Northeast Area Elementary Boundary Study
Committee Meeting 1
September 22, 2021

Presented by: Baltimore County Public Schools and Cropper GIS Consulting
To maintain the health, safety, and well-being of our students, staff, and families, the following COVID-19 mitigation strategies have been implemented:

• The public will observe boundary committee meetings virtually.
• The public information session scheduled for November 3, 2021, will be held virtually.
• All meeting participants should:
  ▪ Wear masks, regardless of vaccination status
  ▪ Maintain social distancing
  ▪ Report if you have tested positive or been exposed to someone with confirmed COVID-19 contact Mr. Michael Gotfredson at mgotfredson@bcps.org
Agenda

• 6:00 – 6:25  Introductions of Stakeholders
• 6:25 – 6:50  Review of Process & Timeline
• 6:50 – 7:30  Background Report/ Opportunities Analysis Exercise
• 7:30 – 7:55  Planning Block Exercise
• 7:55 – 8:00  Next Steps and Adjourn
 Tonight’s Goals

• Familiarize committee with background report, maps, and other tools.
• Establish and begin practicing norms for committee engagement.
• Review and agree on boundary study planning blocks.
Boundary Change Study

- Guided by Policy and Rule 1280
- Facilitated by independent consultant
- Driven by a community committee: principals, teachers, parents
- Objective examination of data, creation of options, collaboration and deliberation, engagement with greater community, recommendation provided to the Board for approval

Baltimore County Public Schools, September 22, 2021
Cropper GIS Consulting, LLC

- K-12 school planning is our business and our passion. Our specialty is facilitating boundary change processes.
- Cropper GIS works with K-12 school districts to:
  - Develop redistricting plans
  - Facilitate community engagement
  - Research, map, and write demographic studies
  - Prepare long-range facility master plans
  - Conduct housing and pupil yield-factor studies

Matthew Cropper, Cropper GIS

- 20+ years experience providing GIS mapping and analysis services to school districts and other clients
- Facilitated boundary change study projects across the U.S.
- Published numerous times on topics related to K-12 facility and boundary change processes
The Boundary Study Committee

- Represents each school community- 33 members (25 voting members)
  - 8 Principals (non-voting)
  - 8 Teacher/Staff representatives
  - 16 Parents (2 from each school)
  - 1 Area Educational Advisory Council Representative
- Suspends parochial interests
- Available to attend all meetings
- Meets 7 times from Sept. – Dec.
- Collaborates exclusively with each other (public can observe virtually)
- Presents recommendation to the Board of Education (BOE) via Community Superintendent
Meeting attendance is critical: Contact BCPS if you are unable to attend any meeting.
• BCPS is in the midst of a 1.3 billion dollar Schools for Our Future capital plan to add capacity to support increasing enrollment and to improve facilities.
• This plan includes four elementary school projects in the northeast region.
• In spring 2021, the Superintendent initiated a boundary change for eight schools in the northeast area elementary school community.
The following factors are driving the need to look at attendance boundaries in the area:

- Construction of a new elementary school in the northeast area located near the intersection of Rossville Boulevard and Gum Spring Road, opening for the 2022-2023 school year and expected to accommodate 709 students.

- Reconstruction and expansion of Red House Run Elementary School, anticipated to open for the 2023-2024 school year with a capacity increase from 460 to 775.

- Seven of the eight schools participating in the boundary study process were overcapacity as of September 30, 2019.
  - Four exceeded 115% utilization: Elmwood ES, Fullerton ES, Red House Run ES, and Shady Spring ES.
### Project Schools (2)

- New Northeast ES
- Red House Run ES

### Participating Schools (7)

- Elmwood ES
- Fullerton ES
- Joppa View ES
- McCormick ES
- Perry Hall ES
- Shady Spring ES
- Vincent Farm ES
• Beyond this area, a new Honeygo Elementary and reconstruction and expansion of Victory Villa Elementary welcomed students in fall of 2018.

• Two boundary study processes were conducted in 2017 in coordination with these projects, the following schools were included in these studies: *please note schools in orange are also participating in this study*

  - Carney ES
  - Chapel Hill ES
  - Glenmar ES
  - Gunpowder ES
  - Hawthorne ES
  - Joppa View ES
  - Oakleigh ES
  - Orems ES
  - Perry Hall ES
  - Seven Oaks ES
  - Shady Spring ES
  - Victory Villa ES
  - Vincent Farm ES
The community-based comprehensive boundary study is tasked with meeting the following key objectives:

- Reduce overcrowding in the region
- Create viable and successful boundaries to effectively utilize the added capacity at the New Northeast Area Elementary School and Red House Run Elementary.
- Support diversity among schools that reflects the community and the school system.
Primary considerations:

• Efficient use of capacity in affected schools

• Maintaining or increasing the diversity among schools to reflect the diversity of the region and the school system
Secondary considerations:

- Maintaining the continuity of neighborhoods
- The impact of transportation and pedestrian patterns on students
- Minimizing the number of times any individual students are reassigned
- Long-term enrollment, capacity trends, and future capital plans
- Location of feeder school boundaries and continuity of feeder patterns
- Phasing-in boundary changes by grade level for high schools
Boundary Study Considerations

Additional considerations:

• Use of geographic features, such as railroads, creeks, and major highways

• Elimination of existing satellite boundaries *(areas districted to a school that are not contiguous).*
  - Elmwood Elementary satellite area
  - McCormick Elementary satellite area
Assuring Equity and Accessibility

• Translation of materials available upon request.
• Video recordings of committee meetings converted to YouTube; can be translated to other languages in closed captioning.
• Translators available at Public Information Session upon request.
• Online survey and survey instructions translated to multiple languages.
• All committee business and decisions conducted at scheduled committee meetings.
• Inclement weather days scheduled in calendar.
  ▪ If schools are closed, all evening activities and meetings are canceled.
Stay Informed – Provide Feedback

• Visit the Boundary Study Web site at www.bcps.org, link can be found under the “Highlights” section.
• Submit NE Elementary Boundary Study Comment Form
• E-mail Board or Committee with Input at: boundarystudy@bcps.org
  ▪ Public may email comments to the Boundary Study Committee
  ▪ Comments are logged verbatim to the website for public viewing
• Observe committee meetings virtually via BCPS Livestream
• Virtually attend the Public Information Session on November 3, 2021
• Participate in an Online Survey from November 3 – November 17, 2021
• Attend the Board of Education public hearing on February 16, 2022
The Background Report Purpose:

• To expand the knowledge of each committee member.
• To help committee members share a message that is consistent and accurate

Please be familiar with the entire report, and note some sections:

• Boundary study considerations (p. 1)
• Study Timeline (p. 4)
• School Facility Table and Live-Attend Enrollment tables (p. 9 & 22)
• Maps (p. 12)
Interpreting Maps

Mapping Conventions (p. 5)

Legend – Shows the common symbology used in the maps

Scale Bar – Shows the distance between features

North Arrow – helps determine the direction
Planning Blocks: small areas for examining student populations:

- Map titles and notes clarify what each planning block map represents.
- Labels within planning blocks represent one of the following:
  - Planning block ID (PB #).
  - Number of students living within a planning block that attend their home boundary school.
718 students attend Joppa View ES
- 697 live and attend in Joppa View ES
- 2 live in the Perry Hall ES zone
- 17 live out of the study area
- 0 live outside the BCPS Boundary
- 2 student’s addresses were unable to be located in GIS and therefore left Unmatched
- 714 students live within the Joppa View ES zone
Norms and Expectations

• Be inclusive by allowing each group member adequate time and space to voice ideas, opinions, and concerns. Allow for wait time between responses.

• Spend adequate time considering how each proposed change will impact diverse stakeholders.

• Be mindful of the Boundary Study Considerations (Slides 14 and 15) and use each as a guide in the collaborative process.

• If conflict arises, be mindful of tone and body language. Use “I” statements to avoid blame and to clarify points and/or feelings.

• Expect that there may be non-closure.
• The basis of the Opportunities Analysis is a simple four-cornered grid
• Supports conversation, investigation, and brainstorming
Opportunity Analysis, continued (1)

Strengths-Limitations-Opportunities-Challenges

• Break into 3 small groups
• Consider and discuss the following:
  o What are the strengths and limitations of the current boundaries?
  o What are the opportunities and challenges as the committee creates new boundary options?
• Use the flip chart grid to record your groups input
• List any questions that arise
• Reconvene in 15 minutes to share with whole group
Opportunity Analysis, Continued (2)

Strengths-Limitations-Opportunities-Challenges

Roles and Responsibilities

- **Discussion Guide**- Keep discussion on track, makes sure all voices are included
- **Reporter**- Shares group’s findings
- **Scribe**- Records group’s discussion
- **Parking lot attendant**- Records unanswered questions
Planning Block Exercise

Review Planning Blocks

- Each group will have a large planning block map. Smaller planning block maps by school are also available in Appendix B of your Background Report.
- Groups will examine planning blocks, discuss boundary change considerations, and suggest adjustments if appropriate.
- Mark notes and observations directly on maps.
- After 15-20 minutes, groups will report thoughts/observations to whole group.
Upcoming Schedule

Next Meeting

Wednesday, September 29, 2021
6 – 8 p.m.
Thank You!

Baltimore County Public Schools, September 22, 2021 29