



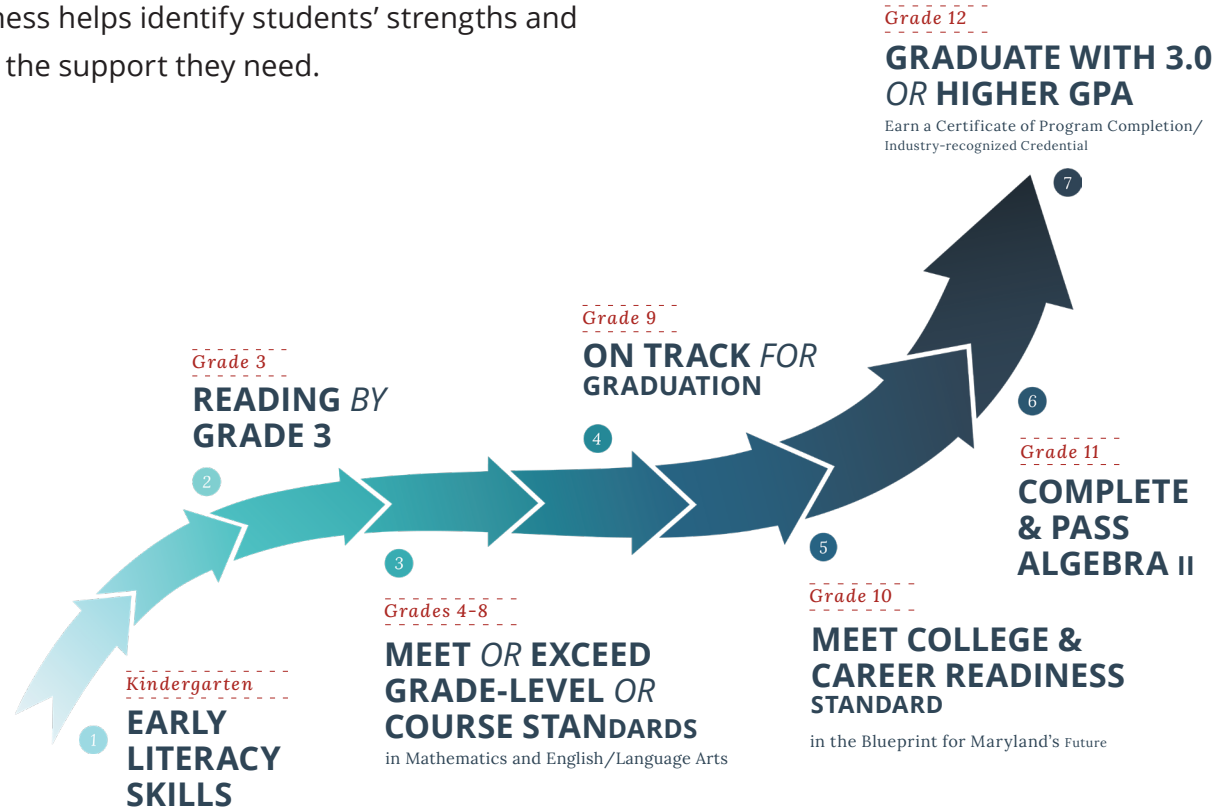
# The Pathway to College, Career and Community Readiness

MCPS created a new guide to help families, students and teachers work together to ensure student success.

The Pathway to College, Career and Community Readiness helps identify students' strengths and areas of improvement to ensure each student receives the support they need.

Here's how it works:

- » The milestones described below will be used to address any learning gaps before students transition to a new grade level, college or the workforce.
- » Parents will receive information about whether their child is meeting or not meeting these specific benchmarks.
- » School staff, students and families will meet together to decide the best way to help the student succeed.
- » In addition to academic benchmarks, schools will also provide opportunities for students to cultivate core competencies and skills to prepare them for life after high school.



(See glossary for more details on assessments mentioned in this document)



# Middle School

## GRADES 6, 7, AND 8

## MILESTONE: PROFICIENT IN MATH AND ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

Why is this important?	How is this measured?	What questions can you ask your teacher?
<p>In middle school, students extend the skills they learned in elementary school. The focus is to examine the breadth and depth of their knowledge and skills in literacy and mathematics to ensure students are prepared for high school level work.</p>	<p>In grades 6, 7, and 8, students take tests in Math and Reading called the <i>Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP)</i> test.</p> <p>The tests are given in the Spring.</p> <p>Students should score a 3 or higher.</p>	<p>What specific literacy and math skills are expected of my child at their current grade level?</p> <p>What extra support does the school offer?</p> <p>How can I support my child’s literacy and math development at home to ensure they meet or exceed the state standards?</p> <p>What strategies are used to help my child meet the state literacy and math standards?</p>

### ASSESSMENTS GLOSSARY

**MAP-R** - Measures of Academic Progress-Reading (MAP-R) provides an assessment of a student’s skill level in the different reading achievement areas. These multiple assessments allow educators to measure academic growth in reading over time.

**Lexile** - Lexile is a scientifically-based Framework for Reading. The measures give a more precise measure of reading comprehension. A Lexile Reader Measure, used by MCPS, represents a student’s reading ability on the Lexile scale.

**Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP)** - The new MCAP tests are designed to assess students on mastery of Maryland’s College and Career Readiness standards to ensure that all students are progressing and receiving the necessary support for remediation and enrichment.