

## **MSOC LEA Member Profile Part III: Full Narrative**

### **Board of Education of Queen Anne's County: Online Learning Report**

Queen Anne's County currently has no students engaged in online learning. During the sign up for second semester (04-05) several students elected to take AP Computer Science online and other requested science and, mathematics courses. After some discussions all students chose not to take courses online.

Queen Anne's finds that having the option of offering online courses to students a plus. Due to their size it often is not possible to offer certain AP courses every year. Having the online option gives students a more diverse course of study. Difficulties with students taking the online course stem from resistance due to the drop/add policy installed as a result of the grant and newness. Attempts are being made to further educate the students, parents and staffs on what is available.

Queen Anne's is looking forward to seeing the success of the consortiums online course in SAT prep. Following an analysis of results they will make a decision on whether to use it or other options such as Princeton review to aid students on the standardized assessment. Queen Anne's is also looking forward to the health course being used by Montgomery County. Like the SAT prep course they will review data and make decisions about its possible use in the two high schools.

One of the benefits of participating in the consortium is the new policy dealing with online learning. As information about the options becomes available it is anticipated that more students will select the option.

Current operations dealing with on-line learning include having teachers use the online piece being offered by Apex learning as a review for students in certain AP classes. The system has set up an active research model in a comparison of classes offered with the online piece and without. Data from the results will be available following AP scores release during the summer of 05. Another initiative going on is using online learning in a distance learning class. The system is currently looking at combining both of these to maximize opportunities to students.

Professional development activities have included development of companion documents for courses, informal mentor training and development of policy documents

Non- public schools have been invited to informational meetings that include online learning. As of winter 05 no school has expressed interest.

Queen Anne's is happy to have had this opportunity and believes the policies, training and outreach will benefit the system in the future.