# CONGRESSWOMAN DONNA EDWARDS COMMENDS SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN MARYLAND SCHOOL ASSESSMENT RESULTS

## Students in Both Prince George's and Montgomery County Schools Post Significant Gains in Achievement

Washington D.C. – Today, The Maryland State Department of Education released results showing significant improvement in reading and mathematics scores across the state on the Maryland School Assessment (MSA) for 2008.  Within the 4th Congressional District, The Washington Post reports: "Scores improved markedly in both Montgomery and Prince George's counties, the two largest school systems in the state, with the lion's share of gains coming from poor and language-minority students."

"I am pleased with the results of the MSA for 2008," said Congresswoman Donna Edwards (D-MD).  "These gains continue years of steady improvements in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties and signify a promising trend in our public school systems here in Maryland. These scores show that minority students are closing the achievement gap and that progress made in early grades is being sustained and improved as students continue with their education.  I congratulate the Maryland State Department of Education and I look forward to working with the Maryland Delegation, our State Legislature, our Governor, educators, and parents to continue preparing our children for the 21st Century."

"MSTA is pleased to see the gains in student achievement," said Clara Floyd, President of the Maryland State Teachers Association.  "Great public schools need fair and adequate funding that provides tools and resources to help prepare students to succeed in life.  To that end, MSTA will continue to advocate for adequate funds and resources for public schools to ensure continued improvement and achievement"

Scores to show whether schools and systems made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), as well as 2008 High School Assessment scores, will be released at a later date.

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