



Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD • MarylandPublicSchools.org

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D.

DATE: June 25, 2013

SUBJECT: Race to the Top Project Update

PURPOSE:

To provide the State Board of Education a high-level assessment of the current status of the MSDE's 54 RTTT projects.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

MSDE wishes to provide the State Board of Education with a monthly assessment of its 54 RTTT projects. Each project has a Project Manager, an Executive Sponsor (Assistant State Superintendent), and a Program Director who work collaboratively on the projects. The status of each project differs based on a wide variety of circumstances. A project that is on schedule during one month may be behind schedule two months later due to the loss of a key staff member, delay in amendment submission and/or approval, delay in procurement, etc. The attached document provides the State Board with staff's current analysis of each project according to the following scoring guidelines:

- 1 = substantially off-track and/or has significant quality concerns; urgent and decisive action is required;
- 2 = off-track and/or there are quality concerns; many aspects require significant attention;
- 3 = generally on-track and of high or good quality; only a few aspects require additional attention;
- and
- 4 = on-track with high quality.

Note: NR (No Rating) means that the project is complete

ACTION:

Information Only

Attachment

Monthly Project Report by Assurance Area (June 2013)

Note: The first project # is the one assigned by USDE staff after Maryland's submission. The second project # is Maryland's original budget number. The rating assigned means the following: 1 = substantially off-track and/or has significant quality concerns; urgent and decisive action is required; 2 = off-track and/or there are quality concerns; many aspects require significant attention; 3 = generally on-track and of high or good quality; only a few aspects require additional attention; 4 = on-track with high quality.

General	June 2013 Rating	May 2013 Rating	Accomplishments	Comments	Improvement Targets (if rating is a 1 or 2)
1/78: Office of Academic Reform and Innovation	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiated the RTTT Stat Process Revised Core Team implementation Reviewing the LEA Monitoring Process for revision and creation of LEA RTTTstat Completed USDE On-site monitoring -- awaiting feedback 	An ongoing concern will be filling RTTT vacancies in year 4 of the project	
2/1: Program Evaluation	2	2		Meeting with CAIRE was held on June 14 to discuss CAIRE's work moving forward, review of protocol to measure utilization and impact, and budget analysis (funds spent to date). Agreed to focus work on outcomes helpful to MSDE in achieving goals and making necessary mid-course corrections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified an Interim Project Manager -- Danielle Susskind Identification of projects to be evaluated and those where evaluation will not be value added CAIRE to provide revised project plan and associated budget for year 4 for approval Project to be on target by November 2013
Standards and	June	May	Accomplishments	Comments	Improvement Targets (if

Assessments	2013 Rating	2013 Rating			rating is a 1 or 2)
3/2: Formative Assessments	2	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed the procurement for online learning modules/professional development for teachers on effective instructional practices to support formative assessment in the classroom. On track now and predict that the modules will be procured by September/October 2013. 	<p>The project has made significant progress towards bringing the budget up to date and revising the project timeline. Several significant steps have been taken to move the project forward including the RFP for modules being open for bidding, posting job positions, and drafting RFP for item development. However, the project is notably delayed and understaffed and the USDE amendment has not been approved.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of the current USDE amendment is a critical step towards moving forward. Item and Performance task development is significantly delayed. However, will have teacher developed items as well as vendor procured items on track fall 2013.
4/3: Curriculum and Formative Assessment Development	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model units and lessons for ELA and math and literary resources for Social Studies, Science, technical subjects and Fine Arts were uploaded to blackboard 		
5/4: Curriculum and Formative Assessment Development for International Technology and Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA)	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher performance and demographic reports are now available using the on-line assessment system Foundation of Technology (FoT) teachers administered the FoT post assessment. Updates to curriculum were completed 		
6/76: Curriculum and Assessment	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned 2 day training session for 25 Construction Design 		

Development CTE-SREB			and Management teachers (July 30, 31) to review the new state curriculum, resources and online training with AutoCAD.		
7/5: World Languages Pipeline	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customized online portfolio assessment system, MD LinguaFolio Jr., is fully operational 		
Data Systems	June 2013 Rating	May 2013 Rating	Accomplishments	Comments	Improvement Targets (if rating is a 1 or 2)
8/11: Develop Overall Technology Infrastructure	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> USDE approved funds to be operational through 6/30/13 	As of June 3 rd , the Project has brought back 2 of the 4 security resources that were removed from the project on April 16 th . The project is currently in the planning phase to determine what can be delivered by 9/30/13. Also, the solution for accessing student-level detail dashboards via integration with each LEA is in the process of requirements gathering and design.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MSDE will complete an amendment to obtain funds for year 4 and to align budget categories. Will see positive progress once amendment submitted to USDE and approval received. Current schedule will deliver the P12 testing environment by 7/31/13 and P12 production by 9/30/13. Solution for accessing student level detail dashboards via integration with each LEA is in process - To be completed fall 2013.
9/27: Accessing and Using State Data-Dashboards	2	2		Roll out of the P12 dashboards is dependent upon the completion of the P12 production environment as described above in project 08/11.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendment to be prepared to revise end date and align budget categories. Project expected to be completed fall 2013.
10/28: Multi-Media Training	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed selection phase of an LDS subject matter expert 		

11/29: LEA System Application and Infrastructure Upgrades	3	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact surveys were completed from 9 LEAs to measure level of success 	for the Longitudinal train-the-trainer program				
12/60: Expansion to LDS – Data Exchange	4	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Placed into production a secure FTP server/Master File Transfer (MFT) System (Tibco) and installed at the DPSCS location Completed documentation of the MFT System 					
13/61: Enhancement to LDS – Develop Workforce Data Warehouse and Center	4	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed data refresh for policy question 2 related to National Student Clearinghouse data Migrated new changes into P20 production system 					
14/31: Develop and Implement a State Curriculum System	3	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established content development standards and meta-tagging processes to facilitate cross-project collaboration and execution Trained curriculum teams to utilize local file staging repositories as a precursor for loading content into the CMS production environment 					
15/07: Expand Instructional Toolkit	3	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concluded Algebra I PD Course Pilot on May 15, 2013 (30 participants successfully completed the course) 					
16/20: STEM Instructional and Career Support	3	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hired a new Project Manager 					

17/32: Implement a Test Item Bank System	2	2	<p>The project has passed the approved implementation due date for system installation, originally due December 2012, and has a pending amendment that could impact procurement of system in year 3.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project is 5 months behind schedule. On 6/12/13 the Board of Public Works approved request to procure the TIBs and CATs system. • Amendment is still outstanding to receive \$2M from Project 03/02 and to align budget categories. • The TIBs System is expected to be operational for a pilot fall 2013. Will finish December 2013.
18/33: Implement a Computer-Adaptive Test Delivery System	2	2	<p>The project has passed the approved implementation due date for system installation, originally due December 2012 and has a pending amendment that could impact procurement of system in year 3.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project is 5 months behind schedule. On 6/12/13 the Board of Public Works approved request to procure the TIBs and CATs system. • The CATs System is expected to be operational for a pilot winter 2013. Will need to amend schedule end date and revise completion end to summer 2014. • Amendment to align budget categories needs to be prepared and submitted to USDE.
19/34: Item Load and Integration Setup for Test Item Bank System	2	2	<p>Project is 2 months behind but has been mitigated by the approval by the Board of Public Works on 6/12/13 to procure the items for the TIBs and CATs system.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project will complete on time (Fall 2013)
20/35: Adaptive Testing Units for	1	1	<p>Revised MSDE's execution strategy regarding the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSDE will develop an amendment which aligns

High Schools			distribution of testing units to LEAs. Prepared a needs-based questionnaire as part of MSDE's delivery strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> budget categories and revised scope. Should be finalized Summer 2013. The handholds are the adaptive testing units that will be used to log onto the CATs system to be able to take adaptive tests. This will be operational in the winter, 2013-2014 school year.
21/42: Implement a Statewide System to Support Student Instructional Intervention	1	1	Project is behind schedule; the amendment has been submitted internally for approval.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surveyed LEAs to gain understanding of needs to procure, expand, or integrate their current student instructional intervention system or process. Following approval of amendment, MSDE will provide opportunity for every LEA to apply for a grant to implement or enhance their current system. This amendment request will extend the grant through September 2014. Once amendment submitted to and approved by USDE, project should be able to be back on track by December 2013.
22/6: Develop Online Instructional Intervention Modules	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loaded 12 resources to LMS for use during the Educator Effectiveness Academies. Created and provided a webinar on how to use the 	

23/55: Develop Framework for Teacher Toolkit Portal	4	4	<p>resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided demonstrations for PD protocol and continuing PD Application Workflow to Assistant State Superintendents of Instruction and Certification and Accreditation. • Revised protocol and application based on key stakeholder input and received final approval. • Workflows are ready to be implemented. • PD resources continue to be uploaded to the LMS. 		
24/56: Develop and Implement Course Registration System	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System is operational and is being utilized to support the Educator Effectiveness Academies. • Delivered blackboard training to representatives from every LEA. • Completed pilot courses for teachers (Algebra I PD) and students (Linear Algebra) 		
25/10: MSDE-IHE Teacher Preparation Workgroup	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided final workshops for Maryland Approved Alternative Preparation Program (MAAPP) representatives for mathematics and ELA (278 IHE Participants) 		
26/43: Implement a System to Support E-Learning for	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System is operational and is being utilized to support the Educator Effectiveness 		

Instructional Intervention, Enhancement, and Enrichment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academies. Delivered blackboard training to representatives from every LEA. Completed pilot courses for teachers (Algebra I PD) and students (Linear Algebra). 		
27/46: Equating of MSA for Use on Growth Model	NR	NR		
Great Teachers and Leaders	June Rating	Accomplishments	Comments	Improvement Targets (if rating is a 1 or 2)
28/47: Develop and Implement a Statistical Model to Measure Student Growth	NR	NR		
29/48: Develop and Implement an Educator Evaluation System (Calculation Engine)	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Received 8,600+ teacher and principal effectiveness ratings from 22 LEAs to facilitate rating standard setting for state models. Received and vetted plans for 22 LEA teacher/principal evaluation plans. 	Amendment needs to be finalized and submitted to USDE	
30/49: Expand Educator Information System to Accommodate Additional Data	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed installation and set up of CRM 2011 on development servers. Created and submitted requisition for internal hardware refresh. Demonstrated EIS expansion progress to Stakeholders and Project Director. Reviewed feedback from DOIT and updated TORFP to 		

			4	4	<p>Procurement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceeded goal of 40 for number of principals trained- trained 48 in 3 years (goal was 40 in 4 years). 				
31/13: Building Leadership Capacity in Low-Achieving Urban and Rural Districts	4	4	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted Consortium Meeting April 15, 2013 on "Making Content Instruction Comprehensible for English Learners." Conducted Consortium Meeting May 22, 2013 "No Subtitle Needed: Building a Multicultural Learning Community by Connecting College, Classroom and Curriculum." Approved 2 additional partnerships for final project year. Provided technical assistance to Teach for Maryland PMs. Completed RFP to solicit national level trainers for co-teaching and additional guideline lines writers to represent new partnerships. 	Project still in good shape -- USDE has asked for clarification and detailed crosswalk which has been provided. Amendment needed to properly align budget categories and provide additional training in year 4.			
32/73: Teach for Maryland	3	3	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed and revised project applications for LEA Year 4 Grants; moved forward for signature. Added 3 additional teachers to project in PGCPs. 				
33/50: Compensation to Teachers and Principals in Lowest 5% Schools	3	3	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed and revised project applications for LEA Year 4 				
34/51: Compensation Incentives for	3	3	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed and revised project applications for LEA Year 4 				

Teachers in Shortage Areas				Grants; moved forward for signature.		
35/26: Elementary STEM Certification	4	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nine existing project partners submitted final year budgets. • Three additional project partners approved for final project year. • Convened Elementary/ STEM Network Meeting 4/20/13 to provide a model for integrating STEM into elementary classrooms. • Finalized Agenda of Elementary STEM Certification Summer Institute with Frostburg and Towson. 		
36/75: LEAs, Providers, and IHEs (UTeach) Maryland)	3	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended UTeach Institute Conference May 2013. • Committed to redesigning and integrating requirements for two reading courses into the UTeach Curriculum. • Received approval for all UTeach courses at university level. 		
37/54: International Partnerships to Recruit Teachers in Critical Needs Areas	NR	NR	NR			
38/53: Incentives for Teachers who Obtain ESOL Certification	4	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved 187 content teachers from 15 LEAs for the Year 4 project (230 have completed coursework and passed PRAXIS to date). 		
39/25 Teacher Induction Academies	4	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted registration for Teacher Induction Academies. 		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed Spring online follow up webinars. Collected data on attendance of each webinar and participant evaluations. 			
40/15: Professional Development for Executive Officers	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented to Executive Officers, Principal Advisory, Educator Effectiveness Counsel, State Board Work Session, and the Common Ground Conference. Conducted PD sessions for Baltimore County Executive Officers; Conducted presentation sessions for all Baltimore County principals. 				
41/24: Educator Effectiveness Academies	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Released spring follow up webinars to the 2012 EEAs. Received feedback and reviewed academy content for 2013. Scheduled logistics for 2013 academies. Conducted three master teacher all day training sessions for the 2013 academy content. Uploaded academy content onto LMS with access to materials to all master teachers and principals and all other attendees of the 2013 June Academies. 				
42/17: Priority Schools Academy	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalized logistics for Academy Year 2. Communicated to 				

				<p>superintendents, executive officers, and other participants of selected schools that registration opened.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wrote and posted RPQ for contractor to adjust content for Cohort 2. 			
43/21: Develop Online PD on Educator Instructional Improvement Content	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised and resubmitted RFP for final nine online PD courses to attorney general and DOIT for review after meeting with procurement. Received Board of Public Works approval May 2013 and awarded contract June 2013 to vendor approved for development of first five courses. 				
Lowest-Achieving Schools	June 2013 Rating	May 2013 Rating	Accomplishments	Comments	Improvement Targets (if rating is a 1 or 2)		
44/41: The Breakthrough Center (BTC)	4	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborated with BCPS and PGCPS to determine services to be delivered to priority and feeder schools in 2013-14. Conducted Aspiring Principals Institute Spring 2013. All 23 Aspiring Principals demonstrated growth from pre assessment at the beginning of the school year. Conducted instructional walkthroughs in 17 schools for ELAs and 13 for Math to assess progress of the PD and determine next steps for SY 				

				2013-14. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised Breakthrough Center website 		
45/67: RITA Team Audits	NR	NR				
46/57: Extend Student Learning and Improve School Culture, Climate, and Support	2	2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School culture and climate team has not been assembled – Anticipated to be in place by fall 2013 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed logistics for “Staging” and launched registration. Completed five PBIS SET assessments. Support to be provided to schools through team or through MSDE staff, fall 2013. 	
47/45: Coordinated Student Services	3	2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed pre assessments in all but 2 SIG I and SIG II BCPS schools. Received central office assessment from PGCPS. Created forms, processes, and a new strategic plan for SY 2013-14. 		
48/69: School Health Services	4	4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consulted with PGCPS School Health Leadership to yield finalization of procurement/grant award for health room IT upgrades. Implemented individualized programmatic changes in three turnaround high schools in BCPS targeting attendance with support and intervention from the PM. 		
49/63: Physical Activity	3	3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalized wellness grant for PGCPS and BCPS for \$24,000 		

	3	3	<p>each and returned completed documents for fund distribution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added additional research based programs and supplemental funding sources to the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) resource guide. Conducted monitoring visits of four schools. 		
50/58: Extended Learning	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in interviews between CAIRE and school system staff Conducted three school visits. Registered teachers in BCPS and PGCPS for summer PD. 		
51/71: Project Lead the Way – Gateway to Technology	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed the student portfolio reviews for all four project schools. Three of the four schools have student portfolios that demonstrate evidence of complete program implementation. Five teachers from three project schools have successfully completed the three credit Early Talent Development online course. 		
52/77: Primary Talent Development	4	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed a summary performance profile for Furman Templeton Conversion Charter School which outlines progress made on their restart plan. 	Amendment needs to be finalized and submitted to USDE	
53/44: Charter Schools	3	2			

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signed MOU as approved by MSDE's legal team to establish two additional charter schools in PGCPS. Disseminated Quality Standard Resources Guide Convened "Last Authorizers" Training Session at Community Montessori Charter School in MCPS. 	<p>Accomplishments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided sub-grants to the 10 LEAs for student information system modifications and connecting to the University System of MD eTranscript system. All 24 LEAs committed to compliance with SB 275. 	<p>June 2013 Rating 3</p>							
Other				<p>May 2013 Rating 3</p>	<p>54/79: Implement Statewide Centralized Student Transcript System</p>						