October 13, 2021

Good evening, Elmwood School Community,

As you are aware, the Elmwood school community is currently a part of a Baltimore County Boundary Study as a result of the new Northeast Elementary school being built, and to help alleviate overcrowding conditions at local elementary schools including our Elmwood.

As we work through this process as a Baltimore County boundary committee, we are confident we can also begin welcoming local students who are currently being educated and served at other elementary schools rather than Elmwood. This will prove to be less time for our prospective students traveling on a school bus to access their education and will provide the students an equitable opportunity to be educated at Elmwood with their community peers.

To that end, Elmwood anticipates welcoming the Communication and Language Support program (CLS) to Elmwood beginning in the Fall of the 2022-23 school year. I have included additional details regarding the CLS program on the back of this letter should you desire additional information.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have at this time. Dr. Rode and I are committed to providing you as much information as possible through the boundary realignment process.

Respectfully,

Jeffrey S. Hogan
Principal

Raising the bar, Closing gaps, Preparing for our future
Communication and Learning Support (CLS)

The Communication and Learning Support (CLS) service delivery model is designed for students with complex learning profiles significantly impacting academic performance, communication, cognition, socialization, peer interaction, and adaptive functioning abilities. Services offered may include explicit instruction in social thinking, pragmatic language, use of visually based strategies, sensory processing techniques, and the development of individualized behavioral strategies. Emphasis is placed on the development of functional communication with access to assistive technology, and various modalities as needed (e.g., voice output devices, eye gaze, sign language). Community based skill integration opportunities are embedded within the instructional program. Students in the Communication and Learning Support (CLS) model may participate in the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program or Alternate Assessment Program as delineated within the Individual Education Program (IEP).

Instruction

- There is an emphasis on the development of language and social skills.
- Students participate in all core academic subjects (language arts, math, social studies, and science).
- Teachers may utilize the significantly modified curriculum.

Least Restrictive Environment/Integration

- Students may participate in special areas, lunch, and recess with non-disabled peers as appropriate.
- Students may participate in general education content classes to the maximum extent appropriate as determined by an IEP team based on the student’s strengths.
- High School students may participate in community-based activities.

Specific Program Supports

- Small group settings for instruction.
- Alternative reading programs or interventions, based on student need.
- Behavior supports and integrated social skill instruction.
- Highly structured learning environment and visual supports.
- Use of sensory processing techniques.
- Special transportation provided from home to school for students living outside the region or as defined on the student’s IEP.