

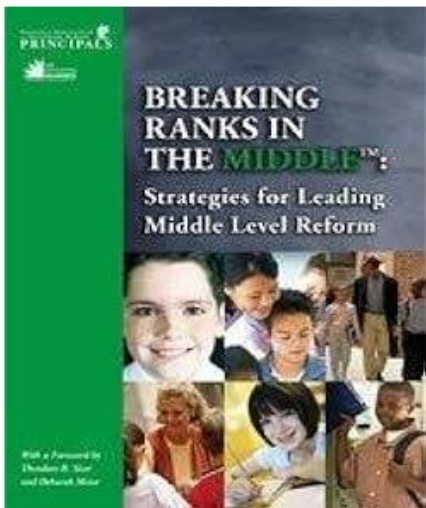
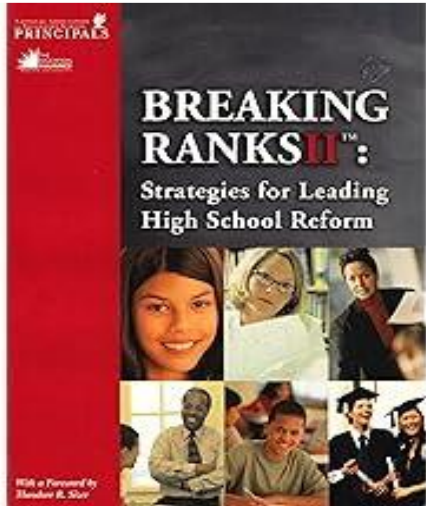
# Growth and Opportunity

Middle School Innovation  
aligned to the  
Blueprint for Maryland's Future

**Board of Education Presentation**  
**February 12, 2024**

# A Look Back

- Comprehensive Secondary School Reform Program (CSSRP)
- Middle School Reform and Recommendations
- Staffing Cuts and Inconsistencies
- Leads Grant, Blueprint, and Innovation



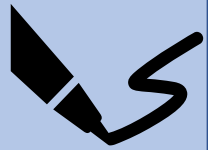
# Middle School Innovation- The Why



Instructional minutes across all 10 middle schools vary



ILA classes vary from school to school- 90-minute periods vs. 45-minute periods



Addressing the need for a specified writing curriculum aligned with our North Star Learner Attributes



Unified Arts course offerings vary from school to school



Staff cuts/changes has forced middle schools to make instructional decisions and program offerings as individual school



World language for credit not offered at every middle school



Original Intervention/Enrichment period looked different at each school



ALL stakeholders agree what MS students need- healthy, connectiveness, a sense of belonging, exposure and experience to opportunities



### North Star

- College and Career Readiness
- College-level coursework, Dual Enrollment/Credit, Career Credentials
- Support plans for students for post-graduation success



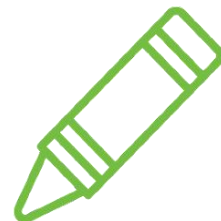
### Elevating Educators

- Hiring and retaining high quality and diverse employees
- Creation of a career ladder for teachers
- Talent pathways for future educators



### Foundation

- Implementation
- Accountability
- Funding



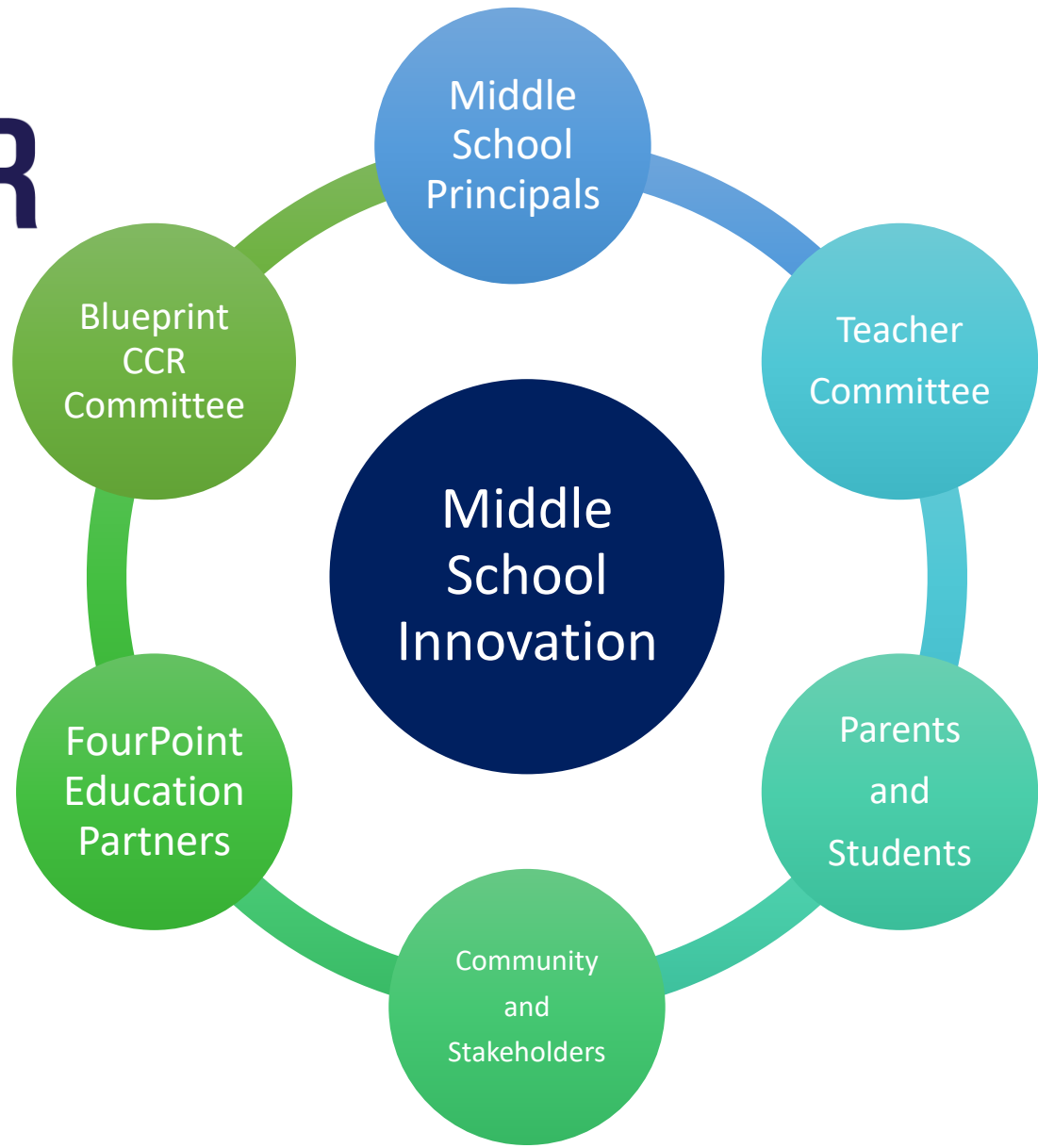
### Early Childhood Education

- Expansion of full day Pre-K
- Working with private Pre-K providers
- Kindergarten Readiness



### Student Supports

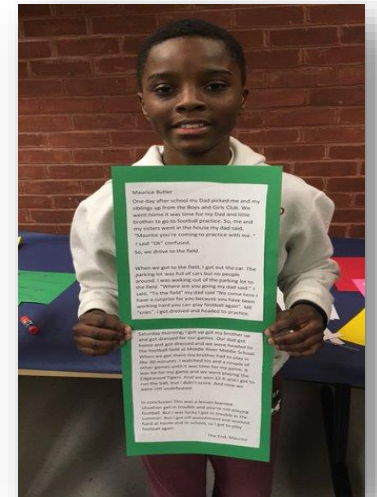
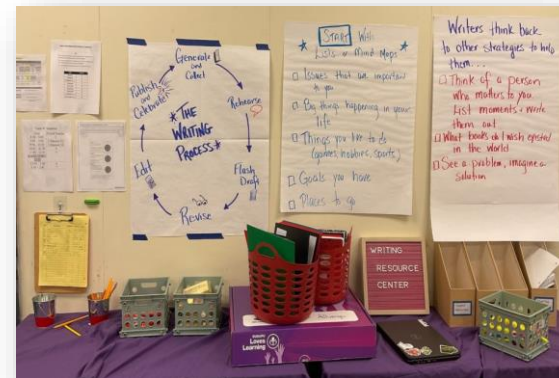
- Behavioral Health Services
- Community Schools & Health Centers
- English Language Learners
- Special Education



**BLUEPRINT**  
*for our students' future* 

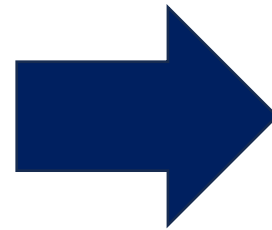
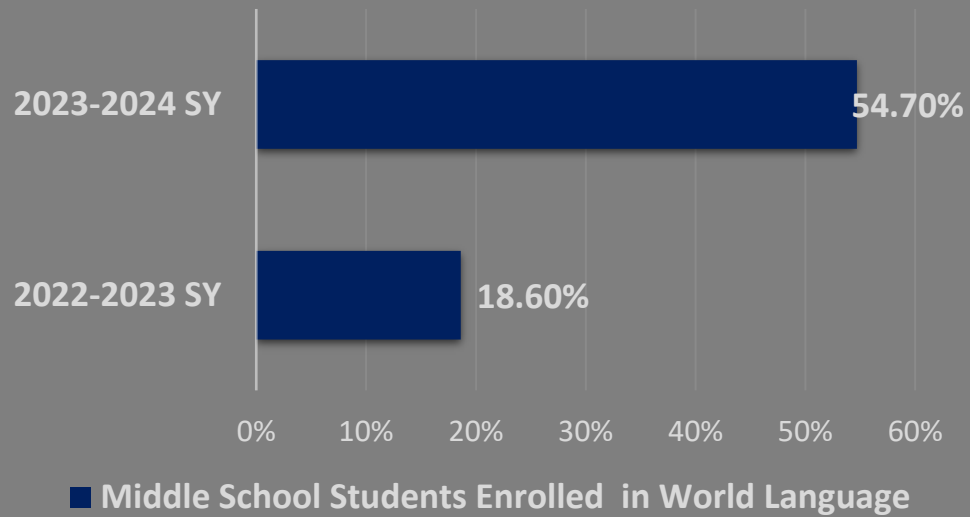
# Current Progress 2023-2024

All 10 middle schools have a defined grade 6 and grade 7 Reading and Writing course providing 90 minutes of instruction aligning with the North Star LEARNER Attribute: **WRITER**

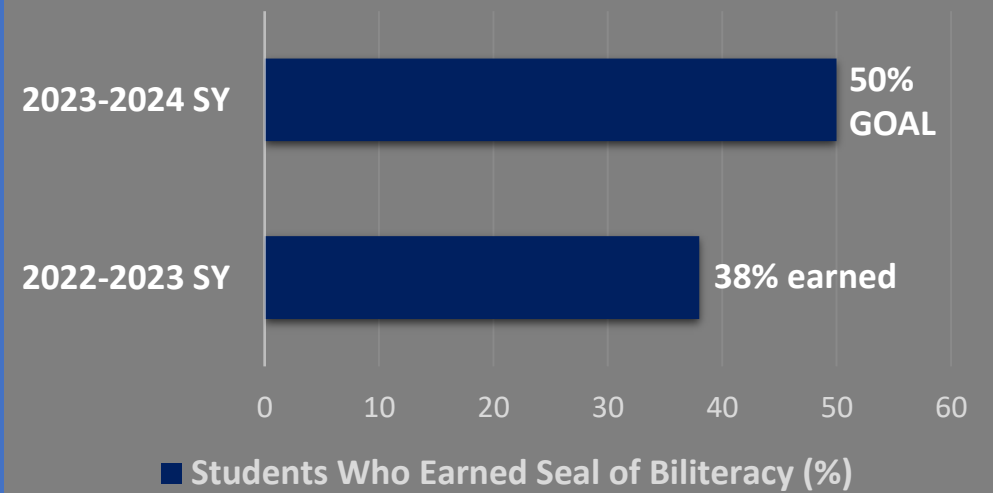


# World Language for Credit

## Middle School Enrollment Spanish 1, French 1, & German 1



## High School Seal of Biliteracy



# Career and College Awareness in Middle School

**By End of Grade 8 all College  
& Career Readiness  
indicators met**

**Purposeful College &  
Career Exploration  
for students**

**Unified Arts  
Choice for Students**





# Naviance Lessons 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grades

## Grade 6

- Goal setting
- Personality Assessment
- Career Cluster Finder

## Grade 7

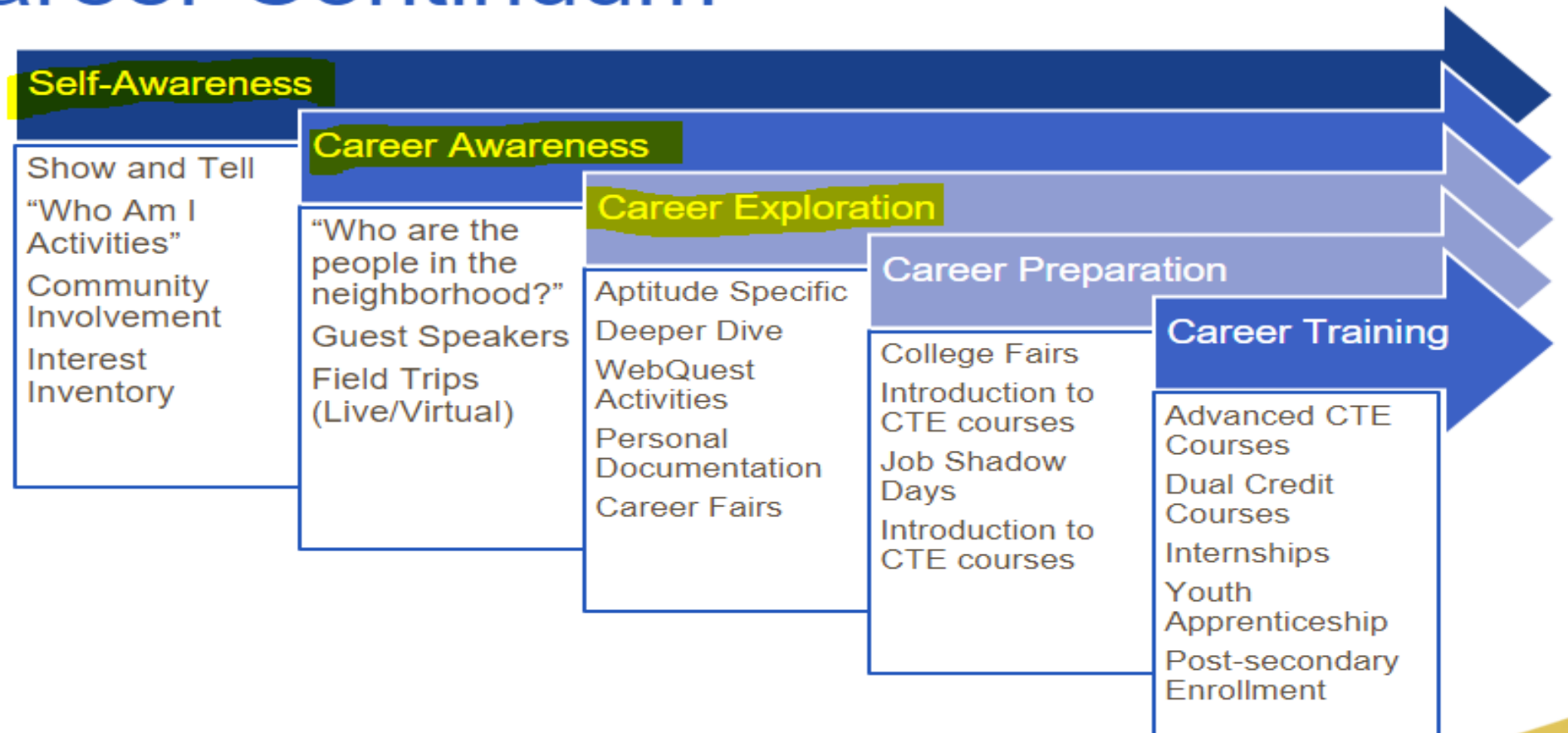
- Productivity Assessment
- John's Hollands Codes
- Career Key Assessment

## Grade 8

- Goal Setting/Magnet Schools
- Strengths Explorer
- Transition to High School Survey & Goal Setting

# Career Coaches in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>

## Career Continuum



# Career and College Awareness in Middle School

## Naviance

- Goal setting
- Strength Finder
- 8th grade transition survey

## Career Coaches

6th , 7th , 8th ,  
9th  
Career  
Continuum

## College Visits

Harford  
Community  
College Visits

## Career Fair

All 7th grade  
middle schools  
highlighting  
Magnet Programs

## Family Engagement

# Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment Collaboration

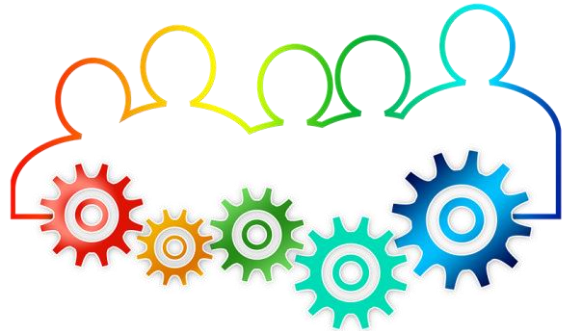
## **Project Based Learning**

Personalize student learning through a “deep dive” session offered during extended blocks of time

## **Cross Curricular Connections**

Content Supervisors will help interdisciplinary teams use cross content connections and real-world application to deepen their understanding

# Advisory Period



# Middle School Interscholastic Sports

## OPPORTUNITIES

Basketball  
Tryouts-892  
Rosters- 234

- Work ethic
- Teamwork
- Bonding with teammates
- Happiness
- Self-Confidence
- Unity
- Motivation for Grades

Soccer  
Tryouts-1077  
Rosters-334



# Questions



**BLUEPRINT**  
*for our students' future* 🌱