



Public Charter High School

2427 Martin Luther King, Jr.
Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20020
p. 202-563-6862
f. 202-563-6946

August 17, 2017

Dear Thurgood Marshall Academy families:

I am writing to share the results of our 10th grade students' performance on this year's PARCC exam. As you may know, the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) exam is the standards-aligned assessment used in DC to measure student progress in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. Results are scored on a level of 1 to 5—a Level 4 or 5 indicates a student is on track to graduating college and career ready, while a Level 3 indicates a student is approaching readiness. This year, our students scored as follows:

Subject	Level 4+			Level 3+	
	TMA	DC Average		TMA	DC Average
Geometry	11.0%	10.0%		50.0%	32.3%
ELA	28.0%	27.0%		53.0%	43.8%

As you can see from the table above, our students once again outperformed the city-wide averages, and we remain the highest performing high school East of the River. However, the drop to 11% college and career ready in math and 28% college and career ready in English Language Arts (ELA) is disappointing news. At Thurgood Marshall Academy, we pride ourselves on providing the highest levels of academic rigor, so that all students will be prepared to succeed in college. I assure you that we are taking this decline in performance very seriously and are urgently responding to better support all of our students.

We have started our analysis to best understand what caused the decline in our scores. While we were certainly expecting a dip in performance due to last year's move to online testing, we do not see this as an excuse and will be taking a hard look at our instructional practices to make sure next year's scores improve.

Throughout the academic year, we will invest heavily in our data-driven instructional practices, review and re-align our interim assessments, provide after-school supports for 11th graders to master their PSAT and SAT exams, and engage in an intense review to discover any areas of weakness in our

current curriculum. I look forward to sharing more about our review and findings in future communications.

In the coming weeks, I will provide more details about PARCC data as they become available. Most importantly for each of you, individual student scores will be mailed home after we receive the information in mid-September. As always, I can be reached by phone or email with any questions you have. Please know that I and the entire faculty and staff are committed to academic and personal success for your child, and for all students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Pohlman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Richard Pohlman
Executive Director