

**HOWARD HIGH SCHOOL  
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AT A GLANCE  
2017 – 2018**



<b>HOWARD HIGH SCHOOL: VISION AND MISSION</b>	<b>SCHOOL TARGETS AND STRATEGIES</b>
<p><b>Mission:</b></p> <p>In partnership with families and the community, it is the mission of Howard High School to cultivate an environment of collaboration, empowerment, and engagement that exhibits world-class support for staff and inspires students to thrive in a dynamic world.</p>	<p><b><u>SAT</u></b> As of June 2017, 78.5% of the class of 2018 had taken the SAT and the mean score was 1179. The overall target is for at least 85% of the seniors to take the SAT and earn a mean score of at least 1164.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff will work in content learning teams to create common assessments that incorporate SAT style questions. Each teacher in the English, Math, Science, and Social Studies departments will focus on integrating critical reading, writing, and thinking skills into their lessons.</li> <li>Staff, especially school counselors, will collaborate with the Black Student Union and Black Student Union Parent Group to ensure that African-American students/parents know about and take advantage of SAT prep programs at Howard High and within the county.</li> <li>Staff will use tutorials to target students who have not taken the SAT and use the Khan Academy online prep program to provide student specific SAT tutoring.</li> </ol>
<p align="center"><b>HCPSS STRATEGIC CALL TO ACTION LEARNING AND LEADING WITH EQUITY THE FIERCE URGENCY OF NOW</b></p>	<p><b><u>ADVANCED PLACEMENT</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participation (ALL): Enrollment of students in 1 or more AP courses will increase from 35.6% (681/1910) of students in 2017-2018 to 45% of students in 2018-2019.</li> <li>Performance (ALL): The percentage of students earning a 3 or higher on AP exams will increase from 72.9% in 2016-2017 (897/1231) to 75% in 2017-2018 (TBD).</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ITLs will lead their departments in the development of a vertical articulation plan that identifies how AP course skills will be introduced/integrated into pre-requisite courses from 9th-11th grade.</li> <li>Staff will use recruiting tools such as AP Potential and AP Shadow Days to increase enrollment of first time AP students.</li> <li>Staff will use student groups (Alpha Achievers, Delta Scholars, BSU, etc) to inform students and parents about the benefits of enrolling in an AP course. Additionally, staff will take advantage of the groups in implementing targeted practice in preparation for AP exams in May.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Vision:</b> Every student and staff member embraces diversity and possesses the skills, knowledge and confidence to positively influence the larger community.</p> <p><b>Mission:</b> HCPSS ensures academic success and socioemotional well-being for each student in an inclusive and nurturing environment that closes opportunity gaps.</p>	<p><b><u>GRADUATION RATE</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The target for the 4 year cohort graduation rate is to improve to 97% overall and to 88% for the FARMS student group.</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff will review report card data each marking period and meet with students who are in danger of failing to attempt to help students earn passing grades for the remainder of the school year.</li> <li>Staff will serve as “graduation coaches” for seniors in danger of failing and “academic success coaches” for struggling 9th graders to ensure that they complete all course requirements.</li> <li>Counselors will collaborate with administration to ensure that students who fail a course enroll in summer school and/or repeat a course the following year.</li> </ol>
<p align="center"><b>HCPSS DESIRED OUTCOMES</b></p>	
<p><b>Value-</b> Every HCPSS stakeholder feels happy and rewarded in their roles and takes pride in cultivating the learning community.</p> <p><b>Achieve-</b> An individual focus supports every person in reaching milestones for success.</p> <p><b>Connect-</b> Students and staff thrive in a safe, nurturing and inclusive culture that embraces diversity.</p> <p><b>Empower-</b> Schools, families and the community are mutually invested in student achievement and well-being.</p>	