculum Associates	Angie Hale	Gold
College Board	Joi Jones	Gold
PowerSchool	Beth Kawecki	Silver
ETS	Chris DeLong	Silver
Cognia	Stephan Murphy	Bronze
Benchmark Education	Gabrielle Descoteau	Exhibitor
Chesapeake Lighthouse Foundation	Tekin Tuncer	Exhibitor
McGraw Hill	Nancy Reed	Exhibitor
MANSEF	Dorie Flynn	Exhibitor
Imagine Learning	Kathleen Bendernagel	Exhibitor
Simple Solutions	Shannon Armstrong	Exhibitor

### **Ashore Things - OPEN 7AM to 1PM**

**In between MAG meals - enjoy delicious premium coffee along with quick foods and gift shop essentials.**

- Premium Coffee Drinks
- Fountain Sodas/Bottled Drinks
- Grab and Go Snacks and Meals
- Suntan Needs/Sundries
- Newspapers
- T-shirts/Sweatshirts

Located on the Terrace Level.

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