



Systemwide School Boundary Analysis

Just the Facts

- On January 8, 2019, the Board of Education adopted a resolution asking the Superintendent to utilize external consultants to conduct an in-depth review and analysis of how existing school and cluster boundaries support or impede the effective use of school facilities.
- The Board has gathered input from more than 1,000 stakeholders regarding the scope of work for the consultants.
- A Request for Proposals will be issued to select external consultants to conduct this analysis. The consultants' review is not a boundary study for specific school assignment changes. The consultants will issue the final report of findings and options to the Board in spring 2020. Following receipt of the consultants' analysis, the Board will determine any next steps.
- If the Board chooses to recommend a boundary change, it will be based on the four factors established in Board Policy FAA, *Educational Facilities Planning*, for consideration in determining boundaries for student assignment. These four factors are: demographics of the student body population; geographic proximity of communities to schools; stability of assignments over time; and school capacity and enrollment.

What This is Not

- Recommendations for immediate boundary changes

MCPS Districtwide Boundary Analysis Timeline

(No specific boundary recommendations are under consideration as part of this process.)

January 2019	Board of Education directs MCPS to hire an external consultant to conduct a districtwide school boundary analysis to better understand how existing school and cluster boundaries support or impede the effective use of school facilities in Montgomery County Public Schools.
March 2019–May 2019	MCPS holds community meetings at locations across the county to gather feedback for the development of the Request for Proposal to select a consultant. This feedback will focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scope of work for the consultants • The framework for the assessment of the district's school and cluster boundaries • How the consultants will focus their efforts and analysis
May 2019–June 2019	Request for Proposal finalized and submitted
Summer 2019	External consultant for the analysis selected
Summer 2019–Winter 2020	Consultant performs analysis based on scope outlined in the Request for Proposal. Consultant seeks additional public feedback
Spring 2020	Consultant will issue the final report of findings and options to the Board.

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BOUNDARY ANALYSIS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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Is this a boundary study?

No. This is an analysis of how existing school and cluster boundaries support or impede the effective use of our school facilities.

What is the timeline for the analysis?

The analysis will be presented to the Board by spring 2020. Community feedback will be solicited at all stages of the process.

How do we know schools' current and projected capacities?

Enrollment and capacities are reported throughout the year. That information is published annually in the Capital Improvements Program/Master Plan, along with an assessment of space availability at all schools.

What Board policies govern student assignments?

Student assignments are governed by Policy FAA, *Educational Facilities Planning* and Policy JEE, *Student Transfers*.

Can the community view the Request for Proposal?

The Request for Proposal will be posted on the MCPS website when it is made public. Community feedback will also be made available on the website.

How is schools funding allocated?

All school funding is allocated centrally through formulas that focus on four key principles:

Consistency: Resources are allocated in an equitable, consistent manner in all 205 schools.

Differentiation: Schools that serve students with greater needs get greater resources.

Flexibility: The process gives building leaders the flexibility they need to use allocated resources to serve their students.

Transparency: Everyone should understand the process and know how decisions are made in allocation of resources.

Can a Parent Teacher Association pay for the construction of a school building?

No. Funding for the construction of a school facility comes from state and local governments through the Capital Budget. Policy CNE, *Facility Improvements That Are Not Funded with Montgomery County Revenues*, states that "Funds may not be received under this policy for capital projects which are the responsibility of the school system, county government, and/or state to provide for student capacity, including core support space, and maintenance of physical plant."