mcea
Montgomery County Education Association

Newletter from the ES
Council for Teaching & Learning

December 2023

Dear Motivating Teachers,

The CTL team hopes you had a wonderful 2023 and you're as excited as we are for some much needed time off with family and friends. We concluded our final meeting of 2023 and have some important updates for you.

One of our missions on CTL is to work for you, our colleagues and constituents, to help your voice be heard when it comes to curriculum and instruction needs and wants. Our CTL reps are working diligently with the MCEA Board to make sure that our group is purposeful and we learn what you need and how we can help. This also includes helping to make your daily tasks like entering grades an easier task.

At our meeting on December 12, we had Valeria Da Silva and her team from the Office of Strategic Initiatives brief us on new Synergy updates as well as a new way to view student data. We had a great conversation and learned that beginning in 2024, Synergy will roll out an update to make it easier to enter grades. You will soon be able to create assignments on a more user-friendly screen. We've explained to their office how slow Synergy can be, especially during the last week of grading. Their team is going to continue working with us and we'll be providing feedback to try and speed things up when you need it most.

We also learned about a new dashboard which will work alongside Performance Matters that will have visuals for MAP, Dibles, progress over time, as well as other student data. This new dashboard will allow you to filter students by categories including, but not limited to, 504 plans and EML students. Please be on the lookout for this as well in the coming months.

If you ever have any questions, concerns, or topics you'd like us to discuss at our meetings, please do not hesitate to reach out to your CTL reps so

we can escalate your questions to the appropriate office. Please continue to upload questions on this link and find answers to your curriculum and instructional questions.

Sincerely,
Your Representative