

Please share your thoughts on the scope, framework and focus of the analysis.	Date Created
<p>My greatest concern as a parent and PTA member (including being the Laytonsville ES PTA President) is the safety and welfare of my children in the bus routing. Information we have gathered in considering a formal boundary study request confirms that our middle and high school students have bus route ride times that are 2 times longer than all other down-county students in the Gaithersburg cluster. The distance is not the issue. The problem is the bus routing, which is simply too long. The suggestion that our students should simply "look at their phones" during the drive is presumptuous and shows a total lack of concern for the safety and welfare of our children - including exposure to potential accidents during longer drives and the loss of additional sleep that our students suffer from having to wake earlier to make their buses. Bus routing must be a factor.</p>	2019-03-05 14:18:48
<p>I feel very strongly that students remain on their existing track for middle and high schools. Our family looked at many homes throughout the county and school assignment played a major role in our decision-making. We passed on several homes because of the schools, including one in our current neighborhood which is split between two high school clusters. We, like many parents, are concerned about the possibility of our children being moved to schools outside our existing cluster. Changing the boundaries may also negatively impact property value therefore effecting not just MCPS families, but all Montgomery County residents.</p>	2019-03-05 16:39:17
<p>I would love MCPS to do an in depth statistical analysis of the neverending building and growth of our various communities (like downtown Bethesda perhaps?), factor in how many new living areas will be added and THEN come up with a better strategic plan than we have had in the past! My [REDACTED] a [REDACTED] [REDACTED] has ALWAYS had portables in Rosemary Hills, Bethesda Elementary, Westland and it sounds like by the time [REDACTED] the portables will be needed again at BCC. Why in an overeducated community can we not come up with a better, more efficient view for the future?</p>	2019-03-05 18:28:53
<p>Please be mindful of what went into the current/original analysis, property values, keeping houses in the same high school at the very least (we bought our house for the schools), and siblings to stay at the same schools with their siblings. Thank you.</p>	2019-03-05 18:57:53
<p>Boundary reviews are challenging, as I saw when my area went through the Westland/Silver Creek boundary assignment. I have 3 comments: 1) I found the Westland/Silver Creek process - with substantial and meaningful leadership by the impacted communities, where community input and conversations took place throughout the entire process - to work very well, and my fear is that you are taking that out of the equation. Asking for feedback up front is not the same. 2) I believe you are missing a key factor, which was a factor considered in the Westland study: minimizing split articulation patterns. Based on my experience living through several split articulations which had a big toll on our community, this is a critical factor and every effort should be taken to minimize that. 3) I don't understand what is meant by "stability of assignments over time" and how that is measured.</p>	2019-03-05 19:19:35
<p>Kids should be able to stay with the peers they began and have gone through school with. Splitting an elementary school and/or middle school student body is not good for the child's social emotional wellbeing, especially during an already stressful school transition. Kids should go to school close to their home. This will build a sense of community that has been missing for quite some times now.</p>	2019-03-06 06:43:45
<p>I hope they look at whether the consortium model raises de facto racial segregation.</p>	2019-03-06 08:54:17
<p>Please consider my family's concerns as a resident of the Hampshire Greens Community: • The Hampshire Greens children are bypassing 2 CLOSER schools to get to the Northeast Consortium schools, this takes unnecessary travel time to outside the Hampshire Greens Community. The Sherwood cluster of schools is the more logical solution. The goal is to educate, not send kids on long trips far from home. • Schools in the Northeast Consortium are all over-capacity and overcrowded. I'm nervous at the prospect of how little individualized attention our daughter will receive at these over-capacity schools. • Hampshire Greens children are not matriculating with their friends from elementary to middle and high schools. • It's a waste of financial resources sending 3 buses from 3 different high schools that travel with only 3 children on the Springbrook bus. • The Northeast Consortium is NOT meeting the needs of the Hampshire Greens community.</p>	2019-03-06 09:34:08

<p>I disagree with redistricting. It is very important for students to attend public schools within their neighborhood as their families chose to live in those areas. I still want my children to attend their home school in our neighborhood as we bought our house for that main reason. I don't want them to take a long bus rides to other schools far from our neighborhood and that is very unfair. Is there anything I could do to prevent those changes from happening??</p>	<p>2019-03-06 10:40:35</p>
<p>The focus of the analysis should be to improve each school where it is and keep communities together. Cross crossing children in buses across the county disrupts communities, impacts the ability of children and adults to participate in school functions and activities, and adds to Montgomery county's greenhouse gas footprint. This perceived desire to move kids out of their neighborhood schools is misguided, and has been proven as such over many decades in urban areas throughout the country. Invest more dollars and professionals in underperforming schools. Adding 20-30 minutes to a child's bus route so that standardized test scores can appear more balanced county wide is a superficial fix, and does nothing to address underlying concerns— it spreads out what we have as window dressing with no authentic desire to improve.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 10:58:20</p>
<p>Boundary study should consider the following: - NEC wastes resources & does not meet needs of Hampshire Greens (HG) students. - It is wasteful because 3 buses take HG HS students to 3 different high schools, and only 3 students ride the bus to Springbrook, the base school. - 2 other schools (Blake & Sherwood) are closer and have contiguous boundaries to HG - We are an island for Springbrook. - Due to this, our kids are not matriculating to MS & HS with their friends, which causes trauma for some students and hardship for all HG parents. - Springbrook is already over capacity, a further burden for our students.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 11:07:29</p>
<p>Requesting focus on any development or boundary realignments be done in prevention and control of over-crowding of schools and classrooms. Incoming newcomers should be required to pay additional premium on housing and taxes to ensure facility and staff improvements are satisfactory to whole community.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 11:29:11</p>
<p>I disagree with redistricting. All the students should attend public schools in their neighborhood because that'd help keep their local community strong. Long commute of our children to schools outside our neighborhood would disrupt our communities and families abilities to participate in after school activities and functions. Most parents including myself and my husband work full time and wouldn't have time to participate in schools' PTA activities far away from our neighborhoods. The long commute to school would disrupt parents and families' abilities to support and participate school communities. Long commute to schools would increase traffic and gas emissions. Children's school days are already long days and they'd be more exhausted after long commutes at the end of the school day. That is unfair to our children. Long commutes would make it very difficult for my kids to complete their homework and participate in sports or other activities after school.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 11:52:28</p>
<p>Focus on geographical advantages. Analyze the distance and time to travel to schools should be primary. For example for the Hampshire Greens (HG) Community, children in the Northeast Consortium cluster do not have as their home High School, a school that is adjacent to their community. Instead they are bypassed from two adjacent schools (Sherwood and Blake), which are closer to the community. Analyze cluster articulation of affected communities that have their children not matriculating with friends, and adjacent communities in Middle School and High School, and focus on eliminating the social disadvantages on Children that comes with the separation from friends. Analyze proper utilization of busing and facilities. For the HG community, children are bused to Springbrook that is 6+ miles away. Due to HG geographical proximity, fuel savings may be realized with busing children to adjacent schools, and provides opportunities to send kids to go to adjacent schools from Elementary Schools, Middle Schools and High schools that have under capacity enrollment projections.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 12:45:43</p>
<p>I think this study is a huge waste of taxpayer dollars! And the cost of all these extra buses that will be needed to 'shuffle' the kids around the county will be ridiculous! Why don't you use the money instead to help make the resources across all schools in the county equitable. I personally chose my home because it is close to our high school. My son goes back and forth to school several times a day for many different activities and living close to school allows him to do that. If his high school was 20 minutes away, he wouldn't be able to participate in after school sports and other activities. Has anyone considered the impact on ALL the students in the county???</p>	<p>2019-03-06 13:22:56</p>
<p>Sturtevant should be Cloverly</p>	<p>2019-03-06 14:09:16</p>

<p>The school assignments for the Hampshire Greens community has been a travesty. Our children should not be forced to attend schools that are not in our Neighborhood. None of the communities that surround Hampshire Greens attend any of these schools with us. This isolates the children from others in the community. The school assignment of Hampshire Greens as been detrimental to the community since the majority of families have been unhappy about the assignment and sent their children else where. This isolates the children attending public school in the community even more since only a fraction of them attend the assigned schools. New families moving in often remain at their previous schools instead of attending the assigned schools. No other community in the county has a circle drawn around the community isolating its children the way Hampshire Greens does, it's time this situation is rectified.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 14:38:00</p>
<p>I think the analysis by an external reviewer is ideal. I think looking at minimizing changes for each individual child as they progress through their current level of schooling should be considered (start and stop at the same school). I feel looking at the school separate from county planning - those who approve further development - would be an utter waste of time. Please do include plans being approved for building and the number of students these over residents will indeed add to our schools -developers appear to present these new projects with no indication of students being added at the actual Numbers they are being added</p>	<p>2019-03-06 14:49:32</p>
<p>We consistently hear from parents that geography and utilization have the most impact on their and their children's daily lives. School assignments should be efficient and anticipate long-term population trends to the extent possible. Each school should offer programming that promotes well-rounded achievement by all students; in part, that naturally promotes diversity in enrollment. Boundaries should work with community engagement, not attempt to impose a well-meaning but paternalistic vision of "diversity" that impedes parents from participating in their children's education. In short, MCPS and the consultants have the tall order of maximizing flexibility while minimizing disruption. From a technical standpoint, I'd like to see the consultants pay attention to the work mathematicians like Moon Duchin and the Metric Geometry and Gerrymandering Group are doing on drawing congressional districts, as school boundaries are also essentially a problem of geometrical compactness.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 15:13:43</p>
<p>It is imperative that the study review changes with the goal of making the schools more representative of the general population. There is defacto segregation in the county schools right now and an effort needs to be made to figure out how to change this. And the answer isn't throwing money at majority minority schools or bussing. Simply moving the boundaries horizontally may include a larger representation of people and it will help the population of the "W" schools learn to be more sensitive while at the same time giving opportunities to minority students that they do not have now. I for one think my children at bells mill, cabin John and Churchill would have benefitted from more diversity both socio economically and with going to school with more minority students. I'm embarrassed at the insensitivity shown by students in "rich" schools and wish I understood this issue better.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 15:46:00</p>
<p>I recognize the need to balance crowding and resource allocation. I wish the school board would issue early guidance on what is in scope with this study— my kids live walking distance to their schools; this influenced my home purchase and my spouse and I are active in the school because of its proximity. Could students be sent to other further away schools even if walkable? Would their be grandfather clauses for current families?</p>	<p>2019-03-06 17:59:49</p>
<p>We have to pass schools closer to our home to get to the assigned schools. This is waste of time and money. Also our students have hard time going to same middle and high school as their elementary school friends.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 19:01:38</p>
<p>Every argument that could be given has been given, and the people against our pleas are selfish and irresponsible to ignore us. This change will greatly help me as a student, and my parents as the ones that help supply for the community. When it comes to helping your citizens, is this a battle even worth fighting?</p>	<p>2019-03-06 20:27:51</p>

<p>I currently attend Springbrook high school and live in the Hampshire Greens community. My friends from elementary school didn't follow me to middle school so I had to make new friends then and now my friends from middle school didn't follow me to high school and that was very difficult for me as a kid already under lots of stress from school in general. there are only three other kids that ride my bus and Blake high school is much closer to my house, having to drive all the way to Springbrook doesn't make sense when Blake is much closer. This situation puts a lot of stress on me and my family having to wake up early to get me onto the bus. When I ride the bus in the morning I arrive at school at 6:50 AM, school does not start until 7:45 AM.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 20:42:47</p>
<p>The school boundary change is a terrible idea. It will not improve the education efficiency of Montgomery County. On the other hand, it will destroy the established education system.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 20:48:45</p>
<p>Please consider: 1. Whether more technical/experiential learning, alternative paths to graduation, and apprenticeship learning are options to improve the effective use of MCPS facilities rather than moving boundaries. o Consider voluntary magnet programs – of all types, that respond to the needs of all children – being proposed as part of the solution to reduce overcrowding and increase demographic mix, especially some MCPS' own choice study confirmed the need for them. o Consoder examining the potential for other factors in overcrowding, such as students from other counties attending MCPS schools. o Ensure the opinions of those who will be impacted – but who may find it difficult to engage with the BOE decision-making process (such as those who do not speak English as a first language) are considered. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 21:14:49</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been no serious discussion of o Whether more effective methods – such as voluntary magnet programs which MCPS acknowledge are necessary – can 1) relieve overcrowding and create more demographic diversity within schools by drawing students across boundaries, and 2) help close the achievement gap by offering more specified educational opportunities to more children. o Potential deleterious o impact on populations with access to fewer transportation and before- and after-school care options o impact of forcing children who are already traumatized by recent migration to leave their new communities o impact on parents with hourly wage jobs whose livelihoods are more harshly impacted by longer commutes, disruption in caregivers, and changed bell-times o The possibility of studying, as other jurisdictions routinely do, how many schools are overcrowded because students living in neighboring counties are engaging in enrollment fraud in order to avail themselves of Montgomery County educations. 	<p>2019-03-06 21:16:40</p>
<p>As a parent of 3 kids who have and are currently enrolled in MCPS. The North East Consortium has failed the students it was meant to serve. My 3 kids have suffered with our assigned schools. All 3 had to go through split articulation, extremely emotionally and psychologically challenging. Our school bus carries 3 kids to and from SB. Imagine the waste and carbon footprint. The distance and travel times are horrendous fighting through rush hour traffic. We bypass 2 schools which are under enrolled to bus our kids on long distance trips daily to an overcapacity schools. Our kids have suffered for this terrible experiment. It is time to make common sense decisions regarding our school assignments. At the end of the day my kids and their parents are exhausted, anxious and upset and we know that MCPS can do better. It's time for this boundary study.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 21:23:15</p>
<p>I don't not like the ideas of bus in and bus out student for schools</p>	<p>2019-03-06 21:28:09</p>
<p>Many families buy homes based on the current school districts and making changes will have a direct impact not only on the home values, but also the educational plans they have created for their children's futures. Changing boundaries is not the answer.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 21:28:32</p>
<p>I generally agree with the factors being considered. For me, geographic proximity is important - although my kids can take a bus we are close enough to our middle and high school to walk which is important getting to and from extra-circular activities. It probably is time to relook at geographic lines given new housing developments. Having said that there are well-established communities adjacent to my neighborhood that are located next to Tilden MS but the kids actually attend North Bethesda MS and I believe that has been the case for many years. I realize this assignment is not for specific schools but I'm providing that example because there may be other similar ones in the county.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 21:33:30</p>

I think that the Board needs to re look over the NEC boundary's. It's absolutely unfair that me being 5 mins away from Blake but yet I still have to travel over 4 + miles to get to my school. With morning rush hour traffic I have to leave at 6:45, waking up at 5:45 to get ready. This is not healthy for an average teenagers mind. The board needs to allow for more choices when it come to schools. We need community schools so we are not separated from friends.	2019-03-06 21:42:26
No study on school and cluster boundaries should recommend mandatory changes. Any recommended changes should be optional for those already living in the affected area. People purchase homes based on an assumption of school boundaries. Forcibly changing those boundaries effectively invalidates those choices and imposes a substantial, likely prohibitive cost on the effected families if they would prefer relocating to remain in their chosen school district/cluster.	2019-03-06 21:48:54
It's hard for me to justify spending time to generate meaningful inputs when there is is 99.9% chance it will be ignored. First, demonstrate a willingness to have two-way logical discussion about enrollment forecasts and then I will considering providing input.	2019-03-06 21:49:37
I believe "geographic proximity of communities to schools" should be the first priority of all 4 factors as most parents are working class and it will be extreme burden for them if they have to send their kids to a school far away from their homes.	2019-03-06 21:55:54
Hi BOE board, I strongly oppose any sugestions to bus students around the county so kids spend unnecessary time to a faraway school other than the ones in the community. Lets spend the unnecessary money on these buses on the teaching facilities and training the teachers so the school system is sustainable in a long run! Please let the kids spend the unbecessary time on the bus on the actual learning and activities they deserve and enjoy! Please honor home owners' choice of community so the house price is mainteined . Please ask the community BEFORE ANY DECISIONS that will change the lives of people. Thank you! [REDACTED]	2019-03-06 21:58:13
Boundary should only think about the distance from the students' house to school!!!	2019-03-06 22:11:02
Hi BOE board, I strongly oppose any suggestions to bus students around the county so kids spend unnecessary time to a faraway school other than the ones in the community. Lets spend the unnecessary money on these buses on the teaching facilities and training the teachers so the school system is sustainable in a long run! Please let the kids spend the unnecessary time on the bus on the actual learning and activities they deserve and enjoy! Please honor home owners' choice of community so the house price is mainteined . Please ask the community BEFORE ANY DECISIONS that will change the lives of people. Thank you!	2019-03-06 22:26:12
Hi BOE board, I strongly oppose any suggestions to bus students around the county so kids spend unnecessary time to a faraway school other than the ones in the community. Lets spend the unnecessary money on these buses on the teaching facilities and training the teachers so the school system is sustainable in a long run! Please let the kids spend time on the actual learning and activities they deserve and enjoy! Please ask the community BEFORE ANY DECISIONS that will change the lives of people. Thank you!	2019-03-06 22:44:16
Considerations for the analysis: distance to schools and length of bus ride should be minimized; children should be able to continue on with friends through the same set of schools; choice program should truly be a choice and not a lottery; all clusters should offer a similar set of specialty programs that expose kids to areas where job opportunities and salaries are growing (e.g., computer programming/IT, finance/investing, health care, etc.); consider how schools can form partnerships with industry to help kids build marketable skills; and, of course overall cost considerations. Thanks for the opportunity to comment. Pls. excuse any typos as this is being submitted via my phone.	2019-03-06 22:51:59
I oppose to change the current school boundaries. The democratic population cannot be the factor to decide the school boundary. It violate the constitution.	2019-03-06 23:05:51
Hampshire Greens Community: Springbrook High School-Home School. - Passing Blake HS 5 minutes away to Springbrook 20 minutes without traffic - Blake under capacity, Springbrook overcrowding and classroom size - NEC not meeting the needs of Hampshire Green community - The financial waste: only 3 students are currently transported on the Springbrook school bus - Can't join PTA and do volunteer because school is far away	2019-03-06 23:13:37

<p>We are highly concerned about two aspects, and hope the study can help the School Board on these aspects: (i) Maintaining the community-school nature of our local elementary, in view of the benefits in civic engagement which flow from that; and (ii) Dealing with the over-crowding issue. This simply isn't a world class school system when the buildings are bursting at the seams and the classes are in the mid- and high-20s in elementary school. We know boundaries won't solve that class size point, but it all seems to stem from wildly inaccurate enrollment projections, so we hope the analysis can help with that.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 23:19:50</p>
<p>Thoughts Hampshire green residents have the following issues: Distance and time to travel to schools bypassing 2 closer schools. Overcrowding of schools and classroom size. NEC not meeting the needs of our community. Our kids not matriculating with their friends from elementary to middle and high schools. Waste of resources sending 3 buses from 3 different high schools that travel with very few students (only 3 kids) are currently transported on the Springbrook bus. The financial waste in the process of transporting our kids to school.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 23:22:09</p>
<p>Let me start by saying I am against the type of social engineering that MCPS attempting. I am against gerrymandering to make each school as socioeconomically diverse as possible. This being said, I am concerned that MCPS is going to try to find a consultant that will give them a report they find favorable and/or that MCPS will direct the consultant to focus on correcting socioeconomic inequality over everything else. My thought is MCPS should be *very* careful in how they do this to maximize community trust. For example, since MCPS is doing the hiring they should probably overcompensate away from their interests. In addition, I think the consultant should be charged to look into the magnet schools locations. Some schools (eg Eastern MS) require very long bus rides, its location is not central to its capture area. Let's have the consultant start with a clean slate on this too.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 23:26:42</p>
<p>In my opinion, the distance from students' home to schools is the main factor when doing school boundary drawings. Let kids have enough time to sleep, not wasting time on buses.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 23:38:49</p>
<p>I think tax payer money should be spent toward education, strengthening curriculum for all kids, preparing teens for career. Wasting funding on consulting is detrimental to education.</p>	<p>2019-03-06 23:55:27</p>
<p>The review should focus on what truly benefits students' study and their growth. Kids need stable environments to grow, not just in school, but also in a community. Thus geographic proximity of communities to schools should still be the key factor when deciding school boundaries. Considering the traffics in metropolitan DC area, this is even more important. As working parents, we don't want our kids to spend more time on commuting like us. Kids should have more time for afterschool activities, participating community services, making friends, and sleep! That's one key reason when we bought our house, our house is less than 2 miles to all home schools. We also belong to a community pool where my kids enjoy so much with their school friends. I can't imagine if without school friends in the same community, my kids would have missed a lot of fun.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 03:10:44</p>
<p>Thank you for commencing a boundary assessment process. The following should be considered in regards to the NEC, particularly given the reported challenges of the New Hampshire Greens community. 1-Longer Distance and time to travel to schools bypassing 2 closer schools. 2-Examination of school overcrowding and classroom sizes. 3-Increasing elementary and middle matriculation opportunities with friends 4-Determination of more efficient transportation resources, for example, eliminating the need to send 3 buses from 3 different high schools that travel with very few students Thank you, [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-03-07 05:32:56</p>
<p>We support increasing educational access and opportunities, but do not believe artificial boundaries or boundaries that will require students to travel long distances should be drawn. Instead, we should approach this by increasing the educational budget, with particular attention to increasing teacher training, renovating facilities to include technology, and developing a better curriculum.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 06:23:43</p>

<p>Very happy to hear you are doing this! Please ensure the SOW includes looking at these issues in the long-term to the extent possible. It seems we tend to focus these sort of reviews on near-term (e.g., 5 years). While short-term studies are necessary and helpful, it is critical we start looking at these issues from a longer-term perspective so we can start more effectively planning ahead to support our children's education. Additionally, assuming the four factors you identified are in your priority order, PLEASE consider reversing the order, or at a minimum having the analysis done in such a way that you can see the results based on re-prioritizing the factors as needed. While demographics is extremely important, prioritizing that at the expense of stability and capacity/enrollment is very concerning. Stability and capacity/size have more significant effects on children's mental health and achievement.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 07:39:09</p>
<p>I strongly against to put following as a factor in making school boundaring: 1. demographics of the student body population;</p>	<p>2019-03-07 08:09:42</p>
<p>I think the geographic proximity should be the major factor based on the following reasons. 1. Students should spend minimum time on the road to school and spend more time on their activities. Several years ago, we had a lot of discussions on postponing school beginning time because high school students need more sleep. Bus-in/bus-out means they need get up early again. 2. The morning traffic has been a headache for most working people. We don't want more buses to join the traffic. 3. We should save the budget spending on these buses, and improve current schools- buildings, facilities, teacher education, etc. 4. The house values will be heavily affected by bus-in/bus-out. It also decreases the attractability of Montgomery County Schools.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 08:10:12</p>
<p>In order to promote my kids growing in a healthy way, please consider following factors: 1. Bond with childhood friends through out school years from middle school to high school 2. Less commute to school to let them have more sleep time, safe trip to and from school 3. Stay/ grow up together with surroundings neighbors</p>	<p>2019-03-07 08:24:54</p>
<p>1) Obtaining a boundary study is important to identify schools that are geographically convenient for our community a. I feel that a boundary study will objectively assess and reflect our residential community's needs regarding school locations, transportation b. This could potentially have a positive economic impact for MCPS (ie, less need for bus transport or shorter transport distances, costs of fuel/maintenance, etc) 2) Re-evaluating the need for the Northeast Consortium a. Has the growth of the county outgrown the initial intentions and reasons for forming the NEC in the first place, specifically with respect to our community? b. A boundary study can objectively assess the issue of overcrowding in schools 3) Re-assigning our community's children to the same home schools a. I believe that this is best for our children's education, safety, and security, and for our participation, role, and responsibility as parents for our children's education.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 08:31:29</p>
<p>Please ensure that any and all boundary changes address transit needs for students. Please analyze the impact of any and all increase in transit times on the commuting times in all of Montgomery County Public Schools catchment areas. Please address the impact of any and all boundary changes on the early start times for high school students and how MCPS plans to address the needs of the health of its students.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 08:40:03</p>
<p>Strongly object bus in/bus out; Support our schools being central to our community, for sake of students health/safety, parent involvement and extracurricular activities.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 08:50:07</p>
<p>My children used to attend an elementary school that was highly demographically diverse. About a quarter of the students were bused in from a community far away. They did add to the diversity of the school, but I observed that they and their parents seldom participated in any after-school or community activities and they didn't interact much with local students during breaks. In your study, please think from the perspective of those students (and their parents) who are bused in from far away and never feel they are part of the school community. Ask--not just the consultants but the people affected--if that is really good for them and their own communities. It's not a racial or financial matter. People just tend to not participate in things that are far away from them--myself included. After all, we are all very busy with our lives.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 09:01:11</p>

<p>My child attended the magnet program in middle and high schools that was highly demographically diverse. About 10-15% of the students were bused in from communities far away. They did add to the diversity of the school, but I felt that they and their parents (including myself) seldom participated in any after-school or community activities and they didn't and couldn't interact much with local students during breaks. In your study, please think from the perspective of those students (and their parents) who are bused in from far away and never feel they are part of the school community. Ask--not just the consultants, but the people affected--if that is really good for them and their own communities. It's not a racial or financial matter. People just tend to not participate in things that are far away from them--myself included. After all, we are all very busy with our lives.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 09:24:34</p>
<p>The proximity of our schools is very important. We are walkers to all of our home schools. We are also aware of the reputation of the schools. We purchased our house before having children based on many factors... one major factor being the schools - the close proximity and the reputation. The three rules of real estate are location, location, location. My family doesn't want to be bused to various schools. That was a major factor considered with the magnet programs - spending extra hours of the day on a bus to/from school. Please keep all the communities aware of the process of the BOE and have all meetings open and allow time for the entire community to hear discussion, add to discussion and allow community input. Not all occurring in a short time span or in closed door meetings. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 09:31:52</p>
<p>We live in the Hampshire Greens Community We feel that we were ignored when the school boundaries were chalked out with the result that our children by pass the schools close to us and travel an extra 5 miles to get to school Not only is this very tiring for the children it is also financially wasteful A bus comes to the neighborhood and takes maybe 2 or 3 children to school We have 2-3 buses transporting the kids to various schools We hope you will look into this and make sure our kids are not bused to schools that are so far away Thank you</p>	<p>2019-03-07 09:40:27</p>
<p>Busing kids around the county is a bad idea which does everything against strengthening any community where the families live. We have kids attending k-12 schools in existing school boundaries so that kids can develop the important sense of a community from young ages, getting to know the neighbors, caring about them, working on things of common interests. Without such sense and experience any notion of a larger community or society are empty words when they become adults. We should not ignore the proven facts of where responsibility and sense of community are nurtured and developed for a greater good. The idea is bad also because these buses will increase unnecessary burdens to our poor transportation infrastructure in the area. I am not, however, against busing some kids to certain programs that could help develop their intellectual and emotional needs, such as those talented kids programs.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 09:42:31</p>
<p>The scope should be focus how to make students better education in home school instead of the bus-in/bus-out insane methods. Student should take less commut time to go to school and got more rest to have qualified time during school. Bus-in/Bus-out is an absurd idea to weary student with a longer transportation and lower their learning productivity and waste money.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 09:43:42</p>
<p>I strongly recommend that the school district assignment considers factors in the following order: 1. geographic proximity of communities to schools; 2.school capacity and enrollment 3. stability of assignments over time; 4. Demographics of the student body population</p>	<p>2019-03-07 10:16:24</p>
<p>Do not change boundaries.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 10:23:29</p>
<p>I am against "no boundary school"</p>	<p>2019-03-07 10:32:34</p>
<p>- Assessment should include estimated time/distance students are bused each day, and hotspots (where travel time significantly exceeds the average) should be highlighted to see if they can be resolved quickly - flag all the "island communities" for each level within the clusters (elementary, middle and high school islands). Double and triple level island communities should be targeted for short-term resolution (if feasible). - flag all cases in which students from the same elementary or middle school articulates to different middle and high schools. Unless this results in significantly longer bus rides or creates island communities, eliminating these situations should be a priority. - Asses the impact of Consortium clusters on what would otherwise be neighborhood schools (seek community input on impact to kids, school, communities). Also assess the cost and benefits of these Consortium clusters on socio-economic and racial diversity.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 10:35:12</p>

<p>We oppose any solution that involve so called bus in bus out. Our children are already burdened with academic performance and they cannot afford another layer of burden of spending much longer time commuting to schools that are much further away from their home school. The county does not have the right to change school boundaries without consent from MCPS parents and students.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 10:36:03</p>
<p>The geographic proximity of communities to school should be weighted the most as 1) it's easier for students to get to and get back from school. Less time spent on transportation and traffic. 2) it's most cost effective 3) it won't add burden to the already worse traffic situation in metro area 4) students grew up in communities. This creates less pressure and stress when they are going to different schools without friends.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 10:37:53</p>
<p>Hi BOE board, I strongly oppose any suggestions to bus students around the county as it's a crazy idea which wastes precious time and energy of our young generation who need sleep and the feeling of safety when they are close to their community. It's also a waste of our taxpayers' money with increased school bus services and increased worries and inconvenience for the parents as the parents have to worry about school bus safety and punctuality and also have to travel a long way to attend school activities. Please don't spend our taxpayers' money on these crazy ideas while hiring expensive consultant companies. Please ask the community for input first and spend our money wisely on improving school facility, teachers' quality and help those kids that need more help. Please let the taxpayers make the decision since this county's prosperity is based our people. Thank you!</p>	<p>2019-03-07 10:43:34</p>
<p>I and all local parents I know are 100% against the idea that some Whitman/WJ students, against their wishes, should be bused out of district to another school. Please do not include this possibility as part of your analysis. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 10:43:41</p>
<p>I object the proposal. Demographic characteristics should not be on the list of considerations of school boundaries. Policy shouldn't interfere with education. Leave education clean!</p>	<p>2019-03-07 10:47:08</p>
<p>1) Can MCPS conduct the analysis with in house expertise? Savings can be applied to other needs, especially in a difficult fiscal climate where MCPS is already being asked to cut 2) Community Input: Please plan multiple community input opportunities throughout the process (criteria, zoning). 3 Diversity: Please ensure that planners are engaging directly with diverse communities and not just planning around us. Scattering students without considering the support and needs of our communities can be detrimental. Consider what support facilitators need to be in place in and out of school that we lose when students are bused away from home communities. How will MCPS provide additional support at school to ensure that our data is not just masked in majority schools? 4 Enrollment: Please coordinate across county/cities to take a deeper look into development and look at localities with higher growth rates to ensure we are forecasting projects effectively.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 10:47:34</p>
<p>I live near Herbert Hoover Middle school, next to it is St Andrew's private school, there is traffic jam every morning and every afternoon, it is already so congested, last thing we want is more buses in and out. The local roads are already overcrowded and overwhelmed by buses. The traffic congestion is already an big headache issue, rather than help to relieve local congestions, the idea of bus in and out is so outrageous, unbelievable. Nearby Belverly farms ES and Churchill HS, people live nearby hardly can get out, so much traffic around the area because all 4 schools are nearby.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 11:06:29</p>
<p>I think this is a terrible idea! Our children should not have to be bused to school, when they live close to their local schools. It's not a good use of the students' time to be sitting on a bus for so long, twice a day. This would also cause the students to have to wake up earlier than necessary to get to middle and high schools. Wasn't the "Teenage Sleep Cycle" the impetus behind the change in the bell times, that MCPS implemented a few years ago??</p>	<p>2019-03-07 11:06:33</p>
<p>I disagree to any change to the boundaries. This approach just shift the problems instead of solving them. The budget used for hiring an external consultant can be used for improvement of our schools.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 11:09:19</p>

<p>It is important for children to go to school in their neighborhoods. It maximizes a child's comfort in their community and gain friends, which breeds community involvement later . Working parents need before and aftercare. They often purchase homes to maximize their time with their children, which is important time for each child's development - whether it is bonding with their families, doing homework or sleeping. Bussing children to different schools outside of their neighborhoods will force these parents (who already have commutes of often 2 hours a day) to add to their commute and add a commute to the children to drop off and pick up from school, so children will have less time with their parents and families and less time to do homework and sleep or do activities. In many cases, this may each child in this situation an extra two hours per day.</p>	2019-03-07 11:21:04
<p>Change school will not improve student learning ability. We should to let kids understand why we need to learn and what we should learn to be good citizen when they grow up. We need more good teachers and right leadership in all schools. Thanks</p>	2019-03-07 11:25:11
<p>For the benefits of kids growth, geographic proximity should be the major factor in deciding school boundary because students should spend minimum time on the road and have more time for activities and sleep. In DMV area, rush hour traffic has been a nightmare for all working parents. We don't want more buses to get the traffic even worse. If we choose bus-in/bus-out instead of deciding school boundary based on geographic proximity, the traffic will get even worse, kids have to spend a lot of time on he road and get up early, and it will cost much more money for busing students. Considering the limited budget with Montgomery County, we don't see any other reasons other than geographic proximity to decide boundary. We should save money in school bus and spend them on improving school facilities, teacher professional trainings, student extracurricular activities, etc.</p>	2019-03-07 11:35:46
<p>This boundary study is waste of our tax dollar. MCPC already gerrymedered school boundaries for many schools. FMES has students from Rio, RCEs has kids from other part of gaithersburg. MCPS should fovus on how to educate every student snd expect every kid reaches his her full potential.</p>	2019-03-07 11:53:47
<p>Any proposal to change school boundaries will have a detrimental effect in the community dynamics. It will affect more than just schools, the housing market will plunge into chaos as a result and local businesses will suffer. A long time Montgomery county resident (20 years with both kids attended public schools) I for one will move out of the county once this consultant work begins. I'd like to point out that there is already a surge of housing inventories directly related to proposal of such analysis which confirms my belief that I'm not the one one considering moving out of Montgomery county.</p>	2019-03-07 11:57:00
<p>I oppose to break the current school boundaries and clusters. My understanding is that students will have to travel to other school zones which can be far from home. Here are the disadvantages: 1 affecting students health and growth both physically and mentally. No enough sleeping and eating time. No long-term friends from neighborhood. Feel unsafe and anxious to environment not close to home. 2 increase risk of unsafty by significant longer bus ride. 3 environment pollution with more bus use. Traffic problem to the already bad traffic condition. 4 parents have to travel unnecessarily to places far from home for kids pick-up or other arrangements. While these time can be used to get more job done at work. Etc. 5 the current school bus system already lacks of resources. Breaking the school cluster will require more.</p>	2019-03-07 12:00:32
<p>Hi I have two kids. Everyday I spent a lot of time for taking care of them, family and work. Stop bus in bus out this proposal. It will make me have even less sleep.</p>	2019-03-07 12:03:43
<p>The scope should include any neighborhood/school community that has requested a boundary study in the past 3 years. The scope should also include schools who are over 20% capacity and will continue to be over capacity given the current growth statistics and not slated for a renovation in the next 3-5 years or beyond. Also review the schools that the over capacity schools are feeding into.</p>	2019-03-07 12:07:11
<p>The analysis should include a focus on the importance of keeping our elementary schools community focused. Diversity is our strength in Montgomery County, but not through a forced mechanism which supplants affordable housing in favor of busing socioeconomically disadvantaged young people into more affluent, homogeneous neighborhoods to temporarily diversify a community only for the length of the school day.</p>	2019-03-07 12:17:08
<p>Please don't let students spend too much unnecessary time on school buses.</p>	2019-03-07 12:24:27

<p>I am concerned about any significant changes regarding school boundary. I would expect the changes I heard recent months and years such as bus-in-bus-out policy will not resolve any fundamental issues our county and neighborhood are facing. Those kind of changes will shorten their sleeping time and therefore have bad impact to their health. It will not minimize achievement gap, and just make all schools look similar and same. Family is, if not the most important, one of the most important factors in student education before college. Changing school boundary will not help any in the family factor. One of the major consequence in changing school boundary is the property values in the region impacted. It is not fair to those families who will have their property value lost because of this. I am strongly against any major changes or any new method like bus-in-bus-out.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 12:48:18</p>
<p>I don't quite like the idea. The kids will spend more time on commute? Why can't just take the nearest school?</p>	<p>2019-03-07 13:14:14</p>
<p>I would like the kids go to school nearby. Not bus long time for school. It is not safe. It is not good for kids health to waste time on bus. Same community should go to the same school for friendship. I donot think we need external consulting for the above arrangement.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 13:19:40</p>
<p>I don't support bus in/ out , so called no boundary on school proposal.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 13:25:49</p>
<p>It is a natural thing to enroll the students in the schools close to home. It is insane to have a 7 year old to take 1hour bus to go to a school far from home when there is a school available 5 minutes from home! Please consider the burden you would put on the parents and the students when you consider bus-in/bus-our. These are the children we are talking about not goods. Please put their health (physical and mental) as priority, especially when the diversity has already reached a satisfactory level in the current school enrollments.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 13:36:02</p>
<p>Please be advised that our kids desperately need more time to study, play and sleep! Please don't waste their time on the road!</p>	<p>2019-03-07 13:47:20</p>
<p>I am strongly against the bus in/ bus out proposal. My daughter walks to school everyday with her friends. It is such a blessing to be able to attend a school nearby when both parents are full time workers. We do not need to take time off to pick her up even if she attends special after school activities, such as club meetings or athletic events. Having interactions with other kids in the same neighborhood during daily walking to school is so helpful to my kid to establish a stable friend circle. Therefore, I am strongly against busing kids to schools further away from home.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 13:54:56</p>
<p>our kids desperately need more time to study, play and sleep! Please don't waste their time on the road!</p>	<p>2019-03-07 13:55:23</p>
<p>I think we need to set boundaries for school districts. I don't agree with transferring the students across the county each morning. Students should go to the school near their homes, because they need enough sleep every day. At the same time, school buses should not make the current traffic worse. With recent inclement weather, a lot of burdens were put on parents. If the students need to go to a school far from home, it will create more burden to the parents and local traffic.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 14:00:55</p>
<p>How to make MCPS more competitive around the nation and the world should be a major focus of this study. We are not an isolated public school system. We should balance between improving the average achievement of students and retaining the highest competitive edge of schools. People can always move to other school system, if MCPS losts its competitive edge. How reboundary affecting the movement of talented students should also be considered. At the end of the day, schools boundary is only one side of the story, people inside can always move. MCPS should really focus on improving the quality of the education.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 14:01:09</p>
<p>Farmland Elementary school is super crowded. When the Luxmanor Elementary finishes the construction, please rezone the boundaries, and move some of the students from Farmland to Luxmanor. Thanks.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 14:07:27</p>
<p>Our kids are not getting enough sleep. I support whatever way to send our kids to the closest schools. Thank you!</p>	<p>2019-03-07 14:17:28</p>
<p>Please allocate scarce resources to help those who lacks the resources at home- providing tutoring, homework help, anything necessary so that "no child is left behind", meanwhile enhancing the enrichment programs for students who already excel at school. Do not waste tax \$ on the artificial "close the gap". No gaps are closed by physically mixing people together. Everybody works hard and gets fair opportunities that their hard-working</p>	<p>2019-03-07 14:20:51</p>

Please use the taxpayer's money properly, Let the students concentrate on their study Instead of playing politic game on them. We support the current Montgomery county school boundary.	2019-03-07 14:24:30
Our kids desperately need more time to study, play and sleep! Please don't waste their time on the road!	2019-03-07 14:27:33
Our kids desperately need more time to study, play and sleep! Please don't waste their time on the road!	2019-03-07 14:30:09
Any proposal related to school boundaries will affect community dynamics, change school community and create tension in the community. It's not good for the students, parents and community at large. I would consider moving out of the county if the county moves forward with hiring a consultant. Also kids need to sleep, study and play and not spend so much time on road. Thanks	2019-03-07 14:38:07
Any proposal related to school boundaries will affect community dynamics, change school community and create tension in the community. It's not good for the students, parents and community at large. I would consider moving out of the county if the county moves forward with hiring a consultant. Also kids need to sleep, study and play and not spend so much time on road. Thanks	2019-03-07 14:39:06
Hi BOE Board, I strongly oppose any suggestions to bus students around the county so kids spend unnecessary time to a faraway school other than the ones in the community and get less sleep time. Lets spend the unnecessary money on these buses on the teaching facilities and training the teachers so the school system is sustainable in a long run! Parents should not need to travel outside of a certain distance between their home and school unless they elect to do so for programs like GT. Life-long friendships can be made through education and the school system. Boundaries should consider how those relationships between elementary school through high school impact our kids. Please ask the community BEFORE ANY DECISIONS that will change the lives of people. Thank you!	2019-03-07 14:39:47
Any proposal related to school boundaries will affect community dynamics, change school community and create tension in the community. It's not good for the students, parents and community at large. I would consider moving out of the county if the county moves forward with hiring a consultant	2019-03-07 14:41:30
My children used to attend an elementary school that was highly demographically diverse. About a quarter of the students were bused in from a community far away. They did add to the diversity of the school, but I observed that they and their parents seldom participated in any after-school or community activities and they didn't interact much with local students during breaks. In your study, please think from the perspective of those students (and their parents) who are bused in from far away and never feel they are part of the school community. Ask--not just the consultants but the people affected--if that is really good for them and their own communities. It's not a racial or financial matter. People just tend to not participate in things that are far away from them. After all, a lonely childhood will have very negative impacts on children's mental health and development.	2019-03-07 14:53:28
It will take more time for the students on the road.	2019-03-07 15:03:34
I am against Bus-in and Bus-out program! In your study, please think Kids who are bused in from far away and we are all very busy every day. My kids Don't want to waste thire time on the school bus! Ask--not just the consultants but the people affected--if that is really good for our kids and our communities. It's not a racial or financial matter. People just tend to not participate in things that are far away from them--myself included.	2019-03-07 15:03:54
Our children, desperately need more time to study, play and sleep! Please don't waste their time on the road!	2019-03-07 15:27:28
Bus in bus out will waste tax money on more school buses and more drivers, will cost more traffic on already crowded local roads, will cost students and parents more time on the way go and back to schools, will reduce after school activities anticipations. If county can afford, why not to provide more help in after school's activities, such as home work help and other academic programs to help all students who would like to prepare for the future AI challenges. Bus in bus out is not going to prepare good future to our kids. It will bring more trouble to all families. 100% against it!	2019-03-07 15:40:44
It's important for our children/students to live in close proximity to their schools. It fosters a sense of community among students. It allows them to participate in afterschool activities/sports/clubs. Parents can more easily provide transportation or kids can walk to school. It eliminates wasted time spent commuting to & from school. The cost of transportation is reduced, as is the environmental footprint. We have a vested interest in the community in which we live & we make efforts to improve it.	2019-03-07 15:50:59

<p>The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving the problems facing the MCPS.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 16:06:31</p>
<p>One other area that could be studied, is if school boundaries are changed in the future, what would be the least disruptive way to move students from one school to another? This is most likely the most difficult problem to solve, and it becomes more problematic as a child grows older. Could students be "grandfathered" in to new schools so that a sophomore in high school is not forced to switch to a new school for their junior and senior years? Could it be made voluntary for students in the middle of their school years? Are there other clever schemes that would allow students/parents to decide whether or not to move to a different school or not as boundaries are redefined?</p>	<p>2019-03-07 16:09:53</p>
<p>I worry about the impact new boundaries would have on working parents. We utilize before and after care at my kids school . No bus to before and after care is offered. If my kid now has to go to school miles further, how can I drive them to before care and get to work , and now I'm making rush hour traffic worse. And I'll be fighting traffic daily to try and get my kid before after care closes! Sending kids to different schools may have an unintended impact on the very kids you are trying to help!</p>	<p>2019-03-07 16:22:26</p>
<p>School area needs to be stable and proximity to school should always be the no. 1 priority to school assignment. This is way that is followed all over the world and is the only way that is efficient and creates a supportive environment for students as well as parents. All bus-in/bus-out plans have failed in the past. Introducing demographic factor is a twisted solution and is not necessary and is a racial preference approach in itself. If a school is not performing well, you need to study the reason. Don't use school service area as a scapegoat. It won't solve the problem and will drag down all schools. BOE members please wake up, MCPS schools are no longer the best schools in the nations as you still think (for example, Wootton and Churchill high used to be top 100 schools nationwide but now they are ranked 168 and 113, respectively).</p>	<p>2019-03-07 16:34:44</p>
<p>1. I think the students should go to the school near their house. This will save the time and reduce the traffic which is already very bad in this area. Safety is also considered better in this way. 2. Bus in and out students to other school far away from their house will not help a lot, as it takes much time on commuting and cost them extra effort to make friends. 3. MCPS should provide free tutor service to help students who are struggling on school study. SSL hours can be offered to students who would like to work as tutor, and it wii be even better if they can trained before working as tutor. 4. MCPS can provide some club or activity for parents from different school to share experience and help each other.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 16:47:04</p>
<p>Geographic proximity of communities to schools should be top priority. My kids are young and more sleep time is essential for them. Also, if school is far away from home, it's will be very difficult for working parents to participate the school activities. Last but not least, long distance school bus transportation will be costly. The property tax is so high already. Please be realistic! Stability of assignment over time is also very important. I wish kids have life time friends!</p>	<p>2019-03-07 16:52:32</p>
<p>School area needs to be stable and proximity to school should always be the no. 1 priority to school assignment. This is way that is followed all over the world and is the only way that is efficient and creates a supportive environment for students as well as families. All bus-in/bus-out plans have failed in the past. Introducing demographic factor is a twisted solution and is not necessary and is a racial preference approach in itself. If school is not performing well, you need to study the reason. Don't use school service area as a scapegoat. It won't solve the problem and will drag down all schools. BOE members please wake up, MCPS schools are no longer the best schools in the nations as you still think (for example, Wootton and Churchill high used to be top 100 schools nationwide but now they are ranked 168 and 113, respectively).</p>	<p>2019-03-07 16:55:25</p>
<p>I strongly oppose redrawing boundaries. There are several reasons. 1. Affect the kids who are living far away from the home school. 2. Montgomery county will loose lots of residents who may move to Virginia. 3. Increase transportation burden. We pay tax to support the development of Montgomery county, but not the policies like this.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 16:57:13</p>

<p>School area needs to be stable and proximity to school should always be the no. 1 priority to school assignment. This is way that is followed all over the world and is the only way that is efficient and creates a supportive environment for students as well as families. All bus-in/bus-out plans have failed in the past. Introducing demographic factor is a twisted solution and is not necessary and is a racial preference approach in itself. If school is not performing well, you need to study the reason. Don't use school service area as a scapegoat. It won't solve the problem and will drag down all schools. BOE members please wake up, MCPS schools are no longer the best schools in the nations as you still think (for example, Wootton and Churchill high used to be top 100 schools nationwide but now they are ranked 168 and 113, respectively).</p>	<p>2019-03-07 16:59:39</p>
<p>Kids grow up in the same community should go to the same school; Long bus ride will deprive children's much needed sleep and cause long term health issue; long school bus ride is an environmental hazard and increase traffic congestion; kids feel lonely and isolated without their community friends. Conduct student health impact assessment, traffic impact assessment, psychological impact assessment</p>	<p>2019-03-07 16:59:57</p>
<p>I don't understand why we want to redraw the boundaries. This policy will be very bad to kids, especially those who are living far away from the home school. It took them more time on the way to school. This policy will be very bad for the whole county.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 17:03:25</p>
<p>My children used to attend an elementary school that was highly demographically diverse. About a quarter of the students were bused in from a community far away. They did add to the diversity of the school, but I observed that they and their parents seldom participated in any after-school or community activities and they didn't interact much with local students during breaks. In your study, please think from the perspective of those students (and their parents) who are bused in from far away and never feel they are part of the school community. Ask--not just the consultants but the people affected--if that is really good for them and their own communities. It's not a racial or financial matter. People just tend to not participate in things that are far away from them--myself included. After all, we are all very busy with our lives.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 17:05:55</p>
<p>I learned from my neighbors that BOE is making big changes in guiding school boundary to equalize diversity and close achievement gap. While there are many issues or solutions can be debatable about how to close achievement gap, I want to share my thoughts with you from a scientist point of view. IF diversity can close gap, why not identifying one of MCPS high school which currently has similar diversity body to the county population and evaluate its achievement gap within the school. I strongly suspect diversity has no correlation to achievement gap. Further , I think MCPS should use tax payer's money wisely by investing in retaining high-quality teachers, books, education programs etc. In the end, diversity is the outcome, not the root cause of students' achievement gap. Inspiring students' learning spirit is the most effective way to excel in study. this is my 2 cents.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 17:20:06</p>
<p>School area needs to be stable and proximity to school should always be the no. 1 priority to school assignment. This is way that is followed all over the world and is the only way that is efficient and creates a supportive environment for students as well as families. All bus-in/bus-out plans have failed in the past. Introducing demographic factor is a twisted solution and is not necessary and is a racial preference approach in itself. If school is not performing well, you need to study the reason. Don't use school service area as a scapegoat. It won't solve the problem and will drag down all schools. BOE members please wake up, MCPS schools are no longer the best schools in the nations as you still think (for example, Wootton and Churchill high used to be top 100 schools nationwide but now they are ranked 168 and 113, respectively).</p>	<p>2019-03-07 17:42:44</p>
<p>The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 17:54:26</p>

<p>I think the geographic proximity should be a major factor based on the following reasons. 1. Students should spend minimum time on the road to school and spend more time on sleeping. This is critical to their growth. These past few years, we have had many proposals for and debates about the postponement of school start times because students need more sleep. Bus-in/bus-out means they need get up early again. 2. Those students who are bused in to a school further away from their community will feel isolated. This is bad for their mental well-being. 3. The morning traffic has been bad enough in the beltway. We don't want more buses to join the traffic, which may be dangerous to students on board. 4. Instead of spending more on transportation, it is more effective to spend more on current schools- buildings, facilities, teacher education, etc.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 18:01:41</p>
<p>The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms</p>	<p>2019-03-07 18:33:41</p>
<p>The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms</p>	<p>2019-03-07 18:34:49</p>
<p>I love the diversity of our schools. I dislike that the boundries which provide that diversity often reach over what would seemingly be natural boundries for a community. While the intent is there, I would like the study to assess of those students pulled into a school from a distance in the name of diversity are caught in no mans land. Meaning, are they too far from the community to be truly immersed there AND while living in a community where the majority of resident attend a separate, closer school more in line with natural boundaries? Are we hurting diverse communities and families simply to say County schools as a whole are more diverse?</p>	<p>2019-03-07 18:42:47</p>
<p>Strongly against school redistricting based on demographics. This factor has nothing to do with the performance of our education system as all the students, white or black, are equally clever and smart, and all the teachers in MCPS are excellent. The differences lie in how much the parents value education, and how much the parents are willing to invest into education. Look at the parents of those students with straight A's, how much effort and money have they put into education? A lot! Look at the parents of those students with poor grades, how many times have they checked their kids' homework? Never! How much do they care about the behaviors of their kids at school? Not at all! These differences have nothing to do with demographics. School redistricting based on demographics doesn't make any sense from education perspective!</p>	<p>2019-03-07 19:13:10</p>
<p>Doubt about the bus in bus out effect. 1) will increase travel time which they can use on sleep, study or even play; kids need more time to sleep; 2) no evidence support the practice on student academic performance improvement; 3) BIBO can definitely help understanding of different cultures, but the same results can be achieved from other ways.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 19:14:55</p>
<p>Hi, I live at [REDACTED], and there is a new Clarksburg Clusters ES being built within 2 minutes walk from our house which can be seen from my window. However, our daughter who is 5 at the moment is assigned to Cedar Grove for September 2019, 1st grade. Would you please reconsider the boundary to accommodate us since my elderly parents who live with us, can drop off and pick up my daughter thus eliminating the expense of paying for before and after care and a need for school bus use. Thank you in advance appreciate your feedback. [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-03-07 19:16:00</p>
<p>The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms</p>	<p>2019-03-07 19:31:16</p>
<p>School area needs to be stable and proximity to school should always be the no. 1 priority to school assignment. This is way that is followed all over the world and is the only way that is efficient and creates a supportive environment for students as well as families. All bus-in/bus-out plans have failed in the past. Introducing demographic factor is a twisted solution and is not necessary and is a racial preference approach in itself. If school is not performing well, you need to study the reason. Don't use school service area as a scapegoat. It won't solve the problem and will drag down all schools. BOE members please wake up, MCPS schools are no longer the best schools in the nations as you still think (for example, Wootton and Churchill high used to be top 100 schools nationwide but now they are ranked 168 and 113, respectively)</p>	<p>2019-03-07 19:34:46</p>

<p>Hi. We live in Clarksburg , we can see new school from front yard but we found out My son who is going to start kindergarten this September won't be attending it due to boundari line. My son is outgoing but sensitive and I really don't want him to take a school bus to Cedar Grove. Since they started construction of the school my son and I would talk about the progress and work that has been put in on daily bases and every day he gets excited. I'm a stay at home Mom, I don't need before and after care. Please reconsider the boundaries, We can see the school from out front yard it's not fair that we live so close and not being able to go there. Thank you</p>	<p>2019-03-07 19:39:27</p>
<p>Please STOP the county-wide boundary study!!! What are the reasons for a county-wide study anyway? First, before MCPS even starts any projects, has MCPS held any hearing to listen those stockholders' voice? As all money is from tax payers. Second, before MCPS even starts any projects, has it conducted a Cost-Benefits analysis yet? What are the benefits of doing that? Who will benefit from doing that? The third, in terms of priority, a lot of urgent issues such as too old buildings, facility and equipments in Poolsville HS that need to be replaced long time ago; for another example, with rapid increasing populations in upcounty, schools like Wilson Wims ES is over capacity, has MCPS done increase any resources to solve the problems? Yet, MCPS wastes tax payer dollars to do something (e. g. bus-in/bus-out raised safety concerns as well as youth health due to lack of sleeping) meaningless!</p>	<p>2019-03-07 19:39:44</p>
<p>The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 19:54:49</p>
<p>Dear board member: Thanks for taking the time to consider community input. Of all four factors, the one that is most important to me, and families like ours, is geographic proximity of communities to schools. I've always considered our school part of my community. After all, my kids and their friends all go there. I run into my neighbors there all the time; it is close and I pass it when I take a walk. I cannot imagine the day where I have to send my kids to a school far far away. If they take the bus, it decreases their time to sleep. They're already on the verge of sleep deprivation. If I have to drive them, it will worsen my commute and county traffic congestion, not to mention the environmental impact. Families with resources may have such a leisure, but it's a luxury we cannot afford. Thanks.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 19:57:35</p>
<p>1. neighborhood friends from same school are very important for kids in their development 2. commute time needs to be reasonable- home local school are best choices 3.students would feel insecure with uncertainty on different school decisions. 4. traffic time would be much longer to pick up kids at far locations and the road traffic would be bad due to this factor 5. bus drivers would spend more time to drive around in different areas of community, less people would apply school bus driver positions 6. students would be short of sleep due to longer commute time, overall performance lower 7. each school would need multiple levels of the same subjects to accommodate different levels of students need. More teachers are needed which cannot be resolved based on the current situation. 8. less after school club or program attendance due to linger commute time.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 20:02:34</p>
<p>The boundary study base on race is very ridiculous. It is not going to solve any current problems on improving educational level among different races, but only waste tax payers' money due to the boundary study cost and transportation burden. I strongly condemn this study.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 20:09:09</p>
<p>Demographic consideration especially race is not reasonable/scientific for boundary definition. It will cause more aggressive racism. Residents choose where to live(where to go to school) based on the current ehnithity and culture in the districts. Redividing based on demographics is against local residents will and will cause more serious social problems.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 20:10:38</p>
<p>The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 20:17:14</p>
<p>No bus in and bus out, get more resources to the kids study and education, fair to the GT and Magnet screening.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 20:20:03</p>
<p>The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 20:28:34</p>
<p>Against racial profiling.</p>	<p>2019-03-07 20:36:56</p>

The based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. Secondly, the impact to the time taken for students to go to school could be significantly longer, lead to shorter time to sleep, which could lead to health problems, as well as impact parent's working schedule. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 20:39:26
The school borders should not be removed because some parents have put in a lot of hard work and dedication to be able to move to priviliged areas such as Potomac and Rockville to be able to go to good schools such as a Churchill and Wootton.	2019-03-07 20:48:12
I want to feel safe at school.	2019-03-07 20:51:41
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 20:53:37
I don't like the bus-in bus out strategy to get kids around the county. It is a whole lot of work for the education system as well as students and parents. I doubt it will turn out to be a lose-lose situation. Tired students, long commute and stressful.	2019-03-07 20:54:09
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 20:54:25
"The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 21:03:21
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. I am a mom of a kindergartner, I do not want to see my 6 years old kid everyday taking long bus ride to go to school due to the school redistributing! We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 21:05:00
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 21:06:21
I am strongly against this practice. The race based school redistricting is a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS.	2019-03-07 21:09:02
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 21:10:24
Do not change boundaries, it would displace students already in schools and their siblings.	2019-03-07 21:12:37
I do not want my kids to get up early and take bus for half an hour or more to go to other school instead of going to the nearby school. That does not make sense!!!	2019-03-07 21:16:34
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms. This practice is pushing middle classes away from Macgomery County. As a matter of fact, a few of my friends moved to Virginia already because Montgomery county is not attractive to them anymore.	2019-03-07 21:18:46
I think WJ cluster school district is overcrowded however no zoning or school boundary should not be changed for those household whose children already attend WJ schools. It would be great if Tilden Middle and WJ High School has two schools.	2019-03-07 21:19:23
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. Besides, it will increase the commute time a lot. I condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 21:23:27
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 21:23:54

The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 21:24:45
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 21:25:48
Hi, I'm the parent of a [REDACTED] student in MCPS. My [REDACTED] went to the [REDACTED] program at [REDACTED] and really liked it. However, I did not let her go to any of the Magnet programs in middle School for one reason -- transportation. It'd force her to waste too much time on the bus. Today's teenagers are not getting nearly enough sleep, so we cannot force them to sit on the bus for hours each day. Life is short, let them enjoy their youth learning or just doing the things they enjoy. I believe your goals are noble, but please let the kids go to a school near home. Best regards, [REDACTED]	2019-03-07 21:35:24
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 21:37:55
Montgomery County is one of the richest countys in the US and students already have plenty of opportunities and rich resources. It is not fair or necessary for students who don't work hard to join even better schools.	2019-03-07 21:39:07
As a parent of three, I strongly suggest following aspects be taken into consideration in the outside consultants' analysis: 1. To what extent we sacrifice other factors such as commute time, sense of community, parents' involvement in schooling, and children's sleeping time and stress level, in order to achieve diversity. 2. How to project the cost in suggestions/opportunity presented by the analysis. Will it take into account the tax income drop if people start leaving MC because of dropping property value 3. How to measure the benefits of school redistricting done in other parts of county, and how they are similar to Montgomery County 4. There are recent, ongoing, and scheduled boundary studies in various parts of the county, what are the expectations for the families? Multiple reassignments in a few years?	2019-03-07 21:40:18
No! Don't initiate this please. The existing school and cluster boundaries are fine the way they are, please don't change it! Besides, what if twins or siblings get separated?! That wouldn't be fair for the parents to stress about sending/picking up from 2 different schools! Do NOT INITIATE THIS.	2019-03-07 21:40:23
School area needs to be stable and proximity to school should always be the no. 1 priority to school assignment. In the past, areas used bus in and bus out policy to focus on demographic of student body at school all failed with the deterioration for both education and economic situation.	2019-03-07 21:46:41
"Bus in Bus out" is an absolutely great way to show good will, but executed incorrectly. Using scarce resources and tax payer money, wasting students' precious hours on the road every day, and exposing them to risk of accident on the busy rough-hour commutes is too much to ask, not to mention the extra stress that would be placed on the parents and the high chance of students being excluded at such schools Instead, wouldn't it be better to invest this money into tutoring programs or high quality after school programs? Being exposed to such a foreign and unwelcoming environment will no doubt have effects on the development of these students as well. For their own sake, the intentions accompanying the good intentions of "Bus in Bus out" should be reconsidered and redesigned.	2019-03-07 21:51:16
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 21:51:58
School area needs to be stable and proximity to school should always be the no. 1 priority to school assignment. This is way that is followed all over the world and is the only way that is efficient and creates a supportive environment for students as well as families. All bus-in/bus-out plans have failed in the past. Introducing demographic factor is a twisted solution and is not necessary and is a racial preference approach in itself. If school is not performing well, you need to study the reason. Don't use school service area as a scapegoat. It won't solve the problem and will drag down all schools. BOE members please wake up, MCPS schools are no longer the best schools in the nations as you still think (for example, Wootton and Churchill high used to be top 100 schools nationwide but now they are ranked 168 and 113, respectively).	2019-03-07 22:41:10
We should not do this. Our boundaries are fine as it is. Moving kids would just create more of a problem.	2019-03-07 22:54:57

I think this is a terrible idea and geographically it will just be chaotic.	2019-03-07 22:56:39
Students should not be moved to another school	2019-03-07 23:21:35
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 23:37:49
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-07 23:39:05
I think that the current cluster and boundaries support my education since it makes it convenient for me to quickly get to school.	2019-03-08 00:31:55
I don't think pulling people out of their current high schools is a good idea, considering the classes they want to take, their roadmap they planned out for that school, it would be troublesome to mess it up. If pulling students from other schools into the new one, please do it by middle schools and let current high schoolers choose to stay or leave. Being pulled out could also possibly hurt a student's mental health, all the stress collapsing on them.	2019-03-08 00:35:05
This is a horrible idea - it may be true that some students should be going to a different school, but it should be handled as a question to the student, not a force. It would be unfair to simply pull a student from a school and place him/her in another. This could EASILY place a student into a state of depression, since they are pulled from the friends that they love and community they are supported by. Please don't do this.	2019-03-08 07:07:35
1) students' friendship and mental health development within student community. 2) Students' sense of home community and neighborhood, to help facilitate interaction and communication with others, as well as relationship building. 3) Parent work schedules, commutes and the proximity of the home to the school, to reduce traffic congestions. 4) Classroom sizes and student to teacher ratios.	2019-03-08 07:18:32
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-08 07:23:26
The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, it will deprive the students of opportunities to enjoy the benefits of diversity and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.	2019-03-08 07:53:18
This recommendation is a crazy bad idea! It will make the already bad traffic even worse. It will force rich people move out of this area which will cause less tax for the county. It will definitely deteriorate the future of this county. So sad to see this proposal. Don't waste our taxpayers' money on this unreasonable proposal. No one wants to live in an area with no certainty and traffic everyday. Please stop this idea!!!!!!!	2019-03-08 08:30:57
Changing the school boundaries in Montgomery county would drastically and negatively affect students. This would mean that students would have to leave the school environments that they have become accustomed to, and students would have to leave the friendships they have developed over their years. This could affect students' happiness, academic performance, and even mental health. In my opinion, and in the opinion of many other people, many MCPS policies are strongly disliked by the thousands of members of this community. This new boundary policy would only add to this very long and growing list of poor decisions made by the board. I do not like living in Montgomery county and I do not think that it is the best county in Maryland. Instead of changing the entire demographics of Montgomery county, the board should focus on doing more to improve the conditions in each individual community of the county.	2019-03-08 08:48:28

<p>The credential of the consultant is very important. He/She should be have a Ph.D in education. The analysis should evaluate the benefit and risk for all MCPS students, not just a sub population. The objective, sampling plan, data collection plan, and analysis plan should be made public for comments before any data is collected. The collected data and final study report should be available for the public to check and duplicate the analysis results. The following risk factors should be considered: student time on bus, anxiety caused by long and uncertainty of traveling time, lose of sleep, loosening the bond within a community, cost of the changes, possible impact on further worsening traffic, environment impact. The benefit should be quantified.</p>	<p>2019-03-08 09:32:16</p>
<p>The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.</p>	<p>2019-03-08 10:01:22</p>
<p>The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We strongly condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.</p>	<p>2019-03-08 10:07:18</p>
<p>What is wrong with the current cluster boundaries? I am not sure why the county needs to spend our limited tax money to hire consultants do such study. My major consideration is that all students should not be forced to leave their current schools they really like to continue. Put the students first, please ask them if you would like to spend more time on commute and be deprecated from their own community circle</p>	<p>2019-03-08 10:15:29</p>
<p>We shouldn't spend tax payers money on unnecessary surveys. We should spend this money on improving failing schools. Change boundaries is not going to help with failing school at all, it makes current failing schools even worse. kids can not afford time and resources on the road suffering. We are redirecting real causes to the symptoms of the causes. How can you fix the problem not fixing the cause but simply changing the results. Fix the real issues of failing schools don't waste tax payers money.</p>	<p>2019-03-08 13:45:12</p>
<p>Kids should attend schools in their own communities. Most kids don't get enough sleep already and should not have to spend more time on commuting to and from a school far away from their homes. When kids have to go to schools further away, there would be more buses/more bus drivers/more bus maintenance & storage, which all translate to more costs. Additionally, traffic would be worse for everybody.</p>	<p>2019-03-08 16:44:26</p>
<p>The geographic proximity of communities to schools is of prime importance to me. I moved within MoCo so my children would not be in the Down Country Consortium for high school because I felt it was a disadvantage for them to be bused to a school that was not near our home. I think that neighborhood schools are very important for a sense of community and to help with the involvement of kids with afterschool activities. I hope that this will be given importance in any decisions that are made.</p>	<p>2019-03-08 17:04:27</p>
<p>I strongly object to changing school boundaries in the future, changing the school boundaries will have very bad impacts on our kids, the school qualities, the house values, and even the traffic in Montgomery County. It is wasting our tax-payer's money to do bad things.</p>	<p>2019-03-08 17:05:14</p>
<p>As a student currently enrolled in a MOCO school, I find your ideas surrounding clusters are useless. One of the most important things to me is my sleep, whether it be 6 hours or 8 hours. Going to a school out of my school cluster negativity impacts my sleep, which results in poor attitudes and decreased quality of work.</p>	<p>2019-03-08 17:12:10</p>
<p>Changing school boundary is an bad idea. It will reduce peoples confidence for Montgomery county. For many decades, Montgomery county doing well on education and stay top among whole country. This attracts more families moving here to persuade better education for their children which in turn help the county to improve reputation and increase fiscal revenue. Thus, the system is proved no need to chang! The local government can make it better by focusing on more specific needs and measures. In contract, changing school boundaries have not have any benefit showing for students. It lacks systematic arguments to prove it is better than current system. So, It is not worth to sacrifice a good education system in order to prove an uncertain system whithout any good support. I oppose to change school boundaries in Montgomery county. Thanks</p>	<p>2019-03-08 17:26:41</p>

<p>I was in the meeting last night. As a mom, I felt so touched when a boy said: I can go to school with so many AP classes to choose but some kids went to school with broken ceilings. This is a very good boy and he can see the problem. However, he shall know that the cost of school bus on the road for one week, probably can help the school to fix all the broken ceilings. We shall find a good solution for problem!!!! With all the cost of transportation and all the time on management of students all over the place, we can build up new classrooms or new schools! As for diversity, it is a problem formed naturally, majorly by the job opportunities of parents around the school district. It shall be solved naturally, not by the force of government or BOE. Thanks a lot!</p>	<p>2019-03-08 17:38:30</p>
<p>Against it!</p>	<p>2019-03-08 17:46:23</p>
<p>NO bus-in Bus-out! All my kids don't agree to spend more time on their school bus!!! Especially my high school one!!! They need more time to sleep!!!</p>	<p>2019-03-08 18:00:35</p>
<p>Mess up school boundary is very bad for kids grow, for students Education, and for parents working. It is a waste of money and time. It increases a lot of safety issues for kids on the road! If diversity is a problem, we can give kids more opportunities to know more diversified friends by making more weekends activities! Instead of putting budgets on the school bus transportation, we can put founding on weekend activities, summer camps, and build up more classrooms. Parents will be very happy to be involved as volunteers. Do not send my kids far away from home! We want to watch our kids closely, help teachers, and be important part of kids education!</p>	<p>2019-03-08 18:12:59</p>
<p>This is not a good idea to do the boundary change.</p>	<p>2019-03-08 18:22:20</p>
<p>Opposite bus in bus out Kids need time to sleep. It's important to their mental health and academy. Bus in bus out will cause traffic and waste our tax payers money. MC is already diversity county. Neighbors is community. What's is bus in and bus out for? School is for students and parents. Not for your political purpose.</p>	<p>2019-03-08 18:33:12</p>
<p>As a Heath researcher myself and also a parent, I am worried that ignorance of the boundaries and let students go to schools farther away will lead to shorter period of sleeping time. Currently shortage of sleep among school aged students is already a critical health issue. It causes cognitive dysfunctions, short term and long term health issues.</p>	<p>2019-03-08 19:18:17</p>
<p>I don't think to increase diversity of the school will work. PJ county have done that before. Schools spiraled downhill fast. Kids on busses, passing local school to go halfway around beltway. Long rides (sometimes an hour) in 1970's traffic. People will vote by foot. Parents who could, will leave Montgomery county ASAP, with their kids and income to other area in DMV. Montgomery county will fail both in education and in economy. No one will benefit from this.</p>	<p>2019-03-08 19:24:43</p>
<p>i dont think this is a good idea. starting another school and is too much work for students who live far away. students who want to move should do it voluntarily not by force. building new schools or moving students from one school to another will eventually over populate the same schools again. i find this very unnecessary.</p>	<p>2019-03-08 19:53:07</p>
<p>The survey should be focusing on over capacity or under use school facilities, also need to consider demographic factor such as The traffic between local schools to students home. After school activities will be impacted by as well . Parents may not be able to pick up students if students decide to be involved in after school activities. Students need adequate sleep/rest time in the growing phase with traveling time maybe increasing ,their sleep time will be shortened . Outside school activities will be reconsidered as parents can not drop off kids at regular time. This will give unnecessary anxiety to parents and students. Also how school board decide 2 hours delay on a snow day if student traveling time needs more than one hour ? Please consider all factors before making decision on rezone school !</p>	<p>2019-03-08 20:10:12</p>
<p>I oppose bus in bus out. School districts should be neighbors with neighbors. Students will have a harder time contacting their classmates and meeting up with them if they live halfway across the county. Not only that, but students will lose sleep. Busing in students to a faraway school will mean that students will have to wake up earlier and sleep less. Students already have enough stress on their shoulders and should be allowed to get a maximum amount of rest. Increase in stress and lack of sleep can lead to anxiety, grades dropping, and worse. It is also extremely inconvenient for parents to pick up children if they go to school 30 minutes away. It is especially inconvenient if your home school is just 5 minutes away, but you have to drive 30 minutes. School should be for us and education, not politics.</p>	<p>2019-03-08 20:23:17</p>

<p>things to consider: Will the redistricting lower the quality of schools? will diversity actually increase performance? not making it mandatory for people to move out of a closer school district I feel it is overall very unnecessary to redistrict schools. Redistricting will make everyone's lives harder and more stressful. There is an unlikely correlation between diversity and student performance in school. As a matter of fact, by making students with unfavorable academic records move into higher quality schools may actually . reduce the quality of performance, and school environment as a whole.</p>	2019-03-08 20:26:38
<p>School is where the community is based of. kids have their first stable friends, parents and families connected through the school and attend school activities. School boundaries shall take the community consideration as the first priority, where approximate distance from home to school should be within one or two miles for ES, 5 miles for middle and high school. it provides safe and familiar surrounding to the students. It makes it easy to arrange playdate, and promote students independence. And make it convenient for families to attend and volunteer school activities. That's a big part of building strong communities.</p>	2019-03-08 20:32:33
<p>The race based school redistricting is based on a racist policy, unfairly targeting students and parents negatively impacted by the practice. it does not reduce but widen the racial divide, and is not going to help solving problems facing the MCPS. We condemn this practice in strongest possible terms.</p>	2019-03-08 20:40:49
<p>First of all, I don't believe conducting this analysis is a good use of tax payers' money. Demographics of student body population should not be a consideration of school boundary at all. People have the freedom to choose where to live, and geographic proximity forms community. It is waste of money and resources to artificially move students around for "demographics".</p>	2019-03-08 21:08:55
<p>I am horrified and have a number of problems with how this has been communicated, and the underlying substance of the issue. You describe the project as about "effectiveness" as opposed to bussing kids out of their districts in order to achieve racial quotas--very misleading. Second, I am about to purchase a new home in MoCo (currently rent). As you are aware, a house in Churchill is 100K higher than a comparable in Wootton, which in turn is 100K higher than QO/Northwest. So I immediately risk losing 200K in equity? How the heck will I pay for college for my children? And are you going to move my son to a new High School for his sophomore year? Are you kidding me? And you say this is about the interests of the kids?? There are far better ways to accomplish what you are trying to do than redistricting.</p>	2019-03-08 21:28:35
<p>I would like to see MCPS to invest the money to hire more good teachers not bus drivers. Any convincing evidence that Blaire or RM has the obvious outcome to reduce the gap between gifted students and local students? No shortcuts in the education. A simple mix would not resolve any fundamental issues. Teaching is the hardest job in the world.</p>	2019-03-08 21:32:23
<p>Children must attend neighborhood school to stay healthy and productive intellectually. We finally achieved the result just a couple of years ago to start school at a later time of the day so that our children can now sleep more hours which is especially beneficial to high school students. Lack of sleep had been a serious problem among high school students. If policy of crossing boundary school attendance is implemented, our children would be thrown back to the past and may even into a worse sleep deprivation situation because of long daily commuting. Moreover children's connection to their home neighborhood would be affected because they would lose the daily opportunity to stay close with friends who have grown up together since early childhood through middle school years. Subsequently, therefore, crossing boundary would harm youths' mentality attachment to friendship.</p>	2019-03-08 21:33:52
<p>Please do not change the school boundary! We do not want our kids to spend a lot of time on the road.</p>	2019-03-08 21:46:33
<p>I am deeply concerned that the potential school boundary change will have a profound negative impact on our existing school and consequently, on my kids. I strongly advocate for not changing the existing school boundary. Thank you!</p>	2019-03-08 21:49:29
<p>BOE, please do not waste tax money on this meaningless consultants service. The focus and budget should be spent to improve our school educational service, reach academic mission, and nurture study environment. It is a joke to have any external consultancy to analyze our school in a large. Stability is very important. MCPS has been going down already with these years' stupid changes, which is so obvious that BOE does not really see.</p>	2019-03-08 22:09:45

Bus in bus out will have many negative impacts: 1) More commute for students thus more stress and less after-school activity 2) less community building among kids and parents in the same neighborhood 3) Less parents' involvement in schools 4) more traffic in the area and more school bus thus more expenses 4) potential property value drop that leads to lower budget for entire MCPS	2019-03-08 22:23:39
Scope: gather development data, census data, use these data along with zoning to project student population. School boundary should be draw in a way that minimize travel time for students, maximize walkers, optimize school capacity, minimize busing need. Less bus will save cost, good for environment. Minimize student travel time will give them more free time for their own choice. The cost savings could be used for offering choice programs, so that all schools have same /similar offerings. For example, magnate program student have 8 periods every day. Why not offer 8 period program at every high school?	2019-03-08 22:28:53
I reject this boundary proposal. It will have negative impact on MCPS students and whole community. Student will spend more time on transportation and it is not a right solution to most of MCPS Students at all. It's waste tax prayers' money. There are lots of effective and less cost ways to educate students to learn various cultures instead of this hurtful proposal. Therefore, I as a parent of MCPS students request to reboundary. It's an useless solution.	2019-03-08 22:47:23
Please take a look at the districting of Dr. Charles Drew Elementary feeding into Francis Scott Key Middle school. It is way to far for children to travel when there are 4 middle schools that are all closer; Banneker Middle, Briggs Chaney Middle, White Oak Middle and Argyle Middle.	2019-03-08 23:03:11
I have two kids from MCPS. One just went to Harvard University. I appreciate the education that MCPS provided her because most of her classmates are from private schools. Not many are from public schools. Not only so, she has a very solid academic foundation compared to most of the kids from other parts of the country. I should say that MCPS should be proud of its achievement in the past years. I don't see a need to change the current system, which is excellent already. Any change to the current system is a risk to ruin the current good standing of MCPS. I especially don't like the bus-in-bus-out proposal. Why should kids spend over one hour on the road, rather than sleeping or studying? As a parent who went through this once, I know how valuable one hour can be for a high school student. Any hour counts! Thanks!	2019-03-08 23:22:19
I have great concern about this. America is a free land. Choosing where to go to school is up to individuals. And school should just spend time on how to provide better education to students in whatever they are instead of thinking where to get balance student source. If BOE manually make decisions on how to put students in different schools that is again people's will. And that will certainly impact the quality of current school education and cause a lot of confusion. Please don't waste tax payer's money in hiring consultants. Just ask parents and teachers for free!	2019-03-08 23:35:51
Bus in and bus out course 1) More commute for students thus more stress and less after-school activity 2) Less parents' involvement in schools 3)more traffic in the area and more school bus thus more expenses. I don't like bus in and bus out policy.	2019-03-08 23:39:04
We don't want my kids to attend a school far away. Otherwise my kids don't have enough sleep time.	2019-03-08 23:42:47
Geographic proximity to school is the most equitable and cost-effective criteria for school assignment because: 1.All other assignments cost more for bus drivers' salaries, benefits, liability insurance, fuel, additional buses, bus maintenance. Higher demand for drivers drives up salary levels. 2.Longer bus routes mean longer work hours, higher salaries each driver. 3.Earlier start time for students. Insufficient sleep, poor performance. 4.Increased polution from more buses and longer routes. Worse traffic jams. 5.Current resources allocation is based on enrollment. Then high FARM schools receive more resources in the form of smaller class sizes, more after school help,etc. The high performance schools receive fewer dollars per student. It's not inequitable use of resources that caused difference in performance between schools. Reset boundaries will not help but may cause some low income family students loose the extra help they receive now. 6.Reset boundary cause property value decline, less tax revenue,less funding for MCPS	2019-03-09 00:07:24
I strongly oppose any bounday changes to increase on-the-school-bus time significantly. This kind of change sacrifice the safety of children because of the longer riding time, decrease rest time of growing children, and waste public resources and our taxes. Thanks.	2019-03-09 01:32:34
The no boundary recommendation makes no sense. I am strongly against it. Thx	2019-03-09 05:24:44

<p>1) We moved from Connecticut. My daughter attended 1st grade elementary school there. It's white dominated community and she was the only Asian child in the school. She has never felt isolated. We need to adapt to and mix into our environment, not asking environment to fit us. That's one of an important ability I hope my children can grow up with. If people ask me do I eat dog, I will explain to them calmly. This dog question has nothing to do with how many Asian or white students in school. As far as there is one non-Asian student in school doesn't know it, he or she will ask you. 2) I move to this neighborhood for a good and nearby school. If my house is re-assigned to a worse or far away school, I have to consider to move out Montgomery county or even Maryland.</p>	<p>2019-03-09 07:57:50</p>
<p>Wow- limit response to 150 words, really? Why not limit to 146 characters-absurd! I shall seek to comply. 1. Any study of this magnitude should seek to unmask the heretofore hidden Or misunderstood truths about how policies & practices w.r.t. Boundaries have undermined other BOE Policies (eg QIE), contributed to Education Oppty & Achievement disparities, and operational inefficient and ineffective use of federal, state & county resources. We should also have a full account on the boundary changes done by the BOE (ie the Unity Boundary change) and examine the politics, policies & practices being exploited by privileged communities that are currently planning to petition the BOE to move their ES into a "lower minority" (translation 'majority white ') HS Boundary. Let's start here!</p>	<p>2019-03-09 08:08:57</p>
<p>Something has to be done for the oversubscribed schools. Having schools which have only 2 kindergartens and others that have between 7-10 is nit equitable. My elementary has to start lunches at 1045 and many class need to share the gym with another class . We visit the media center only once every three weeks . Music is taught on a cart because of lack of space . We have multiple portables that require student to re enter the building to use the bathroom losing valuable instructional time. These are just the most apparent psyical challenges of overcrowding schools. Having half empty schools has to be a drain on school finances . Please make the difficult and unpopular choices so that the weight of the population can be distributed more evenly.</p>	<p>2019-03-09 08:21:05</p>
<p>Oppose bus-in bus-out. Diversity is good for young adult >18 years old. For grade school minors, parents involvement is uttermost for the healthy growth of kids. Do Not destroy next generation! Let them grow near loving parents. Kids belong to parents/family/community. They will belong to states after they grow up, but not before. Respect parents' role in education. I came from socialist country, where millions of high school kids were sent to countryside to diversify. Many of them were miserable, being away from parents. "Knowledgable youth" was the name for them. The whole generation was destroyed. Movies were made to mourn for them. Please stop this progressive and diversify movement. Let our county and school go back to truth, righteousness, justice and law. Montgomery county, stop go deep in destruction/darkness but turn to life/light. Stop brainwash kids in school. Teach kids truth and life in school. Truth setis kids free!</p>	<p>2019-03-09 08:43:53</p>
<p>We do not support changing the school boundary! We have been living here for more than 10 years. We supported our local schools for many years and aspects. We always donate and volunteer in our schools so our kids can have a safe and high-quality environment to study. We pay the above average high price housing, and living cost to live in this Wooton school district! We will not allowed other people to put our kids in danger in school by excepting kids from high crime rate areas, or putting our kids to high crime rate areas! Board of education should put in efforts to make other school better like ours, and shouldn't avoid the hard work by robbing our schools and destroying our years of efforts that made our school district great!!!</p>	<p>2019-03-09 08:51:38</p>
<p>We are one of the struggling minority families in the area with the same desire like many others that this proposal intends to help. We work very hard so that we can keep up with the rising housing prices and property taxes bills in the area where our children can have better education and a better future. Aside from negligence of the equal rights of families who moved to this area for its better education system, redrawing the school districts will mean potential loss of future tax revenues. We are negatively impacted so we do not support this proposal of bill.</p>	<p>2019-03-09 09:20:38</p>
<p>This is WRONG!!! You are trying to persecution our kids! They already don't have enough time to sleep, you try to force them spend extra hours on school bus?</p>	<p>2019-03-09 10:23:56</p>

I'm strongly objecting school reboundary and bus-in/bus-out policy. Students need more sleep by entering nearby schools. Bus-in/Bus-out will waste more time on the road, waste our tax money on more school buses and drivers, and bring more traffic burdens to the county. It's the Education Board's responsibility to improve all schools' teaching performance, but not by simply mixing low-profile and high-profile students in one school.	2019-03-09 11:03:04
I oppose school boundary change for MCPS due to much higher cost and more bus traffic time required.	2019-03-09 11:22:49
I oppose the boundary study. The democratic board members have ignored the consequences of possible change, school redistributing means lower academic and disciplinary standards for current good schools. This's a more a political consideration.	2019-03-09 11:31:13
Kids need more time to sleep. This is not good for their health. No bus in bus out, please.	2019-03-09 12:19:18
I strongly oppose any change to the current boundaries of MCPS, or any step towards it such as the unnecessary external boundary study. A stable policy and agreed up school boundaries are the base for its residents to act upon, such as paying extra for real state to get into the desired schools with great academic performance. Any chance would negatively impact such base and cause serious unfairness and at the same time disruption to students' current academic and social lives.	2019-03-09 13:24:30
Boundaries should be regularly updated and modified as busing kids all over the county to redistribute socio/economic groups is not sustainable either financially or environmentally. Further, in my own school cluster (DCC), I live across from a closed elementary school used currently by MCPS for health and enrollment services. This closed school (Rocking Horse) is literally a few hundred feet from the WJ Cluster which can not seem to find enough school space. To me this is just once example of how the permanence of school boundaries greatly hinders the County to utilize MCPS properties in order to meet the needs of students. A re-think on the whole process for the frequency and process of delineating boundaries is greatly needed.	2019-03-09 14:36:01
I don't think resetting the school boundary is a good idea. It will be a waste of time for the students to take longer bus rides. The study has shown, the family background, rather than school culture, is more related to the student's behavior and academic performance. Only mixing the students together would not solve the foundermantal problems. But on the other hand, would cause more chaos and destruct the school community that we currently have.	2019-03-09 15:18:50
Please to clarify the logic of the need for bus in bus out	2019-03-09 15:39:44
My concern is MCPS's and BOE's diversity. We have some members already stay in BOE too long.We should limit the BOE member's term like Montgomery County did, the County Executive's term will be end after 2 terms. We should have BOE members from different age, ethnic, career. Let's make our MCPS & BOE work better and less cost and more efficient.	2019-03-09 18:01:17
I think the boundary should be based on proximity of homes to each school. I do not think artificially increase diversity of student population in a school would do any good. People naturally want to live and go to school with people that are like themselves. The resources should be used to repair and renovate school facilities and improve security. When so many students still attend classes in portable classrooms and school security systems are still vulnerable to infiltration, spending the precious resources on redrawing boundaries that are working, is irresponsible.	2019-03-09 18:27:21
The focus of analysis are flawed. If the purpose of the school system is to provide education to prepare students for the future, demographics should not have anything to do with the system as the highest priority should be providing an education that allows students to succeed in the future. Second, when boundary lines are redrawn, it rips apart school communities that have been formed over the years from students and their families living in close proximity to each other. Schools provide a common ground for people that live in their area and create close knit neighborhoods. When communities are ripped apart, it makes students feel isolated, they lose their friends that they have known for years and this takes a mental toll on students as they have to readjust and adapt with the sudden change.	2019-03-09 21:40:02

<p>The clusters for MCPS schools should remain unchanged. Students' academic achievement depends on intelligence and motivation foremost, followed by teaching method and resources. As parents, we purchased homes, at a premium, in these competitive clusters, specifically because our children's peers and their parents have a similar view thus maintaining the outstanding learning environment that the Churchill cluster is. Innate intelligence is out of our control beyond each parent's DNA contribution. Motivation comes largely from the parent's rearing. The premium we pay for our property in these clusters contributes significantly through our increased taxes providing to resources for the schools and the ability to attract good teachers. Arbitrarily redrawing lines, busing, or other measures to increase "diversity" for the sake of it smacks of a race to the lowest common denominator, not of providing schools where each student can excel to the best of his/her abilities. Don't mess this up.</p>	<p>2019-03-09 23:15:31</p>
<p>i do not support the proposed idea of letting students attend schools from a different school district. i think this will 1) waste tax payer's money and waste students' and patents' time attending a school at a distant location they are not familiar with, which can create high anxieties among families and negatively impact their level of happiness. 2) giving students a hard time leaving their friends at the original school and getting used to new school's cultures/regulations/people, which can create high anxieties among new students and negatively impact their academic performance. 3) giving teachers and school management staffs a hard time training new students and helping them getting adjusted and negatively impact the school's overall performance. Pushing this idea to reality will not improve student's academic performance nor Maryland residents' lives. Rather, this move will damage Maryland's economy to a very much foreseeable extent in the near future.</p>	<p>2019-03-10 12:11:46</p>
<p>I did not see a need for this. The current boundary works well that students can attend the school close-by. This will save the county significantly on transportation cost and the student/family's time. Additionally, this will also help the student/family have more opportunities interacting/helping each other. Students will be benefited for their emotional health.</p>	<p>2019-03-10 14:41:21</p>
<p>1) Keep students within boundaries of the schools closest to them. Nothing crazy like the closest school is two blocks away, but the kids have to take a bus twenty minutes from home to go to their school. 4) The school system needs to adhere to the plans it made for the maintenance, renovation, and construction. For example, delaying the opening of Woodward High School by housing Northwood kids in it even if for two years, delays the project for the audience for which it was intended. 5) Don't move school populations into communities only to create more traffic. 6) Boundaries should be made on basic concepts of school, so each cluster essentially receives the same space and resources. 7) Always remember the public schools are for the community and they shape the communities in which they reside.</p>	<p>2019-03-10 16:01:25</p>
<p>The County should caution against a shake-up of boundary adjustments and a pilot, practical and pragmatic approach should be adopted. On the diversity of the student body population, a successful diversity relies on how a school manages it rather than the number of the mix. Diversity does not necessarily support better mental, ethical and academic performance, but may create more cultural confrontations if could not be managed well.</p>	<p>2019-03-10 17:36:34</p>
<p>No body is willing to send their children to a low-performing school. This is human nature. Indeed, this kind exercise has been tried before and result is miserable. In MCPS, all schools have very similar hardware, the difference is teaching faculty. I would suggest to swap teaching staff rather than drag poor students around, although I seriously doubt this would work.</p>	<p>2019-03-10 18:17:34</p>
<p>Preserving existing property values should be a primary focus of the analysis. I, like many people, purchased my home to be send my children to a specific set of elementary/middle/high schools. And my single biggest investment (in my lifetime) was the purchase of my home, which was valued based on the schools it was zoned for. Anything done by this study to negatively affect my school choice and property value I consider a betrayal. At the very least I expect the board of education members, along with any county residents that may be a part of the external consultant's study, to disclose their neighborhoods that they themselves live in, so the community can see how any new boundaries drawn will affect them.</p>	<p>2019-03-10 21:22:26</p>

<p>When mcps system is going down for these years, the board has the responsibility to rescue academic education in efficiently ways right now by themselves, not blaming diversity or looking around to pick other topics. You own our kids a couple of years in wasting time on C2.0. Now you want to waste some other decades on diversity? We all know that parent involvement is the key to make MCPS stand high in nation, now the board are you seriously planning to ruin the system more an more? You need to focus on saving low achieving schools by providing them better programs and teachers in local, not putting this burden to other families in other districts or consortium.</p>	<p>2019-03-11 08:59:38</p>
<p>It seems we are the "stepchild" of the county - we have such a wide attendance area - kids from as far away as LakeForest Mall and those who pass by another school (MV MS) We often have parents who question why they pass another school (which has a lower enrollment) to come here. Part of the issue is historic - when the new MLK was built - the neighborhood was allowed to do attend and now all these years later - they are STILL attending there and not the neighborhood school. In fact we are 100% bussed. This impacts our demographics. This building has been over capacity for a while and next year we have more students and staff to juggle. Hopefully the boundaries of NMS, MVMS an MLK can all be looked objectionably and someone can decide to do the right thing and whats best for students!</p>	<p>2019-03-11 12:47:05</p>
<p>Neelsville Middle school particularly struggles with boundaries. Our population is made up of weird pockets of housing, all thrown together to make up the Neelsville population. As a teacher at the school I believe this affects our sense of community. We strongly lack community and this is part of the reason, the students lack relationships to an extent and have no connection to the area which also influences their respect for their environment. Safety is also an extreme issue. Students have literally said that they fight at school and are violent here because they only see each other at school so it is the only place to "resolve" their issues. Giving Neelsville true boundaries of its surrounding community would positively change the demeanor and respect of the students.</p>	<p>2019-03-11 13:06:53</p>
<p>Hello, Please consider re-drawing the boundaries for Neelsville Middle School. Our students, I feel, are economically segregated. Many pass by other middle schools in order to attend Neelsville. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	<p>2019-03-11 13:12:10</p>
<p>After many years of teaching at Neelsville, it is clear that the boundaries are unfair. While other schools around us get renovations and upgrades in wealthier communities with strong parental support, NMS gets more crowded, with many students "ESOL 1 - Out of country." These students require more resources to get them acclimated to a new culture and prepared for the rigor of everyday learning. Besides that, we have a building that is inadequate to meet the needs of our students. Our students are literally being taught in storage closets. We are a 100% bussed school, majority AA and Hispanic, which leads to a host of other challenges including physical and mental health issues, poverty, and lack of community support due to access. I feel the boundaries should be changed to create more equity and allow our students to benefit from a stronger school community.</p>	<p>2019-03-11 14:38:27</p>
<p>School boundaries are not designed in a way that ensures equality. Many of the students that I teach at live in walking distance to other middle schools, such as MLK and MV, but are bused to Neelsville. Meanwhile, kids that live in the neighborhood next to Neelsville are sent to MLK. I feel that this has been done based on demographics and I do not think that this fair to the students. Additionally, Neelsville is outdated and overcrowded. The hallways are packed beyond capacity and the school does not have a secure entry.</p>	<p>2019-03-11 15:16:35</p>
<p>Changing school boundaries and moving students from one facility to another poses a tremendous amount of uncertainty, stress and disruption to our students and their academic, extracurricular life. Changing school boundaries forces students to attend schools they did not choose. It not only disrupts children's education, but also negatively impacts our property value. Choosing where to live and what schools to go to are some of the most important decisions we parents made in our lives. Many families made significant sacrifices in their lives in order to invest in their children's education and their future. Their choices deserve to be respected and honored.</p>	<p>2019-03-11 20:54:15</p>

<p>School area needs to be stable and proximity to school should always be the no. 1 priority to school assignment. This is way that is followed all over the world and is the only way that is efficient and creates a supportive environment for students as well as families. All bus-in/bus-out plans have failed in the past. Introducing demographic factor is a twisted solution and is not necessary and is a racial preference approach in itself. If school is not performing well, you need to study the reason. Don't use school service area as a scapegoat. It won't solve the problem and will drag down all schools. BOE members please wake up, MCPS schools are no longer the best schools in the nations as you still think (for example, Wootton and Churchill high used to be top 100 schools nationwide but now they are ranked 168 and 113, respectively).</p>	<p>2019-03-11 22:59:29</p>
<p>I know there are many factors involved in the boundary choices. Is it possible to make time on the bus a factor as well? My kids spend 45 min on the bus for ms. HS starts early enough as it is.</p>	<p>2019-03-12 07:20:57</p>
<p>I have lived in MoCo for most of my life, attending school here from ES to HS, and my kids have been in school now in MoCo for 12 years (I have kids in HS, MS and ES). Taking kids out of there local schools tears apart the community that is vital to our area. While I live an area with great economic resources, our schools are amazingly diverse, much more so than when I attended MCPS. Finally, the idea tearing value out of people's homes, their greatest asset, is one that is fundamentally unfair and wrong. I am happy to provide any other thoughts or comments which you might find helpful. Thank you. [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-03-12 09:23:12</p>
<p>We need to address the transportation needs. Students need reasonable bus route times. If a student is 5 +miles from their high school - these areas may need more buses to accommodate for amount of time on the bus. Some high school students are on the bus for 50 minutes in our county - for their HOME School. We need to focus on how the county is keeping schools diverse - ALL schools. I was at a town hall meeting for the Kojo Show and the biggest concern was the opportunity gap - how is this addressed in the study? Exactly how are we addressing ALL of our students in the county - we have quite a socioeconomic mix - how is this being addressed? Some families feel their schools that have higher FARMS rate have less opportunity - Is this true? Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-03-12 10:10:55</p>
<p>I work at a school where 100% of our students are bused to the school building. The houses that back up next to the school, their children are bused to a different school. Most of our students come from communities that are effected by poverty. We have limited resources to help these students. We have a limited PTSA because our students and parents do not live close to our school. It is hard to build a school community since students do not live close to the building, they come from several feeder elementary schools and then go to two different high schools. Wouldn't the money spent on busing our students past other middle schools to us and the money spent busing what would be our "walkers" to go to another school be better spent on resources within the school buildings?</p>	<p>2019-03-12 16:13:51</p>
<p>Please take into consideration the impact on students and families when you make recommendations to bus kids right past their neighborhood school in order to balance out the numbers at a different school across town. Being part of a community, helps parents and kids become MORE invested in their school. It encourages consistent participation in school events and can actually decrease the transportation problem. Parents who must drive their kids to and from school for extracurriculars can't carpool or use public transportation because they must be available to their children. To say that we have activity buses does not sole the problem. The buses add a lot of travel time for kids who still need to get their homework done, get to appointments, etc. Please, let's not create problems where they don't exist. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>	<p>2019-03-13 09:16:50</p>
<p>I don't want to do any new boundary for the school. I want to keep the same.</p>	<p>2019-03-13 13:04:24</p>

<p>Neelsville Middle School (NMS) lost many of its surrounding neighborhood students when Rocky Hill MS opened after parents petitioned for their kids to attend the new school. As a result, we have many students who come from far away passing their neighborhood middle school, i.e. Montgomery Village (MV). As a result, the school's demographics aren't very diverse. Eighty-one percent of our students are Hispanic or Black, MV is 95% and Rocky Hill is 41% . NMS's FARMS is 63%, Rocky Hill's is 22% and MV is 67%. NMS continues to increase in population but kids from the immediate neighborhood have not returned. Parents/students share how they wish they could attend a school closer to their home. Because a large majority of the students do not come from the immediate neighborhoods, it's difficult to create a sense of community. To create balance, consider allowing Neelsville to share students with Rocky Hill.</p>	<p>2019-03-13 14:48:20</p>
<p>My wife and I both work and daughter attends before/after care. Moving our daughter outside neighborhood school will significantly alter commute time causing us to be late for work everyday. Additionally, because we would then have to stay later at work, we would have to resort to trying to find someone to pick our daughter up daily, which would cause both my wife and I financial strain. This is simply not fair. Finally, we moved to our neighborhood for proximity to the schools, which allows us to participant at events/volunteer. We can walk to all in 10 minutes or less. I don't think we are alone in that by sending our daughter to a school located far away (and with the regions severely congested traffic) we would not be inclined to do that anymore, simply because it is very inconvenient. This would be a loss to the entire MCPS.</p>	<p>2019-03-14 10:02:57</p>
<p>I need not remind this board of the multitude of studies that speak to the benefits of diversity in our schools. Or that diversity among students directly impacts their performance. School integration and diversity goes hand in hand with academic accomplishment, and we the students, with the support of this research, reject the notion that these two are mutually exclusive. This is an important first step - but at this stage, it is only a first step. The scope of this study, and the actions taken after its conclusion will determine whether we took that step in the right direction. Given that this is an opportunity for our county to finally translate overused rhetoric into tangible action, I urge the board to consider re-drawing our current school boundaries with the goal of combating de-facto segregation and further diversifying our schools. It's the right thing to do.</p>	<p>2019-03-14 17:11:16</p>
<p>My children deserve the same opportunities as any other. I am disappointed in this Board's lack of courage in previous decisions and fear that we will see a repeat of this. The parents who have shown up to hearings like the one on the 7th do not represent the majority of those in our community, and the Board needs to do a better job of hearing from ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS by holding MORE HEARINGS AND TOWN HALLS. Do not fail us again. We want this Board to make diversity and our segregated boundary lines the main focus of this study.</p>	<p>2019-03-14 17:15:15</p>
<p>Of all the options presented at the Boundary Study meeting this week, I must say that option 4 is the absolute worst in terms of geographic location alone. In short, it would mean much longer bus rides for students, extracurricular activities would become prohibitively difficult for students to participate in and for parents to attend, and in the event of sickness or emergency, could mean the difference between life and death. Please, please do not consider option 4 as a viable option for the new high school boundary. Thank you!</p>	<p>2019-03-15 13:25:36</p>
<p>Sending LBES kids to Seneca Valley High which would take longer to get to than Clarksburg high which is only 5 minutes away. More gas, more time, costs will be more and it does NOT make any common sense.</p>	<p>2019-03-15 14:02:57</p>
<p>My thoughts are this.. why spend a ridiculous amount of money to pluck students out of their neighborhood schools to waste precious TIME itting on a long bus ride to attend schools WITHOUT their neighborhood classmates? Students will feel isolated and will lack a sense of community. Instead, focus on changing boundaries that are currently out of the neighborhood schools such as Stone Mill ES being bussed all the way to cabin john middle school only to then bus them back to Wooton HS after making friends with students at Cabin John middle school that won't attend Wooton. Put the money into making class sizes SMALLER and hiring effective teachers that can bridge the gap between minority students and work on holding PARENTS accountable for supporting their children's education. Busing students outside of their neighborhood schools will only have negative effects. Please don't consider something so absurd!</p>	<p>2019-03-15 19:37:20</p>

<p>I think geography needs to be the priority when considering these changes. Our children should not be bused past their local high school to a further high school because it makes extra curriculums and school involvement more difficult for the student and parent when they are not at their local school. Geography is the priority! The bus times listed are not accurate for some of these options and we should be minimizing kids time on buses or in route to school.</p>	<p>2019-03-15 20:00:34</p>
<p>Would like to know what is being proposed</p>	<p>2019-03-16 15:12:12</p>
<p>Although I appreciate the importance of diversity and social integration of the student communities, I strongly oppose to the idea of busing students around within the county. This idea will waste a lot of precious time on bus commute, reduce sleeping hence the study time of students, increase gasoline usage, air pollutions and chance of car accidents. The most social economic separated schools are private schools - why don't you politicians and activists target them? Make private schools accepting students from disadvantaged group, or even better, ban private schools. It's laughable to disturb every kids life within the middle working class, but close your eyes on those real rich class - those private schools are schools that really need diversity.</p>	<p>2019-03-17 06:22:58</p>
<p>I believe that if ALL capacity projects involved a boundary analysis of adjacent schools we would not have as many issues with over/underpopulated schools as we do know. For instance, a large project was done to greatly expand the capacity of Brown Station ES. Currently, Brown Station is approximately 150 students under enrolled while Diamond ES, in the same neighborhood and articulating to the same middle school, is overenrolled by about 100 students and still has 5 portables even after their addition a few years ago. Currently addition construction is underway at McAulliffe ES while the principal acknowledges that their population is declining. Other elementary schools in the SV are growing and over their capacity (Lake Seneca) so it would be wise to conduct a study of these boundaries to see if relief can be given to their schools when the addition is complete.</p>	<p>2019-03-18 09:09:05</p>
<p>If boundary study scopes were wider it would allow for more efficient use of space. Recently, a boundary study was done in the Clarksburg Cluster for the opening of a new elementary school. Even though one of the elementary schools in the study is split articulated between the Clarksburg and Damascus Clusters, the Damascus Cluster was not involved in the study. The new boundary of Cedar Grove ES is about 90% in the Damascus Cluster and only a very tiny portion in the Clarksburg Cluster. It is not in the best interest of students to have elementary schools split between clusters, especially with such imbalance (Diamond ES is another example, the population is 90% NW Cluster and only a few students on the QO Cluster). My recommendation for future studies is to widen the scope and try to avoid splitting elementary schools between two clusters.</p>	<p>2019-03-18 09:27:47</p>
<p>I believe this boundary study is long overdue. As a resident of Montgomery County I was surprised to learn that when I went to enroll my daughter for kindergarten, the school closest to us was not the home school, but a school a considerable distance from our house. She would've attended a school that was not her neighborhood school.</p>	<p>2019-03-18 11:44:35</p>
<p>I feel students should go to school where they live. The idea of bussing students from Potomac/Bethesda districts to outside areas is terrible! This would separate students from their longtime friends, lower homes values and put stress on the student to endure long bus rides? You go to school in your local community where you live. The boards proposals I am hearing about would be fought in a massive class action lawsuit.</p>	<p>2019-03-20 10:48:45</p>
<p>Why I chose MPCs school is because the reputation. But the boundary change will put too much bad affects to the kids we love. Kids' test scores were lower, behaviors went bad, after enroll with those kids whose parents are careless at all. I paid much more money for the same kind of house I good school area only became the kids' parent are willing to do something for their kids. School boundaries will affect badly to house value too. Support no change!</p>	<p>2019-03-20 11:53:55</p>
<p>Boundary studies are good , but how does you prevnt it from affected to porovery value ? That factor ia not considered at all in the studies</p>	<p>2019-03-20 16:47:35</p>

<p>I believe the achievement gap in MCPS, especially groups such as socioeconomic status, race/ethnicity, and gender, should be looked at carefully. Significant resources should be dedicated to correcting this injustice. I believe that overcrowding in schools should be addressed, and if that means redrawing lines nearby or building bigger schools, this should be done. I have strong feelings against busing children from high poverty areas to low poverty areas, if the only effect is to improve overall test scores for a specific school and not decrease the achievement for those individuals. I also feel strongly that busing high performing children into magnet schools in low economic areas to improve test scores for that school (while having limited involvement from students who live in that cluster) is equally wrong. Each individual school should be staffed to meet the needs of high and low performers, engage parents, and eliminate the achievement gap.</p>	<p>2019-03-21 11:09:59</p>
<p>There are emergency safety situations at several area schools, especially Wootton High School, which has been left to crumble and decay since it was first eligible for desperately needed renovations TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO. The hazardous environment at the school, affecting a diverse, minority-majority student body, is ignored as money is diverted to expensive, frivolous pet projects by a misguided, out-of-touch, callous board of education. The result: many of the most promising students in the county are left in squalor for the duration of the school day & will have lasting health effects. These students will be unable to reach their full potential, thus harming the future of the entire community. MCPS School board philosophy: Let's punish our best & brightest! They will be forced to leave, as MCPS races to the bottom of the barrel.</p>	<p>2019-03-23 11:12:57</p>
<p>Provide information regarding how long bus routes to proposed schools will be. Parents complaining that current bus routes too long, yet no one provides estimate for new routes. If new routes just as long as current routes, then study offers no improvement. What is main purpose of boundary study if not to improve transportation time to supposed closet school.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:12:48</p>
<p>I want to hear potential solutions to alleviate schools that are currently over crowded. I want to hear a plan centered on building more schools before allowing more housing development in already over populated school districts. I feel that it will be hard to claim the title of best county education system in the area if the schools are overcrowded</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:13:25</p>
<p>I think the consortiums are not a good use of money and resources.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:19:13</p>
<p>As a parent of what will be two middle school students in the Wootton cluster who will be attending Cabin John MS, I have significant concerns about the districting study including geographic proximity and stability of assignments over time. For a long period of time, it has been known that the development at Crown Farm would put further strain on enrollment at Gaithersburg HS and feeder middle and elementary schools. MCPS has annexed land at Crown Farm from the developer for use to build a MCPS school but communication as to what type of school has not been discussed in any districting study. Please consider in the scope of the analysis the potential uses of a proposed new school at the Crown Farm property.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:19:19</p>
<p>Focus on the analysis should be about maximizing the use of facilities and planning for future growth. Intent should be to keep local communities intact and minimize distance if appropriate. While diversity is important, it should be one of many factors. Issues of equity should be addressed through adequate funding of all schools.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:20:32</p>
<p>I'd like to see our public schools within walking, or a short driving distance, to where the student body population lives.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:22:41</p>
<p>I think changing boundary in edges to balance utilization and capacity is a good idea. While doing it, we should avoid increasing commute time and avoid busing kids longer distances. That will be counter productive. Elementary schools should be balanced as well. We had situations like over crowded ES in RM and empty seats in Wootton/Churchill ES nearby. We should utilize current capacity fully otherwise we are wasting tax money. Primary goal should be not to waste tax money by utilizing all schools. Secondary goal should be to balance diversity as much as possible without busing anyone long distance.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:24:25</p>

<p>I am a parent of a student in MCPS and MC homeowner. Kids belong in neighborhood schools. Racial/socioeconomic demographics/disparities should NOT determine the location of attendance. I purchased a home in a neighborhood (and next to a specific school) because I wanted my kids to go to that school. If I wanted my kids to go to a school in another location I would have bought a house there. It is flawed to weigh demographics into this equation as a primary factor. This study needs to be structured in a way that is open and fair rather than backing into a conclusion that we need to redraw boundaries due to diversity issues, which is pretty much all I've heard to date. All of the MC schools my kids have attended have been extremely diverse (even one of the "W" high schools (WJ) which has a significant number of minority students).</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:28:15</p>
<p>So, to be clear, you're asking for input on a planned meeting to discuss a proposed study to look at the possibility of doing something? May I suggest seeking comment on how to receive input on holding a meeting to discuss a proposed study to look at the possibility of our board of education not wasting so much time and resources doing silly things like this?</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:31:34</p>
<p>You have chosen diverse schools and left out BCC, WC, WW HS which are the whitest, least diverse, most affluent, politically powerful. Diverse neighborhoods boarding WCHS are pushed into WJ while it's more over populated schools are more crowded and older. Embarrassing selection of school cluster boundaries to study.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:32:08</p>
<p>It would be nice that the Gaithersburg cluster be devided to other cluster nearby.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:33:05</p>
<p>I am very much against option 4 in the boundary study as it will mean taking Clarksburg kids out of Clarksburg and that simply does not make sense on so many levels, geographically, economically and socially. The traffic survey for this was not done at rush hour but late morning. 355 is so congested as it is between Clarksburg and Germantown that it would mean our kids would need to be picked up even earlier and sit on a bus for longer driving right past our current High School. It makes no sense.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:42:17</p>
<p>Viva Zapata!</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:43:52</p>
<p>My opinion is that students should go to the schools they are closest to because 1) students need their sleep in the morning, even 10 minutes matters and the more time at home to do homework/activities the better & 2) fewer buses with shorter routes are better for the environment and traffic in general. The more we can equalize access to high-performing schools the better. Richer neighborhoods have better school facilities, more money from the PTA for laptops, new playgrounds. Take each school, draw a circle around it, and adjust to deliver a diverse student body. The boundary that determines who attends Silver Creek Middle school? A circle with a big dent in it, ensuring that no one from Silver Spring attends.. Some high-income area parents won't want kids from outside their cluster (and income, background) to attend their schools. Unfortunate but seems to be true. Thanks!</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:44:26</p>
<p>Our schools within the cluster are so over crowded and some dilapidated, especially Wootton High School, that busing more kids into the district would be very taxing. Our schools are already extremely diverse. If you change the boundaries our property value in most cases will decrease which is very concerning. Money on consultants/studies should be used for rebuilding and fixing schools; and better use of how to keep schools open during inclement weather.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:50:12</p>
<p>We live near [REDACTED] We are 1 mile from Blair (walkable!) and over 3 miles from Northwood (not walkable), yet we are zoned for Northwood. Please give consideration to re-zoning this area SO close to Blair to Blair HS. I would love for my kids to be able to walk to school through high school. It is so beneficial to their mental and physical health. Thank you. [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-03-26 16:50:30</p>
<p>When socioeconomic and racial diversity policies are well implemented, outcomes are better for students and communities. In my mind the boundary study is overdue and should be done regularly. The study should recommend how all MCPS schools could consistently be designed for diversity and how that can be maintained over time. The Board of Education should do what is politically difficult, because it is the right thing to do. The Downcounty and Northeast Consortia were sabotaged by the elimination of BCC and Sherwood from the original design due to political cowardice. How can that be avoided in the future? The boundary study should look at that as well. Attendance zones should be drawn to bypass the legacy of red-lining and other discriminatory housing and lending practices that impact attendance boundaries to this day.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 17:01:46</p>

<p>This study should deeply analyze the resulting racial and economic segregation in the county. It should also analyze how buildings and resources are divided in the county. These attributes fall under the factors of demographics and school capacity. The driving analysis should be centered on equity and ending the current inequities. Opportunity hoarding, which is the current state, should be ended.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 17:02:30</p>
<p>I would the consultants to consider a plan whereby students living in the south central part of the county, namely students in zip codes 20902, 20910 and in Kensington Heights can have an opportunity to go to middle schools and high schools in the BCC and Walter Johnson Cluster. These schools are within a reasonable commute of the subject areas and this would allow a broader scope of diversity for BCC and Walter Johnson as the subject areas have a majority of Black and Latino students. Perhaps a new overlapping school consortium can be developed or a criteria of academic performance in elementary school can be used, In short, the kids in the subject areas who are strong academically should have a chance to attend high performing schools and not be forced to go lower performing schools as is the case now. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 17:03:02</p>
<p>Two comments: 1. The proposed Crown Farm High School (and cluster?) seems a must given the growth of the county. The loss of this opportunity would be great as development tracks of land are becoming scarce. 2. The King Farm community is currently divided in half north / south between different clusters. A new Crown Farm cluster would resolve this as the entire community could be clustered together.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 17:04:15</p>
<p>Diversity is a wonderful thing; however, I am HIGHLY concerned about the idea of changing school boundaries simply on the basis of demographics and closing the achievement gap. Schools are central to communities and removing home address from the school assignment equation would have an extraordinarily detrimental impact to the community. The thought of bussing students across our very large county to a school outside of our home neighborhood - which has proven to be ineffective in other school districts - only hurts families in the end, taking away valuable family time, study time, time on extracurriculars and enrichment activities, in favor of even longer commutes. It seems that a better focus would be to allocate additional funds and resources to underperforming schools, and to incentivize strong teachers to move to such schools, rather than causing a major disruption to potentially thousands of families and neighborhoods through school reassignment.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 17:17:24</p>
<p>The Down County Consortium, which relies on busing, is structured around race and income. The U.S. News & World Report on high school rankings shows that of the DCC high schools, Montgomery Blair has the fewest "Total Economically Disadvantaged Students" at 36% (Northwood, 50%; Springbrook, 44%; Kennedy, 49%; Einstein, 44%; Wheaton, 48%). Why other MCPS high schools like Bethesda Chevy-Chase, Walter Johnson, and Walt Whitman, which have far fewer "Total Economically Disadvantaged Students" and are geographically closer to some of these DCC schools not part of the consortium? (The "Total Economically Disadvantaged Student" population at Bethesda Chevy-Chase is 12%; Walt Whitman, 2%, Walter Johnson, 7%.) Or, why is the consortium not broken up into smaller groups? Or paired differently?</p>	<p>2019-03-26 17:23:37</p>
<p>I'm a first generation Chinese American. I'm a graduate of Wheaton High School. I'm now the parent of kids that are currently zoned to Wootton High School. I've worked hard to fulfill the so-called "American Dream", hopefully this process doesn't take part of that away. Any analysis should determine whether MCPS resources, both financial and human capital, are fairly distributed across the county. If it is, then we need to analyze what factors are contributing to certain schools having more success then others and what challenges are less successful schools experiencing. Is blending based on racial and socioeconomic factors the answer? My graduating class at Wheaton was evenly distributed among Caucasians, Hispanic, African-American, and Asian. Were we integrated? Appearances are deceiving, but walk into the lunch room and it becomes clear by seeing and watching who sat with who and who was friends with whom. We had segregated integration!</p>	<p>2019-03-26 17:31:43</p>

<p>Rockville and Bethesda regions have major school capacity problems, and new housing construction is compounding the issue further. The amount of new construction is not in line with our current capacity of these schools and many schools are slated to become even more over populated again in the next five to ten years.(Strathmore, Westbard, WMAL land, downtown Bethesda) This would be defeating the purpose of the renovations currently being planned or completed. Additionally, school renovations for PHS has been delayed countless times, and they have dangerous conditions in which students are breathing in toxic chemicals such as asbestos. New schools should be constructed for overcrowded areas to handle the new development that is being planned. Proximity to school should be a top priority. Space for athletic activities should be a higher priority for schools, including when schools are undergoing construction/renovation.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 17:34:22</p>
<p>We strongly decline reassigning school boundary for the following reasons: 1) Demographic distribution of student body population is not necessarily associated with school or individual performance. There is NO evidence that changing or mixing students by demographics would make any improvement on individual and overall performance; 2) Geographic proximity is important. As parents we don't want our children traveling long distance to another school; 3) Current assignment has been in place for years. Everything is adapted to the existing system and everyone chooses their home based on the current assignment. We don't see any reasons why we want to break the balance and create anxiety in the community; 4) Changes of boundary could affect home values. Housing is the biggest investment in the whole life of most people; Overall the MCPS is already a wonderful system and we all like it. There is absolutely no reason to take the risk.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 17:37:06</p>
<p>Clarksburg is already very divided community with half of our community going to Damascus. Dividing us even more would be a tragedy to this community!</p>	<p>2019-03-26 17:44:49</p>
<p>It makes no sense to divide similar contiguous communities. Kids should be able to ride their bikes to their friends' homes. One community should not be isolated from others in the cluster. An example is Potomac Falls, which is in a different cluster from its closest neighborhoods and closest community gathering centers, Woodrock and River Falls. Also, many families move from River Falls to Potomac Falls, but they are daunted by the cluster change if their kids are in public schools. It pushes them to switch to private, which is unfortunate. Thank you for your efforts and work.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 17:46:22</p>
<p>I seriously hope busing is not considered as an option. It has a sad history of ineffectiveness and also adds costs that reduce resources that could be used for vital things like reducing class size. It also reduces opportunities for very positive options such as after-school activities such as clubs and sports. School demographics simply reflect socioeconomic realities, A focus on increasing diversity in schools is often a feel good exercise that is mere window dressing. As long as the socioeconomic disparities exist, and determine where a family can live, realigning school boundaries gives the illusion something has been accomplished that will help with the underlying problem. It will not. Racial diversity in schools is a red herring. The real deal is economic opportunity through things like jobs creation, living wages and affordable housing. It underlines everything.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 17:46:48</p>
<p>I just participated in the boundary study information session for the new Seneca Valley HS. I was shocked to learn how over capacity the schools are projected to be in the next 5+ years. There is no way a high school should be 600 students over capacity. That is insane. A city of portables is not the answer. The options presented still leave Clarksburg and Northwest significantly over capacity while Seneca Valley is a reasonable amount over capacity (in some options not at all). Clearly other school boundaries need to be considered to alleviate the overcrowding at Northwest and other schools... or encourage the county to stop building so much high density housing the infrastructure cannot support!</p>	<p>2019-03-26 18:10:45</p>
<p>Please stop wasting our tax dollars on outside studies. The people of this county want schools that represent their communities. They want their kids to go to school with the friends they know from community sports teams, girl scout, church, etc. They do not want their students bussed to schools that are outside of their neighborhoods. Montgomery County should work on making every school great by setting expectations that students are held to. We should be proud of our entire school system and not just a handful of schools. Bussing kids around to spread out what - the wealth? Makes no sense. Take the families that live in each community and set up the expectations and hold the kids and families accountable. Start to make things happen within communities, not by trying to change who is in a school. That is disrespectful to those students in my opinion.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 18:38:28</p>

<p>We moved here because of the schools associated with this area - my wife and I paid a lot of money to do so, and we did that with the first most thought that we would be providing our children an education tied to the area we moved into. I will not bus my children to a school that's lower performing, and let's be real, you're going to start playing musical chairs with kids that's where this is going; if kids are coming in, some kids will have to go. I don't see how you do this in a way that doesn't totally disrupt the explicit contract made with every homeowner, you get the schools that come with the turf you live in. Our schools here don't get more, they likely get less (Potomac), in regard to operating \$, our kids get more because of their home life.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 18:49:22</p>
<p>The apartments and condos on Westlake Ave near Montgomery mall should be moved to the Churchill school cluster. This will bring more diversity to the school cluster.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 19:00:22</p>
<p>I am a student at Churchill High School and I am very against boundary changes. My parents work very hard to earn enough money to pay for the house I currently live in. One major reason that this house was chosen is the school that I would go to. Many parents, like mine, choose housing based on education and the school it coordinates with. By changing the boundaries you would not only be harming our education, lowering the value of our houses, but making all their hard work go to waste. The problem is not the school that less wealthy kids go to. The problem is misspent funds. If the funds that are given to Churchill were given to other schools, they would be as successful as Churchill, but by changing boundaries and angering the community you are just harming others education based on lack of funding in schools.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 19:15:55</p>
<p>Montgomery county schools have serious problems with school boundaries and many elementary and middle schools should also be researched such as Cabin John Middle School and Garrett Park ES and Luxmanor ES and many more.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 20:25:48</p>
<p>Demographics of the student body population should not be a factor for consideration. Making it a factor places an inherent value on the different demographic categories, in some shape, form or fashion. I support considering completely objective factors such as geographic proximity, stability of assignments and school capacity/enrollment. What I do not accept, however, is the school board or Jack Smith telling me who should and should not be in class with my children.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 20:29:54</p>
<p>I think that you must consider other two other factors when trying to establish boundaries. Student safety must be high priority. Putting kids on buses is less safe than walking. There are already too many bus stops on major roads with too many kids. I also think cost of bussing should be considered; I think it is a poor use of resources to move kids for the only reason of demographics. Please use demographics as a very low priority factor. While a reasonable goal, it should not be considered over safety & cost. Thanks</p>	<p>2019-03-26 20:37:34</p>
<p>We purchased our home in a location that would use specific Montgomery county schools. If boundary lines are recommended for movement there needs to be an appeals process for affected families and priority assignments to families with one or more children already enrolled in the schools within the current boundary.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 20:42:28</p>
<p>Please include public transportation accessibility as part of the geographic proximity rubric. This is a significant challenge at our school where many parents from outside the school boundaries rely on public transportation. It would also be helpful to create a measure for staff diversity and linguistic capabilities.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 21:04:34</p>
<p>Some of the boundaries do not make sense to me. My family lives in Indian Spring, near Blair High School. We can literally see the school from our neighborhood, yet my child will be bussed to Northwood. That makes absolutely no sense. It is also an obvious waste of money for the county. This certainly should be examined.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 21:42:30</p>
<p>Please don't get too crazy on moving students significantly far away from logically close proximities.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 22:07:08</p>

<p>I applaud the efforts of MCPS in order to better serve the needs of our children. I implore all those involved to look closely at the social impacts of boundary changes. In a time of increasing social pressure and decreasing human interaction, early social bonds are critical to success. These bonds are formed when students live, work, and play in the same community over years. Establishing firm support for our children through friendships and neighborhood support can give children a sense of home. Preventing undue stress on parents coordinating child care can also build a safer, more relaxed home environment. As a pediatrician, I believe that we can help mitigate the social pressures and isolation many kids experience by fostering friendships. These friendships are best formed with neighborhoods and smaller communities. I do not believe our children should be removed from the home neighborhoods to attend school for any reason.</p>	<p>2019-03-26 22:49:55</p>
<p>Will the analysis survey residents in different school districts to see how many residents are in favor of redrawing boundaries in favor of socioeconomic diversity? Will the analysis assume boundaries will be redrawn only at the cluster level, or will middle schools be split across high schools? Will the analysis define a pilot boundary change for one school district to see if socioeconomic diversity noticeably improved academic performance? If a pilot boundary change showed no noticeable impact would MCPS abandon the boundary change initiative? Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 00:22:09</p>
<p>Commute for students should be kept at bare minimum for health & educational concerns. Walkers & carpool options should be encouraged & schools should be assigned respectively keeping in mind what actual time it takes to commute everyday in realty. Finally always keep communities close together.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 06:25:15</p>
<p>Suggest to keep students in the same school zone which is close to their home, against bus in bus out policy as it will cause excessive stress and anxiety. My kids don't feel comfortable to switch to different school after they've stayed with schoolmates for such a long time.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 07:09:32</p>
<p>While I fully support maximizing the usefulness of existing schools, I believe it is of utmost importance to retain geographically based school boundaries. Being able to walk or ride your bike to school--or ride the bus a short distance--with kids that you live near is an important part of socialization. Maintaining historic school boundaries is also extremely important because families have purchased homes based on school catchment areas. Rather than redrawing school boundary lines, MCPS should develop additional, dedicated magnet programs in schools that are not at capacity. In this way, in a county-wide application process, students who are gifted can have the opportunity to attend specialized programs for free and pursue their schooling at the best school for their talents. It will be crucial that MCPS provides busing or other public transportation so all kids can attend these magnet schools. This is what MCPS should be focusing on.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 08:46:10</p>
<p>There are currently two middle schools closer to our home than the middle school our oldest attends. While understanding the need for balanced demographics at the schools, this still comes across as an ineffective use of resources and especially time. Buses need to drive further, and students, who already have to get up early, miss valuable time in the morning. Moreover, they arrive home later, leaving less time for homework and after school activities. While 20 minutes (twice; in the morning and afternoon) may not sound like much, in an already packed schedule they can make a big difference. Perhaps boundaries were drawn before certain subdivisions were built; a reassessment could be in order. Demographics also shift over time.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 09:06:48</p>
<p>Please be mindful of commute times in the mornings as the boundary studies progress. If I recall, MCPS just recently changed bell times in order to alleviate the early morning burden on our high school students. Any meaningful boundary changes would exacerbate this problem they already face. Additionally, commute times burden the parents and communities and hamper extracurricular activities for all ages. While studies on boundaries should be done with some regularity given the rapidly changing environment that we live in, the public school systems require geographic proximity to continue to thrive for all students. The study should therefore focus on capacity, enrollment and stability as well as resource allocation to ensure a property equitable education for all of our students. Any major changes that will be highly disruptive will create instability and longer term ramifications for all of our families and communities in Montgomery County.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 09:40:18</p>

<p>Our ES buses in students to increase diversity. While that is important, having such a geographically-removed community (20 min away) negatively impacts the entire school. It is harder for those students/families to participate in school activities (volunteering, parties, parent-teacher conferences) and PTA after-hours events (STEM night, spring carnival). When the PTA paid for bus transport to an event (from that community to the school), these families came, but we cannot do that for all events and there is no public transportation near our school. Please consider ease of access to the school (geographically close or *convenient* public transport options) when you are over-emphasizing diversity.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 09:40:37</p>
<p>It's a good time to divide the MCPS to 2-3 middle districts. MCPS's too big now and hard to coordinate. I strongly suggest to divide. The consultant's research data also can be used for dividing. Smaller district will do things more efficiently and less waste to taxpayer's money, and you don't need to take too much complicated factors into account for obvious questions.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 09:52:58</p>
<p>Homeowners buy their homes, in part, in reliance on the school to which the home is assigned. A change in school assignment can greatly decrease the value of a home. Therefore, school reassignment can amount to an unconstitutional taking of property without just compensation. Please do not change school assignments for existing homes.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 10:11:52</p>
<p>There are many instances across the county where kids who would normally be able to walk or ride a bike to school can not do so because of gerrymandered school boundaries. When and if you redraw boundaries every child who lives within 1.5 miles of a school, which I deem a reasonable distance to either walk or ride a bike should be districted for the school closest to them. Any other policy would be akin to treating children like pawns in a political chess match. Our goal should be to get as many kids as possible off of school buses in the name of community and for the sake of our environment. Schools that under perform require radical new leadership, not radical repopulation plans designed to hide whatever challenges our public schools face. Please support community based schooling.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 10:37:09</p>
<p>I have [REDACTED] at Winston Churchill HS and Herbert Hoover MS, respectively. I strenuously oppose any boundary change that would force current students out of these schools, particularly to serve "diversity." These are already very diverse schools; white students are a minority in both. They are also top-performing schools that serve as community centers for the very-engaged parents and students. Forcing students to move to advance unproven social-engineering goals would punish those students, while not necessarily helping any students from low-performing schools that might be moved in to take their place. Inequities among schools are best addressed through budgetary allocations and the creation of school-specific programs and expanded ESOL programs for new immigrants, rather than wholesale movement of students. This is especially true for Churchill students, for whom a school change would be extremely disruptive and likely harmful to college prospects. Do not punish us! [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-03-27 11:21:06</p>
<p>We have to look into Gaithersburg, Derwood and Rockville school boundaries (zip code 20855, 20879 and 20853). Why some students living in Derwood have to attend a Gaithersburg MS while students living in Gaithersburg attend a Derwood MS.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 12:25:14</p>
<p>I have [REDACTED] at Winston Churchill HS and Herbert Hoover MS, respectively. I strenuously oppose any boundary change that would force current students out of these schools, particularly to serve "diversity." These are already very diverse schools; white students are a minority in both. They are also top-performing schools that serve as community centers for the very-engaged parents and students. Forcing students to move to advance unproven social-engineering goals would punish those students, while not necessarily helping any students from low-performing schools that might be moved in to take their place. Inequities among schools are best addressed through budgetary allocations, support and training for parents, the creation of school-specific programs and expanded ESOL programs for new immigrants, rather than wholesale movement of students. This is especially true for Churchill students, for whom a school change would be extremely disruptive and likely harmful to college prospects.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 12:56:40</p>

<p>I am a parent of two MCPS students. Please take the process slowly and thoughtfully. Please consider having the RFP take on a more narrow scope, such as clearly defining the factors. The task of defining "communities" is wide-ranging. Initial findings in any one factor could lead consultants to redrafting definitions. Taking this large project and breaking it into phases allows for future RFPs or alternative consultants depending on the reception of the findings and appropriate skillset of the consultants prior to delivering options. Should the first consultants not be a good fit or there is a need for fresh/different expertise to use the finding to deliver options, this too would allow for flexibility to make the most of the resources allocated for this undertaking. I make this request for not just my children but for future generations of MCPS students, parents/guardians, teachers, staff and the community at large.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 13:17:42</p>
<p>The consultant should address how changing school boundaries will affect home values and whether they will affect wealthy parents' willingness to buy homes and live in the County. A house's value is linked to the schools assigned to that house and homes are often a family's biggest investment. It is important to know if boundary changes will result in wealthy individuals (who have options re where to buy) being unwilling to buy homes in Montgomery County in the future and/or opting to leave the County if their homes and children are reassigned to a low performing school. Why buy a home here where school assignment (and, therefore, home value) is unstable, when Northern Virginia is an option -especially since most new jobs are in Virginia? If wealthy people leave, the County will collect less in income and property taxes and have less to spend on schools - hurting all students.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 13:47:19</p>
<p>Students should attend the schools closest to their homes.. [REDACTED] attends [REDACTED] Middle School, (coming from [REDACTED] ES) and spends 40 minutes each way on the bus. Meanwhile his bus passes Frost MS and Hoover MS on the way. It is a waste of student's time to have them on the bus for an additional 20 minutes every morning. That's just not efficient. Students should attend schools closest to their homes. Also, do what's possible to keep the schools open during "weather-emergencies" that are not emergencies. There are too many "snow days" when there is no snow.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 14:13:35</p>
<p>We purposely bought a house in Bethesda because of the school clusters. While we are fine with the quality of education, we are NOT pleased with some of the recent decisions and changes that have taken place on the schools (e.g., last year's selection of kids to the highly gifted program and magnet school). We already see such change in the selection to the gifted program / magnet schools as bias, non-merit based and lack of transparency. In this particular boundary assessment, the scope of the assessment should be very ring-fenced, only focusing on looking at what elements make certain schools better than the others. Nothing more. We do NOT support including in the scope or recommendation on changing the existing cluster boundaries. We strongly OPPOSE on analysis or recommendations that could be considered changing current school clusters.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 14:18:40</p>
<p>Please make sure that you are verifying the addresses of students attending each school. It seems as if many students are attending schools outside of their district ,using false information. I know this first hand. This causes overcrowding at certain schools.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 14:47:05</p>
<p>I am appalled that MCPS would consider redrawing boundaries on the basis of demographics and bussing children to another school in the county under the guise of promoting diversity. We made a lot of sacrifices to live in our current neighborhood in order to send our children to the great (and already very diverse) schools assigned to our home address. How would the county choose who gets reassigned and who doesn't? Families currently in underutilized schools will be just as unhappy if they aren't reassigned as families whose children are moved to a lower performing school, simply to become an arbitrary statistic. Take neighboring DCPS as an example - they employ bussing and have one of the worst public school systems in the country. It seems to me the real problem is funding for underperforming schools and would urge MCPS to instead focus on how funds are distributed, not kids.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 15:09:50</p>

<p>I have a [REDACTED] at Winston Churchill HS and [REDACTED] at Herbert Hoover MS, who will be entering Churchill HS next year. I strenuously oppose any boundary change that would force current students out of these schools, particularly to serve "diversity." These are already very diverse schools; white students are a minority in both. They are top-performing schools that serve as community centers for very-engaged parents and students. Forcing students to move would punish students on both sides; affecting 161,995 MoCo students simply because 5 disgruntled students from one school do not like their own school! Inequities among schools are best addressed through budgetary allocations and the creation of school-specific programs such as ESOL programs for new immigrants, rather than wholesale movement of students. This is especially true for Churchill students, for whom a school change would be extremely disruptive and harmful to college prospects.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 15:13:08</p>
<p>The most important things that boundaries can achieve are proximity and capacity and enrollment. Class size is very important to quality of education and the schools need to be able to accommodate the number of students and classes needed to provide good education to all students. Proximity is important to the children's transportation time, sense of community and for traffic patterns, and impact on the environment. These factors should take precedence over stability of assignments and demographics. Stability of assignments is important but keeping reasonable class sizes is more important. Studying and addressing student needs based on demographics is very important but it would be better to allocate the resources needed to the schools (smaller than average class size for high need schools) than to try to make all schools need the same resources at the expense of maintaining communities and close proximity for students and families.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 16:21:33</p>
<p>Please consider redrawing the district line for Ashburton Elementary School so that the students that live across and close to Montgomery Mall going towards the Seven Locks Road can attend the Seven Locks Elementary School since they actually live closer to Seven Locks Elementary School than Ashburton Elementary. This will go a long way towards reducing the overcrowding at Ashburton that has now reached an alarming level and is compromising the quality of education there. Thank you for this opportunity to provide some input. I hope you will give this recommendation serious consideration.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 16:35:56</p>
<p>It is crucial any boundary study focus on: 1) Community integrity – student participation and parental involvement is fostered by neighborhood schools, which serve as the focus of community life. Families often sacrifice to move as near as possible to their local school; 2) Minimize commuting – multiple studies underscore how time-stressed families are. Children have multiple before/after-school activities and increasing homework. Families may have both parents working or be headed by a single parent, leaving family time at a premium. Washington is ranked as having some of the worst traffic in the nation, prolonging commutes to/from school, further robbing already time-stressed kids and families of precious time. Requiring longer commutes in heavy traffic presents a greater likelihood of accidents and injury/death to children, and potentially greater liability to the county and taxpayers. Furthermore, longer bus commutes would present higher operational costs in a county already facing a budget shortfall.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 16:54:41</p>
<p>The analysis needs to assess equity in our county. This involves two major questions: 1) Do the boundaries create a school with a disproportionate amount of students who are from certain demographics, and what is the impact on the staff and students? 2) Do the boundaries create schools with disproportionate numbers of students for the community they could serve, and what is the impact on the staff and students? I anticipate this revealing examples like Forest Oak Middle School, which buses in students from high poverty neighborhoods creating a 65% FARMS rate when our campus is located in a middle class neighborhood that does not attend Forest Oak. The impact on the staff and students is unnecessarily low achievement due to concentrating so many high-needs students in one school that we can't meet their needs.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 19:49:38</p>

<p>I feel that something that needs to be looked at is “how many kids are going to schools that they no longer live near?”. I have heard that when addresses change, some parents are not notifying the school and are continuing to send their child to the same school. It has never been asked of me to prove that my child still lives in Montgomery county and in the same neighborhood, so I find this rumor quite believable. Especially since Montgomery county is known for having excellent schools. I also find it amazing how little mail is sent to my address. This too is a key factor in learning whether or not students have changed their address. It’s quite possible that some schools are over populated simply because they live in an area with more apartments or rented homes and they aren’t leaving the school.</p>	<p>2019-03-27 22:24:28</p>
<p>This is long overdue. The boundaries that are currently in place are resulting in segregation of our population and extended bus rides. Currently many of our students pass two middle schools to get to ours yet the students that could walk to our building are bussed to MLK. If our focus is on building community then our schools should be at the center of the community in which the students live. It would also be a wonderful step to stop articulating middle schools to two different high schools. It makes it very difficult to build community when students don't live near each other and know that they will be seperated in a few years.</p>	<p>2019-03-28 07:13:17</p>
<p>I would really be disappointed if my son had to change schools because of a study proposed by a student member of the board. Not old enough to have any life experience but apparently has the power to disrupt my family's life and have my kid potentially have to change schools and be with kids he is not familiar with. Because of our work, my son has had to be the new kid twice so far and now we are in a permanent place enabling him to finish his education without being the new kid again and this study puts that in jeopardy. Very disappointed this suggestion got such traction and money is being wasted on this study. I now have the feeling that we never should have moved to Montgomery County.</p>	<p>2019-03-28 08:42:58</p>
<p>I agree with the MCPS factors but would add one additional factor: negative economic impact. While a loaded topic, property values are highly dependent on school boundaries. Parents pay hundreds of thousands more to cross a boundary to a different school. Reassigning a neighborhood's students to a different school should not have a significant negative impact on that neighborhood's property values which could lead to widespread political unrest and an economic downturn. In addition, neighborhoods of more modest incomes, not the most expensive areas, border school boundaries that create significant differences in property values. It will be the middle income homeowner/parents who bear an unfair loss, not the wealthy.</p>	<p>2019-03-28 08:52:22</p>
<p>I am supportive of the boundary analysis, particularly if conducted with a lens to decreasing overcrowding while addressing de facto segregation in Montgomery County public schools. Hopefully the study can look with a dispassionate lens at the best way to balance existing space with the number of students in the district, while also looking to ensure racial and economic diversity is reflected in all MCPS schools, to the degree possible. This means breaking up both concentrated poverty and concentrated wealth where possible, as neither are ideal for student socioemotional development.</p>	<p>2019-03-28 10:41:33</p>
<p>School boundary assessments should prioritize geographical proximity and stability. Students should be able to walk or bike to school whenever possible for exercise, environmental, and cohesiveness reasons. Schools often function as a neighborhood community space, and students expand and reinforce their social support network through their neighbors who attend school with them. Diversity and strength of educational programs is important for all of our schools, but putting the burden on students (and parents) by moving them to distant locations causing more congestion, more pollution, and disruption of social and neighborhood fabric is not the solution. We have the resources in our county to provide strong educational programs and incentivize great teachers at all schools without removing students from their neighborhood. Finally, for similar reasons, stability and continuity of education and social support networks is critical - once students have started in a school and cluster they should remain there.</p>	<p>2019-03-28 13:52:16</p>

<p>A rebalancing of school resources/use across MCPS is critical. The scope should be the entire MCPS region. The boundaries are dated and desperately need to be revisited. Logistics software would be helpful in this analysis. The focus should be on high schools since parents and older kids typically have to drive to/from activities on a daily basis. New drivers should remain close to their community while learning to drive so a close proximity to schools and driving in areas they are familiar with is imperative. One goal should be to keep children in the same feeder system. While this is typically done, there are currently areas that deviate - such as a portion of Laytonsville Elementary (in the Gaithersburg cluster, going to Damascus for middle and high school. It is critical to take into account future development, both planned and allowed, as well as current population trends.</p>	<p>2019-03-28 14:28:32</p>
<p>I live in the Whitman cluster. My children attended [REDACTED] and are now at [REDACTED] MS and [REDACTED]. All of our schools are overcrowded and the fields are small and of poor quality. Our schools have added ugly portables or additions that have reduced the outdoor play / recreation / fields. Our buses are overcrowded and the length of rides for each bus are unacceptable. There are students in our cluster who are very clearly closer to B-CC, Churchill, Westland. Students from Potomac should not be bused in to Bethesda schools. Our community has underestimated the number of families moving in to apartment buildings and thus children attending the public schools. These numbers need to be adjusted to reflect reality along with borders that provide equity in the amount of students, the quality of our buildings, access to outdoor recreational areas, athletic fields, and gym space.</p>	<p>2019-03-28 17:02:36</p>
<p>Any argument for better demographics does not hold in the long term. People move, and they move to places with good schools. only way to maintain balanced demographics, boundaries have to be changed every few years. If we go down that path, all the tax paying people are going too flee Montgomery county and the county will be the loser at the end with this entire farce! The only thing working in this county are it's public schools, if that is messed up with this process, the county will quickly rundown compared to neighboring jurisdiction's.</p>	<p>2019-03-28 23:35:10</p>
<p>Please don't destroy the only thing working in the county, public schools. Amen!</p>	<p>2019-03-28 23:37:06</p>
<p>Not too long ago, the Board spent a lot of resources adjusting all the of the school bell times to allow the older students to get more sleep and one board member said she regretted not pushing it further. I would like this to be kept in mind when looking at boundaries to ensure this was not a futile endeavor. The bell time change benefits are easily erased if students add 30 -60 minutes onto their commutes each way. Additionally, are there any studies you can show to the community that prove that socio-economic diversity in the student body helps to close the achievement gap by lifting those who need help up? As someone who thinks this is an important goal, I would ask, are there not other resources that can be used besides other children to help those who need help?</p>	<p>2019-03-29 10:00:14</p>
<p>Please make public answers to the following questions: -after the report is issued in Spring 2020, what would be the time frame for implementation of next steps? -how does this study connect to the BOE's stated purpose of including race as a factor in school boundaries? There is conflicting information about whether this stated position and the boundary study are related. Please clear this up for your constituency.</p>	<p>2019-03-29 10:26:06</p>
<p>Please consider how increase the number of walkers to a school can help with transportation as well as promote strong geographic school communities as part of the 'geographic proximity of communities to school'. My [REDACTED] can walk to her elementary school ([REDACTED]) and will be able to walk to her middle school ([REDACTED]). But when it comes time for high school, she will be bused to our home school ([REDACTED]) even though we are in walking distance of [REDACTED].</p>	<p>2019-03-29 12:13:41</p>
<p>I'm am in full support of this. Effective use of our resources across the county is the fiscally sound. As for the racial and economic inequalities, people will always fear the "other" will never voluntarily integrate. We as a county need to take full advantage to our resources both the diversity of our peoples and budget.</p>	<p>2019-03-29 16:50:44</p>

<p>I would just like to point out that adding uncertainty to the connection between a home and its school boundaries makes the property less valuable. Perhaps property values are of little concern, but bear in mind that property taxes pay for the school system, so if you destroy home value, you cost the school system the ability to pay its staff, and to pay for its programs. I also wonder if people actually believe that parents whose kids go to W schools will just stand by while their kids are used as guinea pigs in a "rising tide floats all boats" experiment. Not wanting to uproot our kids is really the only thing keeping my family here. If you uproot our kids for us, we'll be changing school districts. Most of our neighbors will do the same. Take a look at what happened to PG County when they implemented busing.</p>	<p>2019-03-29 17:09:41</p>
<p>Boundary change decisions should not negatively impact funding sources. Boundary changes should not put Title 1 schools at risk. Title 1 funds are needed to support the academic, cultural and socioeconomic needs of disadvantaged students, who are often second language learners. Title 1 funds are distributed by strict guidelines set by the federal government. A set number of students must receive free and reduced lunch (FARMS) in order for the school to qualify for Title 1 status. Instructional programs, small classes, ESOL positions instructional resources are all heavily funded by Title 1. Additionally, property taxes provide billions for the MCPS budget, which includes expansion of Pre K and programs designed to close the achievement gap. Changing school boundaries in wealthier neighborhoods would reduce home values. The lower the value of county properties results in less revenue from property taxes. This means fewer dollars for future funding of the MCPS budget.</p>	<p>2019-03-29 20:40:40</p>
<p>I am all for diversity. I am not in favor of breaking up communities and having my children create relationships with those outside of their community and not have the platform to create relationships with children who live in our neighborhood. One of the reasons we moved into our neighborhood is to create that sense of community with other families and to know that our children would create long relationships with other children who lived in the same neighborhood. If the children are not going to the same school they do not have that same platform to create those relationships. In a world where we need to establish community relationships and ties more than ever, it doesn't make sense to me that we would potentially further breakdown those ties.</p>	<p>2019-03-30 10:28:02</p>
<p>With the generous school budget in Montgomery county there is no excuse for such large variations in the quality of education across schools. However, I think that using "diversity" as a criteria is divisive and perpetuates racism. People should not be classified by the color of their skin, their ethnic heritage, nor some combination of these factors. That only reinforces stereotypes and should have no place in our society today. Children residing in our county should all have access to a quality education. All children. If that isn't the case, fix the school. Don't bus some children and leave others in a de facto substandard school. Focusing on race/ethnicity is a misguided approach as it takes the focus away from the many and more complex causal factors that influence academic achievement. The money wasted on a consultant would be much better spent improving the education at lower performing schools.</p>	<p>2019-03-30 10:51:43</p>
<p>I think that this should be an option to be not considered for the children in Germantown and Clarksburg. We have already initiated that we would send them in to CHS. I think that the BOE should not take this into consideration due to the ratings and reviews of Seneca valley high school. The children should at least have an option to choose which to go to if that's the case. But as a full decision, this shouldn't be taken into consideration.</p>	<p>2019-03-30 23:47:16</p>
<p>Please consider assessing size of county and whether county can be further subdivided, eg upper MCPS and lower MCPS. Weather conditions are often different across the county, with unnecessary weather-related school closures that may not be applicable to all.</p>	<p>2019-03-31 19:08:30</p>
<p>I believe the focus of the study should be limited to finding the best way to utilize magnets and other merit based programs to raise student performance. As a homeowner and parent of a MCPS first grader and rising Kindergartner, who moved less than three years ago; I and others I know, selected our houses based nearly entirely upon which schools my children would be assigned to. The real estate market must have stability, and many, if not most, chose to buy based upon school assignment. Wholesale boundary changes would be fundamentally unfair to those who purchased recently and would only serve to destabilize the county housing market. Thus, I feel the scope of the study should specifically exclude any physical boundary changes and focus on ways to ensure that capable students through the county have appropriately challenging school environments.</p>	<p>2019-04-01 09:19:50</p>

<p>I'm not sure how this conversation will develop, and think this is probably always a difficult topic. I suggest that students who have started at a school be allowed to complete their education in that school system. Also, siblings should be allowed to attend the same schools as their older siblings even if boundaries change. I highly recommend a pre-K option for all Montgomery county schools, with the option of before and after care. Otherwise, pre-K is not an option for many working parents. As far as other deliverables, better school lunches, play facilities that match the size of the schools, and reasonable and extended time for recess are a must. My two cents for now, and appreciate your taking this into account, and for requesting our input.</p>	<p>2019-04-01 09:28:24</p>
<p>I understand that school boundaries sometimes need to be adjusted. However, I would hope that when doing so, anyone whose schools would change would be grandfathered in so that if they so choose their already enrolled children will not have to make a disruptive change. Parents often make their housing choices based on specific school boundaries. Also, as kids spend more time within a school, they understandably become attached to that school and their friends and classmates. While most kids are resilient, it remain an option to stay within their current/expected school boundaries even after a boundary shift.</p>	<p>2019-04-01 11:27:28</p>
<p>I support an analysis of school boundaries to optimize opportunities for all students of all backgrounds across the county. However, I believe students should attend the schools in closest proximity to their homes - ideally with walkable/bikeable access - and that once they start in a cluster they should stay there. Moving students to distant schools puts an unfair burden on students who have friends, neighbors, and social support networks at their local schools, adds complex logistics to working parents to ensure their kids get to school, discourages parental involvement if they live far away, and increases traffic congestion and pollution at a time when our climate can least afford it. We should improve opportunities for all students - but this should be done by investing in programs, teachers, and low-cost housing options so all schools can be great and all parents can choose a neighborhood that's right for them.</p>	<p>2019-04-01 12:15:26</p>
<p>The main factor that I would like to be considered is parent involvement in the school community as it has been a proven factor that yields direct results. In today's busy lives, parents are generally more involved if the schools are closer and getting to them is not a big hassle that they have to undertake. It also drives the enrollment of the students in the extra curricular activities that are offered by the schools. Taken together, proximity is really a huge driving factor that we consider daily. I would like the committee to consider location and physical proximity over the demographics in deciding the school boundaries.</p>	<p>2019-04-01 12:32:03</p>
<p>As a Transportation Cluster Manager of a Special Needs Cluster, I feel the transportation aspect is rarely considered in these matters. We have an extensive special education and magnet program that require transporting student cross county. Many times, these programs are not placed in schools in a strategic manner that limits the transportation times. With traffic issues, growing populations, transportation staff shortages and limited resources, it is becoming very difficult to transport these student in a timely manner. These programs should be placed strategically around the county providing better transport times for all areas of the county. While assessing school boundaries, it may be the perfect time to assess the location of our special programs and working with the special education and magnet departments on placing these programs in schools in strategic manner.</p>	<p>2019-04-01 13:15:34</p>
<p>MCPS is clearly guilty of segregation by boundary. Any student from East County or any of the following schools JFK, Springbrook, Northwoods simply needs to play one game at any of the W schools and see clearly how Easy county students are shafted. Schools with high minority populations and FARMs rate clearly get less resources, oppprtunities and facilities. It's appalling.</p>	<p>2019-04-01 16:00:53</p>

<p>Our children have grown up in a neighborhood that is ethnically diverse with a strong sense of community. They have established friendships. Their parents are heavily involved in the PTA and they work very hard for long hours. They teach their children that doing well in school is a priority. Is it fair to disrupt a community—who happens to live in a high-performing cluster—so that MCPS can obtain socioeconomic diversity in schools? Redrawing boundaries will impact our children’s lives, change our strong communities, as well as the value of our homes. There must be a better solution to increase scores for children who live in lower socioeconomic neighborhoods. Place more teachers, and more resources in these schools so these children have an opportunity to perform better. The Whitman cluster is already overcrowded. Increase budgets to enlarge school facilities. If you change the school boundaries, people will just move.</p>	<p>2019-04-01 16:04:00</p>
<p>There is too much concern on equality across schools within MCPS. It is inevitable that certain families (e.g. type "A" parents) gravitate to certain neighborhoods with schools that perform better in terms of standardized testing. These parents pay a premium in real estate prices for better schools. Please do not cut resources to let the lagging schools catch up at the detriment of the high-performers. In a group of schools some will be better and some will lag, as long as a minimum high-quality threshold is met - there will always be exogenous factors - that will affect student performance. If type A parents cluster in neighborhoods they might be more keen in emphasizing the importance of education and those kids might study harder and do better. School quality is only part of the story and better performing schools should not be punished in terms of budget and resources.</p>	<p>2019-04-01 16:31:00</p>
<p>I live in Chevy Chase part of the BCC cluster. I think boundaries need to be automatically re-evaluated at least every 7-10 years to adjust for population changes throughout the county. We have been facing severe overcrowding in our part of the cluster which was only recently alleviated with an addition to the high school and a new middle school. However the projected enrollment numbers are already going to be over capacity for both in the next 5-7 years. The board of education needs to factor in new development projects that are rapidly increasing the burden on the schools. I would also like to explore the possibility of converting existing MCPS administrative buildings back to schools or utilizing office space in downtown Bethesda as a non traditional high school.</p>	<p>2019-04-01 16:37:12</p>
<p>Wow! I don't envy the consultants. I think they'd have to have access to not only maps, school information, communities (built and planned), but also be quite the visionaries in order to know the students/families staying or moving out of any given community. It would be nice to have more neighborhood schools where students could walk to school, but that doesn't always provide the balance of socio-economic demographics that so often seems the focus of such studies. Stability over time is a pretty tough thing to gauge in such a transient area. Other things are even tougher to measure - like having a caring adult at home that takes the time to encourage education and model responsibility. It is always nice when a community, school, and parents can be a team. I certainly appreciated the many caring adults my children got to know during their school years! Good luck, consultants.</p>	<p>2019-04-01 22:03:12</p>
<p>1.In depth comparative analysis of factors like student work ethic, parental academic level, community participation with demographic of school population. To determine which factor has the highest correlation to academic achievement. 2.Explore and explain why and how MCPS forced integration by redrawing boundaries will have different outcome than P.G county's forced busing for 25 years with disastrous results,which was done to achieve the same goal of closing academic gap. 3.Explore local surgical fix , addressing community/ cluster specific needs as remediation compare to overall rezoning. 4.Address negative repercussions (stress for families,students, lack of parent involvement) of social alienation and increased geographic distances as a outcome of disrupting old clusters. 5. Access monetary cost compare to local fix with overall disruption. 6. Account and document traffic related repercussions on families and environment.</p>	<p>2019-04-02 10:10:20</p>
<p>I think the current boundaries are great and I’m not sure why thwy are considering changing them.</p>	<p>2019-04-02 19:58:37</p>
<p>My son is in Kindergarten so I am a new parent in the MCPS school system. From looking at the demographics throughout the county, our schools appear to be highly segregated. I was very surprised to see this. I hope that the boundary study will help to ensure that all kids in Montgomery County are able to access an equally high quality education no matter what school they attend and that there will be more of an effort to diversify our schools both by race and socioeconomic status.</p>	<p>2019-04-02 22:25:38</p>

Consider racial diversity, bus routes, parental involvement, demographic school population, geographic distances	2019-04-03 10:09:43
Hello, I will be attending one of the sessions but would like to make a couple of comments in advance of the meeting. First, it seems strange that this series of Community Conversations is decoupled from the series regarding the Equity Accountability model. I believe that these issues are intertwined. Second, is it actually true that no specific boundary recommendations are under consideration? There are rumors flying all over MoCo about proposals for drastic changes to school assignment, mainly intended to balance demographic representation across the county. MCPS staff messages/social media, as well as the language used by BOE members at meetings, make it clear that there is a movement in this direction. I respectfully ask that you please acknowledge such plans (or discussion of plans) when you address the community at these meetings.	2019-04-03 10:55:59
Our family likes and appreciates the proximity and convenience of walking to each of our schools.	2019-04-03 17:06:18
Students enrolled in an elementary school tied into a high school cluster should be maintained in that cluster regardless of any boundary analysis. Parents, including myself, have worked very hard to save money and purchase homes in our particular high school district. Parents in underperforming schools need to be engaged by staff, but the schools need to accomodate working parents by having teacher meetings at night. The impact on home values and business should be evaluated as part of the boundary analysis. In addition, the cost and environmental impact of bussing children to schools that are not the closest to their home needs to be evaluated. The boundary analysis should evaluate any test score improvement in local children not involved in the IB programs due to the addition of the IB program and higher performing students from out of the area in underperforming schools where IB programs were added.	2019-04-03 17:11:48
There is a serious issue with over crowding AND under crowding within MCPS. I have taken the liberty of creating a spreadsheet with every ELEMENTARY school in Montgomery County. This spreadsheet looks at the location of the schools, the capacity, the enrollment, and how much over or under enrollment those schools are. There are many tabs so you can look at the data in various ways: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1bh9IncvXN8aVa0um9fRvIcJZai7sKRdV5szsz4qMyU/edit?usp=sharing If you have any questions, please email me.	2019-04-03 17:15:49
I would ask the Board to look at clusters that make little sense. Why is a child being sent to a middle school, for example, that is further away from his/her home then a closer middle school? Overall, I would ask the board to closely study teacher:student ratio. My son currently attends a MCPS middle school where several of his classes hover in the 1:30 ratio. This is ridiculous to think a teacher can properly attend and engage 30 plus minds on a subject. Whatever decisions the Board make, my hope lies in my son enjoying a better distribution of resources before his last year in MCPS (2024).	2019-04-03 17:21:40
This is a colossal waste of money. Resources are already shifted from the western portions of the county to the eastern portion of the county. My children's school is filled classrooms which are at or above capacity. There is no intent to discriminate. Not everything needs to be "fixed." We need to stop handing our children everything on a platter and protecting them from the slightest bit of harm, The real world is not fair sometimes. People need to stop finding things about which they are offended.	2019-04-03 17:22:04
Please get rid of the consortiums in East county, make class sizes smaller, and schools less segregated. There are many schools in Montgomery county that parents do not wish to send their children to and move to other areas to receive enrollment into the "better" schools. Many families are also opting to move to Howard county because Montgomery county schools are falling behind. It would also be nice if all elementary students move on to the same middle school, instead of splitting them in half. In our cluster, half the kids go to a "better" middle school and half go to a much less desirable one. Thank you.	2019-04-03 17:32:48
I am extremely against the busing of children out of the area. We purchased our house and moved into this neighborhood and area specifically for this school district.	2019-04-03 17:50:27
The boundaries should remain the same. I specifically bought my house so my kids would go to the geographically close local school with their neighborhood friends. I am against changing any boundaries. And, my property taxes reflect my neighborhood school. Thanks you.	2019-04-03 17:53:14

<p>I am concerned about bussing kids far from their home school. Kids are busy enough without spending an hour or more getting to and from school. Not to mention the traffic impact of increased bussing. My high school daughter told me she would like a more diverse school environment. However, when I told her she could be on a bus for 30 minutes or more just to get to school (we live less than a mile from her current school), she immediately changed her mind. I hope the county can come up with more creative ways to provide our kids with a diverse education without putting them on busses for hours (and further cutting into their sleep time!), creating more traffic, and further damaging our environment.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 18:09:14</p>
<p>Resetting the boundary lines is fine as some schools are overcrowded. However, students should be able to attend school in their neighborhood/community. They should not be bussed to faraway schools. As a parent I am very concerned about my child's well-being. Bussing to a faraway school will do harm.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 18:34:19</p>
<p>I do not want my children bused. I moved to this neighbor so my children could walk to school. They never had to take a bus and I want it to stay that way.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 18:40:52</p>
<p>Cashell Elementary should be part of the Rosa Parks/ Sherwood HS cluster. Our home on [REDACTED] is closer in proximity to this cluster. Also, our home and Cashell ES are in Olney and our children should attend Olney schools.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 18:50:55</p>
<p>The school board has already made up its mind of bussing students out of their neighborhood in this misguided policy of social engineering. This policy will do absolutely nothing to close the much talked about achievement gap. It will only aggravate the situation by forcing many wealthy parents to flee the public school system. The school board has no control where people choose to live. Majority of county residents do NOT want to be forced out of their neighborhood schools. This will DESTROY community, devastate the community involvement in PTA and volunteer work at schools. Boundaries should solely be based on geographic proximity and school capacity. Race should play no role whatsoever. The county not the school board should strive to build MPDU in the western half of the county to integrate communities. But forced bussing of students should never be adopted Focus on universal Pre-K Expand magnet program</p>	<p>2019-04-03 19:28:30</p>
<p>The boundary study should be public</p>	<p>2019-04-03 19:28:36</p>
<p>Hello, I'm a student at Walt Whitman High School and I am in full support of continuing the proposed boundaries and facilities assessment study resolution. Here's why I am in support. Diversity in schools is important and benefits everyone involved. It is important that we address the issue of de facto segregation in schools as soon as possible. I hope to see the board continue with this study. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 19:31:32</p>
<p>As a MCPS high school student at Watkins Mill I think it's vital to produce an ethnically diverse student body. Throughout my years in MCPS, I have encountered people from many cultures, which has helped me develop empathy & understanding for others. By keeping schools & their student bodies in small bubbles, one doesn't promote basic values of understanding, as you're only surrounded by those you're used to. In order for the future generations of leaders to be able to be constructive, students need to be in diverse environments where they can grow as people.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 19:32:22</p>
<p>Hello. I'm a student at Wheaton High School and I am in full support of continuing the proposed boundaries and facilities assessment study resolution. I am in support of this resolution because every student deserves access to a diverse, rich educational environment that will allow them to thrive in the future. Montgomery County is one of the most diverse counties in this country and I hope that we maintain this reputation in years to come. I hope to see the Board continue with this study. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 19:32:31</p>
<p>Hello, I am a student at Springbrook Highschool and i am in full support of continuing the proposed boundaries and facilities assessment study resolution. Here's why I am in support: 1) many schools in montgomery county do not have the facilities that are up to standards, which ends up affecting the students daily life quality. i hope to see the board with this study. thank you.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 19:32:42</p>
<p>Hi! I'm a student at Wheaton High, and I 100% support the scope, framework, AND focus of this initiative. Cluster boundaries shape the way our students interact everyday; it determines who their friends are, what teacher's they'll meet, what education they'll get...who they will be. Different clusters are different CULTURES. If these differences are hindering student education, it is CRUCIAL that MCPS analyzes these factors and makes the effort to fix them so that future generations may have a student life with a level educational-playing field.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 19:32:50</p>

<p>Hello, I am a student at Richard Montgomery High School and I am in full support of continuing the proposed boundaries and facilities assessment resolution. This resolution is vital to improving the resource access and achievement of our minority students, while also benefitting all of our students through educational and interpersonal improvements. Moreover, it would allow us to create meaningful and needed change to boundaries that are the product of racially discriminatory housing policy. I hope to see the board continue the study. It is the best action to improve the lives of students and the success of communities. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 19:33:31</p>
<p>Hello, I am a student at Northwood High School and I am in full support of continuing the proposed Boundaries and facilities assessment study resolution. Here's why I am in support because integration is an education and we shouldn't prioritize the wealthy's property values over helping our students succeed. I hope the Board continues with this study. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 19:34:12</p>
<p>I strongly believe that you are wasting your time with a boundary study. The resources should be put toward developing more magnet programs so that students would want to go to a school other than their home school. My son attends Blair and our home school is Whitman. There were numerous students rejected from the program who were willing to travel across the county to go. More STEM magnets is in great demand. Make it the decision of the students to be bussed out of their district. Making it a requirement is ridiculous and the cost would be astronomical. And the extra time needed for travel is a hardship for many students, especially lower income students who might need to get an after school job or watch younger siblings. Please think about this boundary study logically.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 20:16:27</p>
<p>Bethesda Chevy Chase High school should be part of the DCC. The over crowding of the school along with the lack of land proves there should be an effort to curb this issue and re routing the school boundaries and diversification would be achieved by making Bethesda Chevy Chase part of the DCC and they're will inevitably be backlash but long term it's in the counties best interest.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 20:23:37</p>
<p>Scope: Broad spectrum to include how current boundaries affect hiring (talent pools, teacher retention, cost of living), student demographics (SES, race, diversity, academic performance), transportation (travel time, local traffic, frequency of construction), parent involvement/community networking (PTSA support, local business connections), services to students (SPED, Career, Internships, AP Course Offerings), quality of facilities, community use of facilities. Framework: Surveys are difficult to get completed by stakeholders so audits would be better suited for this work. Focus: Equity in access and availability of high quality education for all students, with an emphasis on identifying deficits requiring immediate remediation.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 20:32:42</p>
<p>Hello, I am a student at Albert Einstein High School and I am in full support of continuing the proposed boundaries and facilities assessment study resolution. I am in support because I think it is important to reevaluate the boundaries to promote diverse school communities throughout our county.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 21:57:10</p>
<p>If the true goal of the study is the "effective use of school facilities", then the study shouldn't be called a "Boundary Study", nor should it be communicated to the consultants as such. This is misleading and has caused the entire MCPS parent community to be on the defensive. I grew up in Rockville - went to Beall ES, Redland MS, and Richard Montgomery. Not the best schools at the time. I'm also the child of immigrant parents who worked long hours at Chinese restaurants. Where I am today is the values they instilled in us - to work hard and do well in school so that we wouldn't have to be like them. Re-zoning the schools isn't the answer to the disparity in our children's performances. The bottom line is that it's the values they are taught. We can provide resources but ultimately it's up to the children.</p>	<p>2019-04-03 22:23:32</p>
<p>I don't see the value of this analysis if the purpose is to bus students away from their local schools, resulting in further stress for parents and their children.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 02:59:13</p>
<p>I believe the achievement gap exists based on boundaries. If this is not taken into consideration along with a STRONG parent communication piece the GAP will persist. Low income parents do not receive adequate representation and never know what is happening. African American and Latino parents are also not well informed. I make a distinction because these two groups are not always the same people and this is often assumed.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 08:55:27</p>

<p>Dear MCPS, Thanks for the chance to comment on this boundary project/initiative. From my point of view and all of the parents I've spoken too in our very diverse neighborhood in QOP. The study should focus on minimizing commuting time (buses or cars) which in turn reduces traffic and most importantly maximizing sleep time for the students, especially the older ones. Placing a priority on geography also allows students to easily meet and spend time with their classmates after school and on weekends instead of having to have the parents taxi them (more than they already are) all over the county. Regards, [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-04-04 09:46:55</p>
<p>I find it greatly discouraging that in today's climate and environment, the mental health impact is not being taken into consideration. Based off the four factors mentioned above, it appears that decisions will be based off numbers and emotional impact is not a consideration. Uprooting and changing children from their neighborhood school, the social group with whom they have been raised and their current affiliation from their feeder schools to their high school, you are taking away part of their identity. You are quite possibly creating a huge source of stress and emotional turmoil that the school system is not equipped to handle. I ask that you add to your study, information from mental health experts on how a change of boundaries will impact students.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 10:10:09</p>
<p>I feel that if the consultants could look into the the consortiums we have, that would be great. I don't feel that they are effective anymore, and we are seeing "buy-in" issues that the community based schools do not have.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 10:57:06</p>
<p>The analysis should include to redraw some school boundaries and reduce overcrowded schools. Some schools like South Lake Elementary are over crowded (>1000 students). Homes in the streets of Highland Hall Drive, Dubois Ct, Nesbit Ct etc. should be moved to Goshen Elementary School which is .4 miles away. There is no need for students to be moved 2.7 miles away to an overcrowded school when there is another school right behind/close to these homes.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 11:42:33</p>
<p>We have absolutely no desire to have our children bused to anywhere other than their LOCAL schools. Using our children and our choices for where we reside as a means to assuage concerns about diversity is NOT acceptable. I support re-evaluating funding and using that as a means to improve schools across the county. But I STRONGLY oppose using the busing of children as any part of it.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 11:57:01</p>
<p>I do not believe boundaries will truly fix any achievement gaps. I have looked at the funding for different schools. Schools that are achieving lower scores sometimes have homes that have lower values, paying less in state taxes, BUT are receiving more funding. Schools are based on COMMUNITY. If a community wants the school to succeed, then it will. Here is an example of 2 schools, similar size: Sequoyah #565 is receiving \$5,189,203 (\$13,443.53 per student) . Travilah #216 is receiving \$3,781,294 (\$10,474.50 per student). Even though Travilah ES average home pays more in taxes than Sequoyah, Sequoyah receives more funding. But, Travilah ES COMMUNITY has more impact on the success of the school because the COMMUNITY wants the school to succeed. I do not believe that moving the lines will change the schools outcome. It really has to come from the LOCAL COMMUNITY around the school.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 12:01:16</p>
<p>Redrawing boundaries will cause extensive travel for students just to change the diversity mix in these schools. MCPS is overlapping achievement gap issues with diversity issues. There are other solutions like improving schools through implementing successful programs that close the achievement gap and have been successful regardless of school diversity. Address the real reason there are high performing vs low performing schools between east and west county, including significant crowding issues and inconsistent funding. Diversifying the schools in the county is the "topic of the day" and is a lazy response. Fix the schools, don't change where kids go to school. Shouldn't the answer be outcomes-oriented assessments of the schools and holding them accountable? Why isn't MCPS doing this effectively? Maybe we need better MCPS leadership and school board members rather than excuse the inability of the current leadership to improve results at certain schools, despite significant resources.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 12:50:14</p>

<p>The proximity of my home to my child's school is paramount in importance. It is Detrimental to the children and the working parents to take a child and place them in a school that could be over 30 minutes or more away in traffic. Life is hard enough without throwing a wrench into our lives. We would lose time with our kids and time together as a family, as well as spend additional money on transportation. We live, work and go to school in our community. This sense of community is incredibly important and my kids are thriving. Although an evaluation of the boundaries maybe necessary and changes may need to be made to some extent, children need to go to school in their communities, where their siblings are in school and have gone to school before them. Spending money transporting kids so far from home is wasting county's resources.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 13:09:24</p>
<p>Hi, Our family lives in the WJ Johnson school cluster [REDACTED] We are one of the few [REDACTED] families that can hardly afford to live in this area to assure a good education for our daughters. We bought our house based on the schools rating of the area. We hope to stay within the same school boundaries. Our little neighborhood, [REDACTED] is not in the affluent area of Bethesda, but it is a middle class, ethnically diverse neighborhood that contributes to cultural diversity of this school cluster. We request that you strongly consider demographics of the student body population over geographic proximity to schools. More than ever, our kids need to grow in a diverse environment that enriches their upbringing and offer equal educational opportunities to kids who don't live in affluent areas. Thank you, [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-04-04 14:09:02</p>
<p>Hello, We live near the schools and my children are considered "walkers" as they can walk to school and there are no school buses serving us due to our proximity. We value this opportunity a lot, as this saves time for the kids and also saves space on the buses. We are worried that due to various considerations school boundaries will be reshaped without due consideration of the "walkers". We think that in fact the proximity to schools should be the major factor and everything should be done to let students attend the closest schools, at least as long as they are within walking distance. Reshaping the boundaries without preserving or, better, improving this factor will be unacceptable, will cause extra burden to many children and will lead to increased traffic of the school buses. We urge you to seriously consider this issue and thank you for your consideration.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 14:33:23</p>
<p>We as the parents of Whitman school students are against to bus out Whitman school students to any other schools.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 19:14:21</p>
<p>We as the parents of Whitman school students are against to bus out Whitman school students to any other schools.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 19:15:52</p>
<p>We as the Whitman school students are against to bus out Whitman school students to any other schools.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 19:17:40</p>
<p>We as the Whitman school students are against to bus out Whitman school students to any other schools.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 19:20:11</p>
<p>Within the scope of geographic proximity should be actual travel time from the community to the school considering the traffic in Montgomery County as well as the route taken. The concern for children getting enough sleep is meaningless if the actual travel time is not represented when considering geographic proximity.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 22:10:38</p>
<p>As my daughter has already graduated, I am a former MCPS parent. An external consultant could be a useful aid in helping to develop recommendations about how school and cluster boundaries support or impede the effective use of school facilities. There is an extensive history in this country of busing students out of their home districts, however; abundant evidence demonstrates serious issues with this solution. I strongly oppose this course of action in Montgomery County.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 23:23:41</p>
<p>Please keep geography and facility utilization as a top priority. Do not gerrymander school boundaries or bus kids just for demographics. Keep in mind that people will move and demographics change constantly. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-04-04 23:45:47</p>

<p>We would like the study to look at the schools that have split articulation. In our case, our children go to Darnestown Elementary and Lakelands MS. Diamond and Darnestown children should follow the rest of Lakelands and attend Quince Orchard HS. Some students in Darnestown live a half mile from Quince Orchard and most living within a couple miles. it seems it would help students and parents manage their time better by being at the closer schools. Not to mention that our children will be split from the close friends they have made at Lakelands. It also seems it would help with the Clarksburg/Northwest/Seneca overpopulation issues.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 08:02:12</p>
<p>I am concerned about the additional transportation time that any busing solution would entail. My son is only in the fourth grade, but he already barely has time to finish his homework and chores before bedtime. I am already concerned about how early he needs to wake up in order to arrive at the nearby middle school and high school on time. The existing research is very clear on the cost of early bell times on adolescent brains. Busing my child to a school farther away would have negative effects on his ability to function well due to a reduced amount of sleep. He would also lose valuable study time, as a result of time wasted sitting on a bus in traffic. MCPS has paid lip service to helping adolescent students reduce stress. Busing would be an intentional increase in stress for students.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 10:02:48</p>
<p>Any proposals to change school boundaries should take to following factors into account: 1. Costs to the county and parents to transport students to attend distant schools their instead of home schools; 2. Anxiety and stress for students to attend distant schools instead of home school; 3. From my own experience, for students who attend distant schools and their parents there is tendency those students and parents may be less involved in after-school activities and school PTA than home school students and their parents. This is not a good thing for these schools with distant students. 4. Any proposals to change school boundaries should be transparent and fully inform the communities.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 10:33:44</p>
<p>The study needs to take into account all the MCPS school buildings that exist, whether they are currently bring used a schools or MCPS Offices, regardless of boundaries. There are many Elementary schools no longer being used as schools but are being used as MCPS offices. With the overcrowding of schools in Montgomery County, these schools need to be reopened, brought on line, and boundaries reconsidered. The current boundaries are impeding the use of these closed schools, which could be used to support clusters that are overburdened.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 11:35:35</p>
<p>New schools may take 10 years , but we should not wait for 10 years. It's far better to have 10 schools at 105% capacity than having 9 schools at 100% and one school at 150%. Once new school is built then all schools can go below 100. Kids living in a high development areas shouldn't pay a high price. Burden should be shared equally across schools because we are all part of MCPS.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 13:06:30</p>
<p>I've taught & substituted around MCPS in wealthy, middle-class, & poor schools, and in overcrowded and underutilized ones, so I've seen the gamut from ES->HS here. When there are schools>125% capacity not far from schools at only, say, 85%, we should absolutely be looking to equalize capacities to prevent overdependence on portables at the very least. My kids already attend school w/plenty of rich & poor kids, Black & Brown & White kids, and it hasn't been a detriment in any way. Y'all may want to emphasize more at future meetings on this topic that the SCHOOL CAPACITY/UTILIZATION is the *primary* (although not *only*) thing MCPS is trying to fix here, because too many folks seem to think it's just "social engineering" & busing.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 13:26:12</p>
<p>I disagree with assigning students to other schools outside their neighborhoods. It'd be costly & time consuming since it'd require more school bus transportation. It'd be a long bus ride for students and increase traffic. The students'd be tired after a long bus ride and wouldn't have enough time to participate in physical activities like sports and complete homework if they arrive home later after a long bus ride. It'd be a negative impact on high school students who have to get up very early in the morning for classes if they have to take long bus rides. They'd not have enough sleep that they need in order to do well at school. They wouldn't have enough time to participate in after school activities because of long bus rides. Working parents wouldn't have time to drive a long way to schools and participate in community activities like PTA.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 14:17:43</p>

<p>As I read the news articles about the meetings on this it makes me sick to my stomach. Moving these boundaries is long over due. Just because someone is poor does not mean they are unable to keep up or can't take on academic challenges. It would be great for MCPS to organize a discussion with parents at AEHS and Walter Johnson or Churchill - so they can see that a school community that is inclusive and welcoming is not a school community lacking academic rigor. I hope this change occurs and I hope it is bold and meaningful and well thoughtout out it is long over due. The School system should alos offer a session like the ones above all in spanish in an area of the county that is populated by spanish speaking parents.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 14:38:35</p>
<p>The meeting last night was hardly a conversation.What a shame that we cannot be heard unless we respond only to your 3 narrow questions. We don't agree with your premise.A boundary review is not the sole answer to the alleged disparity in schools, but the county doesn't even want to go there and quieted anyone who said otherwise.This didn't go over well. The conversation became a one-way, closely guided dictate.The format was a carefully crafted, almost predetermined formality.While purporting to seek "input and engagement at every stage of the process," we are hardly able to give such input, and that on which the county is seeking engagement is limited to their 3 questions.How has the board decided that these changes will magically solve problems plaguing some of the schools?Our children will be deeply impacted by this so-called boundary analysis so forgive me for having concerns that extend beyond your framework.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 14:47:39</p>
<p>I think the current school boundary works very well and no need to do any change. If you have to do some change, please follow the Grandfather rule and keep the old assignment for the existed residents. Only that is it fair for their cost on their properties and all their tax contribution to the county. Thanks a lot, [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-04-05 14:56:52</p>
<p>DCC parent (Woodlin, Sligo, AEHS) I am super frustrated that we can't get the same level of rigor in our Silver Spring schools. I have friends all over the county and used to work in several MCPS schools as a contractor. I don't buy for 1 second the "it's the same curriculum" in the whole county. It may very well be, but how it's implemented is quite different. And speaking frankly, there is no way I'd move my family to the west part of the county. I love SS and despite the inferior schools, I would not want my child surrounded by all that affluence. I know personally, FIRST HAND that students in SS or Gaithersburg elementary schools CAN handle the rigor, but they are given a slower path to success. Push them hard early offer supports and give them good teachers and keep the school open late with enrichment.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 15:02:43</p>
<p>I am a Montgomery County Community member and mother to a future MCPS student. I'm pleased to hear that the Board of Education is initiating a boundary study. Many of our schools are overcrowded and overburdened, but there are others that have capacity. I hope the BOE takes the opportunity to examine how we can improve the diversity of our schools and promote equity within the MCPS system. All students should have access to a good education, and your zip code should not determine your opportunities.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 16:34:08</p>
<p>I fully support children from disadvantaged areas to be given the opportunity to attend higher ranking schools. However, I paid more than I wanted to on a home so my child could attend one of the higher ranking schools in the county. Currently we are walking distance to his schools and the idea that he could be bussed to a school outside our boundary is extremely troubling. Property value is directly correlated with the school ranking. Perhaps more resources should be given to the lower ranking schools to help improve their scores and give those children access to the same quality education without having to take long commutes.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 16:41:59</p>
<p>Totally against changing school boundaries, especially high school boundaries. I disagree that only moving students from lower performing schools to higher perming school or vice versa will improve anything but it will detrimental to the overall education of the students. Performance is based on hard work and prioritizing education and opportunity. Provide more resources to the lower performing schools, provide additional training to students and teachers just moving students is an easy eyewash nothing else.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 16:46:04</p>

<p>My daughter is a high school freshman who has just come in from outside MCPS and has fortunately had a very smooth transition into the system academically and socially. Please don't allow any potential changes to affect current students' school assignments as it would be extremely disruptive to both their education and their social communities. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 17:10:02</p>
<p>The only way to ensure that all students have equal opportunities and resources is to ensure that school populations are roughly equal with regards to socio-economics. Students benefit from being exposed to multiple cultures, languages, economic backgrounds, abilities, and disabilities. Children learn tolerance when exposed to diversity and intolerance when they only see faces like their own. MCPS has not redistricted enough in the last decades, which allowed some schools to be considered more or less attractive. Parents who could afford to move flocked to the former and avoided the later, furthering the disparity and inequality of resources as parents of means volunteer and donate more. MCPS needs to redistrict more often to prevent the segregated pockets of that form when schools get reputations. I highly recommend that MCPS eliminate the current boundaries, wipe the slate clean, and start over - for all schools, while striving for diverse populations.</p>	<p>2019-04-05 17:15:33</p>
<p>I live in [REDACTED] and work at a middle school in [REDACTED]. My daughter will one day attend MCPS schools and I would welcome redrawing boundaries to support overcrowding and equity issues. Attending schools with students from all backgrounds is one of the greatest opportunities we can offer students here in MCPS- and by enabling archaic boundaries and systemic oppression, we are doing a grave disservice to ALL our students. Listen to the student voice in MCPS- we have some incredible rising leaders!</p>	<p>2019-04-06 07:47:11</p>
<p>1.In depth comparative analysis of factors like student work ethic, parental academic level, community participation with demographic of school population. To determine which factor has the highest correlation to academic achievement. 2.Explore and explain why and how MCPS forced integration by redrawing boundaries will have different outcome than P.G county's forced busing for 25 years with disastrous results,which was done to achieve the same goal of closing academic gap. 3.Explore local surgical fix , addressing community/ cluster specific needs as remediation compare to overall rezoning. 4.Address negative repercussions (stress for families,students, lack of parent involvement) of social alienation and increased geographic distances as a outcome of disrupting old clusters. 5. Access monetary cost compare to local fix with overall disruption due to boundary analysis 6. Account and document traffic related repercussions on families and environments due to distant schools.</p>	<p>2019-04-06 08:48:22</p>
<p>I am against this proposal. I do not want kids selected to go to different schools outside their neighborhoods. I live we're I live and pay high taxes so my kids can get the schools close by and that is the only reason I live here. It is unfair to take that away. Get better teachers in the poor neighborhood schools and solve the problem that way. Hire more teachers and staff for poor neighborhoods and improve their schools.</p>	<p>2019-04-06 09:04:03</p>
<p>The primary factors should be geographic proximity and school capacity and enrollment. I can understand avoiding overcrowding; however, making demographics the primary factor is 1970's busing all over again. That was a failed experiment then and will be failed experiment now. I can appreciate a desire for more diverse schools; however, many of the impacted kids have grown up in a community, are friends with kids in the area, play on common sports teams and many dual working families chose where they live based upon these factors along with proximity to their workplace. Forced diversity by moving kids, disrupting communities, adding to traffic congestion, reducing property values etc. in the name of demographics is only going to breed resentment and cause divisiveness. There is also no evidence ALL students will benefit despite the County's assertion otherwise. The school board should exhaust all other options before taking such a drastic step.</p>	<p>2019-04-06 13:30:08</p>
<p>Analysis should be limited to identifying whether existing school attendance boundaries should be modified to balance student populations in a way that addresses overcrowding.</p>	<p>2019-04-06 21:26:59</p>

<p>I'm writing to express my family's strong opposition to a proposed Montgomery County school boundary study. Most county families like ours make costly house purchases and location decisions based on school quality. We are not, and shouldn't be treated as, charities or pawns in advancing political agendas. If the board wants to improve underperforming schools, it should work with the families of their students and invest in them, not change school boundaries. Social engineering hasn't worked and won't work. In fact, it will have the opposite effect of the one intended, forcing many tax-paying families to move out of the county, leaving it in worse shape than before. My family, and many others we know, hope that common sense will prevail, but we are prepared to put our interests first should ill-advised decisions be made.</p>	<p>2019-04-07 12:21:35</p>
<p>Hi. I attended the first "community conversation" and i would like to note that unless you provide a representative from "MCPS" as opposed to a "boundary facilitator" it is difficult to engage in a conversation. As nice as the facilitator was she was not equipped to address any questions and the sense in the room was that this was unexpected and not a useful tool. There were numerous questions posed that could not be answered. 1. why are you doing this study; 2. if boundaries are changed would children already in a high school, for example, be "grandfathered" in. With a max of 150 words i cannot even adequately convey concerns here. Please re-assess how you are involving the community in this process. Thus far, it has been lacking.</p>	<p>2019-04-07 14:27:34</p>
<p>The scope of the inquiry should not simply focus on "the effective use of school facilities" because it is too limited. For example, buses are not "school facilities" but they are integral to the operation of the school system. If boundaries change, are there sufficient buses to transport students across the county? Is there sufficient budget to pay bus drivers additional salaries for longer drives? Consultants should also focus on federal funding. If boundaries change, how will Title I schools be affected? Can Montgomery County afford to make up for any federal funds lost because schools loose there Title I status? The practical aspects of boundary changes must be considered by the consultants in order for the results of the study to be useful.</p>	<p>2019-04-07 14:52:57</p>
<p>My [REDACTED] currently attends the private school where I work in Bethesda and my 4 year old attends a daycare housed inside [REDACTED] ES. I hope these boundary studies can first make use of any available space that currently exists. For example, some schools are overcrowded while others are under capacity. It makes sense to move the boundaries slightly to make sure students can still attend a neighborhood school with the same resources as every other school. The comments I have read so far in news articles have been blatantly racist and I hope MCPS does what is best for children and doesn't succumb to the wealthy folks speaking out in such a racist manner.</p>	<p>2019-04-07 18:24:11</p>
<p>Students need to attend their local/neighborhood schools. Proximity to schools allows students to develop bonds and build a sense of community. Please do not redraw the boundary lines and take this away from our children.</p>	<p>2019-04-07 18:26:00</p>
<p>Proximity to schools is of utmost importance. Students thrive in schools where parents are actively involved, promoting a community school. To ensure parents have the opportunity to get involved they need to be able to get to their child's school no matter their transportation circumstances. Please make sure that parents are actively involved in this boundary review.</p>	<p>2019-04-07 18:32:26</p>
<p>We are currently located much closer to the high school that is NOT the one we are assigned to. We believe that geographic proximity should be an overriding factor in school assignment. Furthermore, there should be flexibility allowed as there are always exceptions to the rules.</p>	<p>2019-04-07 21:35:03</p>
<p>Having students from one elementary school have to separate/feed into different middle schools has been very difficult for my children. They were separated from good friends which made the transition into middle school (which is a tough age anyway) very hard and affected their social/emotional growth as well as academic learning. I think you should look at having an entire elementary school feed into one middle school.</p>	<p>2019-04-07 22:52:36</p>
<p>I am disappointed that none of these meetings are taking place in down county silver spring, which has some of the highest concentrations of poverty. I am sure we'd like a say in our school boundaries too. I would also express concern that these meetings should have translators and school aged child care to make it easier for ALL parents to attend. MCPS parents should stop complaining about how their tax dollars entitle them to one specific school. FAPE is not tied to one school and we should redistrict to balance SES and reduce overcrowded.</p>	<p>2019-04-07 23:11:25</p>

<p>School boundary assessments should prioritize geographical proximity and stability. Students should be able to walk/bike to school whenever possible for exercise, environmental, and cohesiveness reasons. Schools often function as a neighborhood community space, and students expand and reinforce their social support network through their neighbors who attend school with them. Diversity and strength of educational programs is important for all of our schools, but putting the burden on students (and parents) by moving them to distant locations causing more congestion and disruption of social and neighborhood fabric is not the solution. We have the resources in our county to provide strong educational programs and incentivize great teachers at all schools without removing students from their neighborhood. Finally, for similar reasons, stability, continuity of education and social support networks is critical - once a family has purchased a home in a cluster they should be able to go to school there.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 10:14:44</p>
<p>The following should be done for your analysis: 1. Whether parents in the affected school districts like your idea of moving students around 2. Cost 3. Traffic impact on already crowded morning commute 4. Whether the shuffling violates any federal laws</p>	<p>2019-04-08 10:23:55</p>
<p>This analysis is an important first step in desegregating our schools. Currently, our schools appear very segregated by race and class. I was horrified to see other people in Montgomery County rally against this analysis and effectively against school integration--I thought we were all on the same page that segregation is bad for everyone. I'm a white mom of white kids who will be entering MCPS in the next few years and I strongly believe we need to adjust boundaries to integrate our schools and help equalize opportunities in the county. I see no need to hoard resources for my white kids keep their schools predominantly white schools. Please do the right thing and support this analysis and all future opportunities to integrate our schools. White parents fought against integration back in the 1960s and administrators did the right thing and did it anyway, please do the same now.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 10:49:20</p>
<p>One of the most important things in our area is proximity. Our children have to be close to their schools; the traffic is so bad in our area that asking parents to come get kids/drop kids off (not all kids will be on the bus all the time) from farther away is bad for families and will exacerbate this area's traffic problems. Furthermore, many families moved to the Maryland suburbs just north of DC because we are walkers and bikers; my family of four has just one car. We walk and bike all the time. My kids walk and bike to school. To put kids farther from home where it is less safe or not safe at all to bike is bad for kids and again bad for families.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 11:34:22</p>
<p>I am the parent of three children under the age of 11 and I live at [REDACTED]. The number one reason for purchasing my home was to ensure my children had the opportunity to attend Hoover and Churchill. I will not support any initiative that redirects or redistricts my existing schools. Sincerely, [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-04-08 11:38:46</p>
<p>A boundary study is a good idea. There are many new constructions (high rise apartments, condos, townhouses, and single family homes) are being built all over the county. The boundary study must include not only the current student enrollment but also more realistic projected increase in student enrollment due to new constructions in each of the boundaries. While I agree inequity exists in MCPS schools, I do not believe that busing students out of their homes would solve the problem. The underlying issue is the social-economic differences within the county. Affluent students would still do well in general even if they get bused out of their homeschool because their parents have the resources, time, and connections to support their children.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 11:50:49</p>
<p>For many reasons, I believe the school assignment changes (bussing students out of their neighborhood school) will not be beneficial for MoCo. Only one reason being the money used to bus the students could be used to improve schools that need help. There are a multitude of reasons that will be brought up during community conversations.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 12:38:45</p>
<p>The analysis should consider how to maximize support for Black & Latinx students. This could include intentionally creating racially-diverse student bodies.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 12:45:05</p>

<p>BOE, it would be in your best interest to keep communities together, as a parent I want my children, and frankly all children staying close to their homes. The emotional stability created by a sense of belonging has a far greater impact on an individual than a more rigorous academic program. Spending our time "commuting" students is wasteful in both time and financial resources. This treats children as products to be fixed rather than persons to see thrive. Let's work at supporting schools that need more support and encouraging the local community to reach out and help where help is needed. Fred Rogers was wise, "Look for the helpers." I find this study wasteful, please get back to the business of supporting our schools, staff and students by placing the leadership needed in the hands of the local community.</p> <p>From, parent in the Sherwood Cluster</p>	<p>2019-04-08 13:23:43</p>
<p>Our family is very concerned about children being bussed and transported to schools which are NOT their most nearby, neighborhood schools. This would have a detrimental effect on children's sleep. As it is, children are getting less sleep than they need and many schools already start too early. Further lack of sleep will consequently create more stress, health problems, social and academic difficulties.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 15:29:24</p>
<p>Racial and socio-economic equity in education should be a major focus of the county school system. Resources should be distributed in such a way to decrease the achievement gap between students of color and white students, as well as between schools in different areas of the county. If boundary changes move us in a more equitable direction, they should absolutely be considered, and this should be a focus of the work of the consultants.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 16:09:49</p>
<p>I am parent to a rising [REDACTED] at Rachel Carson Elementary (with another child who will enroll there in [REDACTED]). Rachel Carson is overcrowded and extremely lacking in diversity. I welcome a boundary adjustment to diversify schools and hopefully lessen overcrowding. I support the in-depth review and a boundary adjustment, if feasible. Diversity should be an overarching goal in all of this - but no children should be forced to be bussed to a school that's too far from their home. Admittedly, I have no idea what "too far" means. I would like to see the under resourced schools made even with over resourced schools - there shouldn't be such a disparity among schools in our county.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 17:37:36</p>
<p>Instead of causing major disruption in terms of busing children out of their local schools, how about allocating more funds for the schools where achievement levels are below par? Busing doesn't solve the problem. The under achieving children won't necessarily perform better in a different school district. It's the academic services that make the difference, beginning with all day pre-k. Once you start busing, property values will decrease, thereby lowering taxes and in turn, diminishing the amount of money that goes to MCPS. Keep that in mind. Some county executives are already shortchanging MCPS. We don't need less funding for our schools, but more.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 17:38:19</p>
<p>Perhaps most important is the influence of children's out-of-school social and economic conditions, which predict academic outcomes to a far greater extent than what goes on in the classroom. Money would be better spent figuring out why students are underperforming than spending money trying to figure out how to move a few students around. These experiments have been tried a number of times and based on the results, they don't seem to result in the desired improvement for all.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 18:28:54</p>
<p>I don't agree of changing school boundaries in the future, it will have very bad impacts on our kids, the school qualities, the house values, and even the traffic in Montgomery County. Also not good for student's everything! It's really bad idea!</p>	<p>2019-04-08 19:59:18</p>
<p>Kids should go to the school that is closest to them, for many reasons. Students and parents can be more involved in activities and the school community when it is in their neighborhood. Spending time on a bus or in a car increases time away from school and from home. It also increases congestion on our streets and adds to air pollution and carbon emissions. Families that do not have cars, or who live too far away to deal with evening traffic, will be less involved in activities. To increase parent involvement in children's education (which increases success) sending children to the closest school makes the most sense. Children need free time to exercise, read, get jobs, and do homework. Nobody wants a long commute. If adults wouldn't voluntarily switch from a 10 minute commute to a 40 minute commute, we shouldn't ask our kids to do it.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 20:16:33</p>

<p>I'm a parent of 3 kids who go to MCPS. I strongly object the proposal of changing school boundaries to increase student diversity. We moved to Potomac from northern Virginia 10 years ago because of the high quality of public schools in the area. I cannot imagine that my kids have to take long bus trips to go to schools in communities we are not familiar with and will take all measures to prevent this situation (including moving out of Montgomery county. As an economist, I'm certain that this solution will not be effective in long run. It will only destroy this currently successful public school system in Montgomery county. The housing price will drop and the financial and in-kind support to public schools will be largely reduced. Such a proposal is naïve and damaging though it may mean a good intention.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 20:47:29</p>
<p>I do NOT my children sent to a school that is far from our home. We live within walking distance to both Pyle MS and Whitman HS and I expect my children to go there. It would be EXTREMELY upsetting for my boys to have developed a bond and made all these friends only to have them torn away from their friends and have to go to a new school not even near us. I expect the right thing will be done and kids will be able to go to school where they live.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 20:57:54</p>
<p>Changing school boundaries is a terrible idea. Please do not waste the school system's money on this proposal. I do not want my children bused across the county to attend school.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 21:42:41</p>
<p>I support the effort to re-evaluate the boundaries of Montgomery County schools to improve equity, better distribute resources among racial and economic groups, reduce segregation, and reduce overcrowding of schools. There are substantial differences in achievement of racial and economic groups in Montgomery County caused by segregation and uneven distribution of resources. In particular, I support and encourage the Board to listen to the students of color who are speaking up about their experiences so that we can learn and make Montgomery County schools better for all of our students.</p>	<p>2019-04-08 22:58:04</p>
<p>It is beyond frustrating to me that the folks in high performing schools in the western part of the county want to build a firewall around their school privilege. They have raised millions and closed rank in order to protect their own advantages, and MCPS has let them get away with this for so long it now seems set in stone. When will the kowtowing to folks with money end? Mixing students from poorer areas into wealthier schools is a proven solution to help disadvantaged students close the achievement gap. And it's good for the advantaged ones, as well; they get a chance to embrace diversity, learn from differences, and even live their morals. Open up the boundaries, stretch them, get rid of them.</p>	<p>2019-04-09 08:04:13</p>
<p>There are many ways to address resource inequity between schools in a such a wonderful county. Any major boundary changes or the notion of desegregation busing will create long term ramifications and an overall negative impact to families and the children we are serving. Do not let such a progressive and forward thinking county fall victim to over-correcting the issue at hand. If polled, I would believe that the children will likely choose to remain within their geographic boundaries with their community and friendships fostered over many years. Any major changes will not only adversely affect family/life balance for parents and children, it will negatively impact extracurricular activities, traffic congestion and overall communities. Please listen to the parents who are trying to find an alternative solution as to avoid over-swinging the pendulum. Let's find a way to properly stock and resource schools to create an equitable education for all.</p>	<p>2019-04-09 09:17:30</p>
<p>I attended the Upper County Boundary study meeting on April 8th at Northwest HS. I have a concern about the online survey submissions. From the MCPS speakers, it was stated that any survey submissions from the same IP address would only be counted once. The Director explained if 2 parents and a student lived in the same house, the survey submission would only be counted once. She suggested that we go to a neighbor's house to submit the survey so a different IP address would be recorded. Later in the night, she suggested we go to the library to submit the survey, and the upcoming survey as well. That is also problematic. If 50 community members do the survey at the library, it would only be counted once. Please fix this problem, so multiple members of a family can submit the survey. Perhaps counting responses by email addresses.</p>	<p>2019-04-09 10:41:20</p>
<p>There is absolutely NO reason to waste money and personnel re\$ources on revisiting boundaries. Doesn't MCPS waste enough money on initiatives and political correctness (Equity, anyone??) Let's spend that money on KIDS. Reduce class size, so I don't have 35 kids in my 8th grade class.</p>	<p>2019-04-09 13:08:16</p>

<p>We don't want any changes to the current school and cluster boundaries. Our family moved to our current home from Costa Rica last year, our main criteria when deciding where to live was the school our 6 year old daughter would be attending. This year our family made an incredible effort to purchase a home, our main criteria again was our daughter: keeping her in the same school to reduce the sense of loss she's already experienced. We have plans to stay in this house the rest of our lives, we have invested every single penny we had in this house, and acquired a 30 year mortgage. We don't want any changes to the school boundaries because it would negatively impact our life long investment, and also, because of our daughter. It's been hard enough for her to make new friends, to know the place where she now belongs to</p>	<p>2019-04-09 15:22:33</p>
<p>I think redistricting to allow for a more equitable education for all is the answer. I am one of those white parents who live in a more affluent area, and I think diversifying will benefit my child.</p>	<p>2019-04-09 16:25:59</p>
<p>I am frustrated by the way some boundaries inhibit non-vehicular transportation to school (My children currently attend Forest Knolls ES). I would like to see MCPS take into account how students get to school when drawing boundaries, and draw them in a way that fosters transportation of all types and modes. I think MCPS has done pretty well promoting diversity, so please keep that as a priority as well.</p>	<p>2019-04-09 20:55:40</p>
<p>I'm the parent of two former students in MOCO as well. Please don't waste the taxpayer's money on social engineering.</p>	<p>2019-04-09 21:07:23</p>
<p>Racial & Socioeconomic disparity in current boundaries and it's effect on achievement should be the highest priority. Current pockets of poverty in schools. Research related to heterogeneity of student population and it's effect on student achievement. Current boundaries result in increasing segregation of non-white, low economic students resulting in lower achievement in those schools. Grandparent of 6 children who live in Montgomery County .</p>	<p>2019-04-09 21:50:48</p>
<p>I would like to see more diversity and equal distribution of higher need kids (ELL, economically disadvantaged, SPED) across the district. However, I think that is better done by diversifying communities. School assignment should be based on proximity, and each school needs to have the resources to serve all its students. I don't want my child to spend a lot of time on a bus when there is a school only 2 miles away. That's time she could spend playing outside, practicing an instrument, or in other productive activities. Also, magnet programs should be distributed more evenly throughout the district. We live in Olney, and if we were to send our child to a [REDACTED], she would have an hour long bus ride each way. There are enough schools in our section of the county to justify adding a [REDACTED] to one.</p>	<p>2019-04-10 11:25:20</p>
<p>It's well known that the county is experiencing a surge (and stress) on our local school system. Different communities in the county will have different needs and priorities in the school. However, (at least in the down county consortium) our schools have a great deal of economic diversity & would benefit from more schools, better resources within each school (nurses!!!), and more immersion programs which appeal to parents.</p>	<p>2019-04-10 13:05:44</p>
<p>I support analyzing the boundaries and re-calibrating things so we have more diverse schools. Kids educated in a bubble cannot contribute as positively to society and lack a comprehensive education.</p>	<p>2019-04-10 13:07:54</p>
<p>I support the idea of obtaining outside guidance on how best to assign students to schools in a manner that will be beneficial to all students. I think the study should focus on achieving small class sizes, equitable distribution of resources (including consideration of supplements granted by PTAs and "Foundations"), and maintaining (and creating) adequate school facilities. I think the study should include an attempt to balance socioeconomic diversity across the county, so that no schools have a high concentration of poverty. I'm concerned that even well-intentioned attempts to create racially diverse schools could be challenged in the courts and ultimately be unsuccessful. I have more hope that changing boundaries to achieve socioeconomic diversity would be defensible.</p>	<p>2019-04-10 13:48:11</p>
<p>I am not for the redistricting the Montgomery County School areas. We moved into our home 19 years ago to make sure we could be in a good district. We will not be pushed to make our kids to go to a lesser school. We do not have money to put our kids in private school should this happen either. We have paid taxes and are owed a SAFE school for our teenagers. This is not an option. You should be investing in students by reducing class size, increasing funding and support, and committing to students going to school within their neighborhood communities. The community in which they were born and raised in their entire lives. Not acceptable for us to get penalized. Mother [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-04-10 14:19:10</p>

<p>I think it's vital that Montgomery County continue to lead the way in pushing for racial equity as our nation grapples with its racialized past and the legacy thereof which continues to this day. Study the reporting of Nikole Hannah-Jones on educational integration and the continuing housing segregation that forms the framework for these discussions. Continue to lift up the underprivileged by awarding the smallest class sizes to those students who need the most help. Tip those ratios even further in a justice-seeking direction. Close the achievement gap in our county. Send some of Montgomery County's budget to counties with fewer resources. Raise my taxes and expand the class sizes of my two white, economically comfortable children if necessary. This is my vision for leveling the playing field. Best wishes for wisdom and discernment throughout this process. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-04-10 14:44:01</p>
<p>There are four additional factors or perhaps nuances that I believe are important to consider: 1) Cost of living in neighborhoods as this will affect both students and staff and thus affect staffing and student breakdown 2) Cost of justly funding schools: A school with a higher needs population will require more staff and more rooms and thus may need a smaller boundary. 3) The needs of the community: Schools need to be a part of the community and used by all the community. How can boundaries and schools be set up to support and enhance a community? 4) How can boundaries be established to promote diversity? Geography of a student is determined by economic factors which are inherently unjust and discriminatory. Thank you, [REDACTED] Teacher and parent</p>	<p>2019-04-10 14:55:31</p>
<p>This should be called what it is and that is BUSING. We are all for improving the quality of education for all students in the County however forcible shifting some kids from a higher performing school to a lower performing school or to "balance demographics" will do nothing to improve quality of education for the individual student. Yes it may bring the overall all test scores up in some of the receiving schools but is that really the point? I would rather see the Board work to improve the quality of education for the students. I see this issue as being very divisive for the County while achieving nothing to better the quality of education. How much is this study costing and would that money not be better spent on teacher salaries? Or adding more teachers?</p>	<p>2019-04-10 16:07:28</p>
<p>I implore the Board to consider the importance of community within school boundaries. I attended Paint Branch High School in 1994. When I graduated, the school was very diverse with most ethnic groups represented fairly equally. I think this is important. I loved growing up in a diverse school and learned a lot. However, after I left, the county moved Paint Branch (PB) into a Down County Consortium, which ended up being a mistake. The consortium, allowed kids to participate in "school choice" As a result, the sense of community was gone. For families in Burtonsville one might decide to go the Blake, while the other chooses to attend PB. I feel that it would be best to maintain/rebuild the strong sense of community by focusing on the new lines by investing in students, increasing salaries for teachers as an incentive for under-performing schools and working to reduce class size.</p>	<p>2019-04-10 16:10:51</p>
<p>The boundaries need to be reevaluated on a regular basis, and adjusted as necessary. If this became the practice, then the norm would become that boundaries will change as needed at any time. The curriculum is the same in every school. My view is that geography is the most important criteria. We have one child who endured long bus rides for 5 years as part of the [REDACTED] Program, and I regret that we did that too him. He is glad to be able to walk to his local high school, and we are glad to have him close to home again. I would rank student demographics last. In our very diverse county you can't predict demographics based on where people live, so just let it be what it is. There are rich people in apartments and condos and poor people in single family homes from all different backgrounds.</p>	<p>2019-04-10 17:09:35</p>
<p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide my thoughts/opinions on the Boundary Analysis. If MCPS is truly committed to diversity, equity, inclusion and equality for ALL students , it must analyze the root causes such as institutional racism, the effects of segregationist laws on the school system, how the school curriculum fails to promote inclusion and diversity, teacher bias, etc... I think the Boundary Analysis only touches the surface of the required analysis. MCPS MUST GO DEEPER! A holistic approach taking into account the perspectives of ALL stakeholders involved is a MUST if we are to make the changes needed for ALL children to have access to a good education and opportunities in Montgomery County. Community conversations should be held in more centrally located venues like in downtown Silver Spring. They should be easily accessible by ALL. Thanks, [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-04-10 20:13:21</p>

Geographic proximity should be #1 priority as no student should be subjected to a bus ride of more than 30 min either to/from school. This timeframe is very close to the average commute for workers in the greater DC area.	2019-04-10 20:23:25
As a retired MCPS employee, resident of Montgomery County and now grandparent of students attending MCPS, I think monies would be better spent on smaller class sizes, teacher training or better yet increased salaries for teachers than busing children out of their neighborhoods. Neighborhood schools are important for relationships.	2019-04-10 22:00:14
I think it is unfair that the kids in my neighborhood are forced to be bussed to schools far away from our fallsgrove neighborhood when we are walking distance to Lakewood elementary and wootton. It would save time and money to have them walk to schools close by.	2019-04-10 22:53:55
One of the primary reasons that our family chose to live in Montgomery County and to send our children to public schools is because of the rich diversity of the area. While I recognize that determining school boundaries is a difficult process and may require many of us to weather challenging changes, I support integrated schools with diverse student bodies and equitable opportunities for all students. I want my children to grow up in relationship with other students who are different from them in many ways. I want all students to have the opportunity to learn and thrive. I want to find ways to equitably distribute resources across all schools. I support the process of looking at school boundaries from an objective viewpoint so that students of all backgrounds, races, and socio-economic classes receive the best education possible.	2019-04-11 07:34:33
Keep children and teens in their own neighborhoods, save the money on bussing. BOE and MCPS have wasted enough money and time; go back to basics and focus on the children. Be smart with the monies because every year the student count is underestimated and that has huge trickle effects. Bring specialized programs to all schools not just schools down county. If someone wants to go to another school because it is a magnet or CES, then it is on them or public transportation. Putting the CES/ELC classes in every ES will cut cost and allow minority's and sea to participate thus giving you more traction to schools to focus on the children MCPS is leaving behind. Fix the achievement gaps earlier then bussing and redistrict is mute.	2019-04-11 07:51:34
Hi, I have a ■ grader at Sligo Creek. We moved to Silver Spring back in 2002 because we wanted to live in a diverse community, and because we liked the schools. Since that time our high school has been changed to a school farther away, and a line drawn down the street separating our son from his friends. Fortunately we can afford to move before our ■ reaches high school age, but not everyone has that ability. Keep in mind that motivated parents vote with their feet and live near schools they like. Every time you redraw the lines you are just adjusting property values, and the parents are left playing musical chairs with housing. If you really want to make a difference make sure the same level of resources and funding is available for all county schools, and that class sizes are adjusted based on student's needs. ■	2019-04-11 08:30:18
I think its a good idea to revisit the school boundaries. For example it seems crazy that the former schools that fed into the Blair high school actually go to Northwood, 4 miles to the North of Blair. There's significant turnover occurring in the family homes in the urban corridor and more families are staying in the apartment complexes that suggests, due to changing society, that its worth revisiting.	2019-04-11 08:38:31
I trust that MCPS will approach this entire process with great care given that many families have made strategic decisions to live where they do, and oftentimes with having to sacrifice a lot in order to afford their housing. MCPS should only consider changing school boundaries to ease overcrowding issues, and not try to address the continuing achievement gaps through this process. I support closing the gap and devoting additional resources to underperforming schools, but changing school boundaries will not solve this problem.	2019-04-11 09:01:59
This is an opportunity for current school board members to take a courageous look at painful truths. I applaud the decision to do so carefully and mindfully. I believe the consultant(s) should be asked to look at: how the concentration of FARMS/ ESOL/ frequently mobile students in schools impacts individual and aggregate student achievement, staff morale and mobility, property values, longitudinal outcomes such as future income and health (the data's already out there, they would just be collecting and summarizing) and examine a variety of models for reducing these concentrations. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication!	2019-04-11 10:55:36

<p>I am a teacher, parent, and former student of MCPS. When buying a home we decided on Montgomery County over nearby counties because of the schools and only looked at certain high school districts. Our neighborhood feeds into our neighborhood elementary school and I love the sense of community that comes with it. Yesterday my child was in an accident while on the bus going to school and it was my neighbors that I relied on while I was at work with my own classroom. We chose our location based on the programs that the local school has to offer and I do not want that taken away from me. Our current elementary school is over crowded and boundaries need to be adjusted and that may mean for our neighborhood to move schools, but I do not want it to be changed outside of our cluster.</p>	<p>2019-04-11 11:52:34</p>
<p>I believe the study should focus on addressing these two issues: 1. Montgomery County Public Schools are segregated by race and class and creating diverse student populations should be a goal of the school system. We should be working towards closing the achievement gap. 2. Many schools are over crowded and the boundary study could look at ways to ease some of the crowding. School crowding is key issue for housing development opponents, if crowding can be addressed that will help pave the way for the development of more affordable housing.</p>	<p>2019-04-11 13:39:29</p>
<p>Dear Board of Education, I strongly oppose the bussing of students to schools outside of their local neighborhood schools. I would encourage the analysis to focus on how the BOE can better invest in students by reducing class size, increasing funding and support, and committing to students going to school within their neighborhood communities. Thank you, [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-04-11 13:57:30</p>
<p>I love that our school is a neighborhood school. It serves the children to have their school locally, not only because long bus rides with limited supervision increase the likelihood of bullying and bad choices, but also because long bus rides derail sleep/rest time. Neighborhood schools encourage collaboration between a school and the needs of the community and provide a better "village" atmosphere to engage all the adults in the well-being of the students and schools far beyond their own children's promotions. A far more effective and well-researched tool to improve MCPS is that classes, particularly in elementary school, should not exceed 18 students with less in schools with high proportion of disadvantaged students. MCPS would do far-greater good for the students to substantially drop class sizes and increase resources for quality teachers, which has been proven in study after study instead of spending resources on bussing with mixed results.</p>	<p>2019-04-11 14:19:47</p>
<p>I would like to see the analysis examine school boundaries that contain a non-contiguous neighborhood and are geographically closer to another school, and assess whether these need to be reassigned. For example, the Arcola Elementary School boundary contains an area near Glenmont that is geographically separate from the rest of the Arcola ES boundary, and is actually closer to Highland ES. I would also like the analysis to look at schools where there is a majority of ESL learners and assess whether the boundaries for these schools need to be redrawn to create a more diverse student body. Current research shows that all students benefit when there is racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic diversity in a school. I imagine in the past there may have been efforts to consolidate ESL learners so that resources could be concentrated in those schools, but I believe that is an outdated concept in education policy.</p>	<p>2019-04-11 15:10:51</p>
<p>Geographic proximity should be the base for the school boundaries. Geographic proximity has a dramatic effect on children's academic participation and performance. Geographic proximity significantly increases enrollment and test scores amongst all children. Criteria should be to have common program, testing not moving student away from the school close to home. Diversity is not just about race and income but it is personality, work style, religion, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, having a disability, socioeconomic level, educational attainment, and general life experience. Good education starts from home not school. If students are doing better in some school it is due to parents involvements not the school or the Neighborhood! We do not want to pay more taxes for endless analysis and consulting. this is only cosmetic change and does not fix the housing and income equality. Every person is different and that by itself brings diversity. Thanks, [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-04-11 16:30:51</p>

<p>Montgomery County is already such a large place, having high schools serve localized areas helps to improve community engagement. Keeping boundaries so that students can attend a high school in their local community, closest to their home, should be a top priority. This helps the student to be invested in their local community and for the local community to be invested in the local school. The focus of the analysis should be on how to minimize disruptions to current high school boundaries. Moving boundaries of primary and middle schools within cluster boundaries in order to more effectively use school facilities should be the primary focus.</p>	2019-04-11 16:35:17
<p>As a research professional, I am concerned about the selection criteria of a boundary study consultant, the objectives/scope/guidance they are issued (including constituent concerns), and the prescribed execution process. Where is this information? Is the Board committed to hiring an experienced consultancy that will conduct a scientifically-based study (rigorous, systematic, objective), or rather will one be sought that espouses a certain opinion, outlook or predetermined ideology? Key to any study is how the scope of work is presented to a consultant. How will the scope factors be defined? How will they be weighted? What data is to be used? What guidelines or practical considerations will the Board impose on the consultant when they are to deliver recommendations - any at all? The Board is responsible and accountable for setting the proper scope, limitations, and process for this important study if it is to be considered legitimate and valid.</p>	2019-04-11 18:31:09
<p>As a parent of two children who have graduated from the MCPS system, I suggest that instead of redrawing boundary lines, the county needs to invest in students by reducing class size, increasing funding and support, and committing to students going to school within their neighborhood communities. Many people buy homes in Montgomery County for our excellent schools and so their children can go to schools in their own neighborhoods! Redistricting is not the answer. Thank you!</p>	2019-04-12 01:00:32
<p>I do not understand what boundaries are being reconsidered. We specifically bought a home for the schools (and paid for that too!) We are Bradley Hills, Pyle, Whitman, and I do not want my children going anywhere else. Thank you.</p>	2019-04-12 06:39:47
<p>I'm in the Sherwood HS Cluster and I understand one county representative said she usually doesn't hear from the Sherwood Cluster. At yesterday's meeting I understand is that that one idea generated is to include Sherwood HS into one of the County Consortiums. My desire is Sherwood HS would be a part of the Northeast Consortium which includes Blake, Paintbranch, and Springbrook.)</p>	2019-04-12 09:32:26
<p>There are so many rumors as to busing kids. We know this does not work. Take a look at PG County. It's simply intellectual laziness to consider busing if there is any truth to these rumors. Give the underperforming schools the resources they need. To frame this as a diversity issue is a cop out. I have worked in affluent schools as well as a Title I high school in California. No child should be highjacked from his/her community to "diversify" schools. I would like to be able to get to athletic games, theater productions, etc... This will not happen if you pull kids from their communities. This all sounds like social engineering to me.</p>	2019-04-12 19:21:38
<p>I have to say: is this study necessary? spending money on this instead of using the fund on the actual MCPS system to improve students and teachers's experience, it sounds like waste of tax money. My expereince with MCPS is the school can always use the extra fund to improve the school system, so use this fund on the schools and students. I'm not supporting doing this study. Some school might have capacity issues, but can the Board suggest using the limited fund on building a new High School, or cancel the GT program to use Richard Montgomery as the over flow school?</p>	2019-04-12 20:15:31
<p>I do not support to use the tax payer's money on this unnecessary study. use the fund on the kids and school instead. Every school can use the extra fund to fund additional programs to benefit students.</p>	2019-04-12 20:17:54
<p>I do not support this study. First of all, it's a waste of tax money. The fund can totally be used on education purpose, on the schools and students; Second of all, the current schools in Montgomery county are already very diversified, there's no need to "diversify" more, there might be slight difference in different schools, but overall, the county is very well diversified, and so the students body in schools; Third, casually destroy the school boundary will mess up the housing price in Montgomery County, and will cause economic consequence in the future. Nobody want to see Montgomery county decline further just because some members of the Board wants to "diversify".</p>	2019-04-12 20:29:31

<p>Why we have to waste tax money to do a boundary study again? Now, no schools are happy with students enrollment rate, school culture, and all of the schools are already very much diversified. I don't understand "diversify" means in this study, if you look at the demographic data in scgools, most of the them have almost 50% minority, which means "diversity". To solve the capacity issue, maybe can consider build a new high school.</p>	<p>2019-04-12 20:37:22</p>
<p>I don't support the boudary study for the following reasons: 1. Waste of tax money, the fund can be re-directed to support school and students 2. The current high schools in MC are very diversified, there is no need to put "diversify" on the priority list 3. Massing up with school boundary will mass up the housing price in MC, that would be a disaster... we don't want to see MC to decline further...</p>	<p>2019-04-12 20:41:40</p>
<p>I am concerned the process will not capture the voices of parents, who did not attend college. There are no meeting during weekends. MCPS is sending ConnectEd messages to parents. However, Connect Ed contact information is unverified. Staff does not verify the database year to year, or each time a parent/family moves. A 2017 Pew Research Center article by Aaron Smith, https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/01/12/evolution-of-technology/, states "those who have not graduated from high school are nearly three times less likely than college graduates to have home broadband service (34% vs. 91%)." A Pew Internet/Broadband Fact Sheet, https://www.pewinternet.org/fact-sheet/internet-broadband/, dated February 5, 2018, includes charts that show broadband adoption by race, income, and education. I ask the reach of ConnectEd be verified so that MCPS knows the penetration of ConnectEd; a person-to-person system of contact be adopted in communities without broadband; and the use of cell phones as the communications platform.</p>	<p>2019-04-13 10:07:41</p>
<p>It is hard to believe MCPS is planning to spend still more taxpayer money on "consultants." Even after reading the resolution, it is impossible to say how the consultant's "work" will add meaningfully to the decisionmaking process. Any amount of money spent on this is too much.</p>	<p>2019-04-13 14:38:37</p>
<p>Former Sherwood HS student, current parent of SHS student, child of SHS grad, and I am VEHEMENTLY opposed to Sherwood belonging to a cluster. We visited this issue a few decades ago and the community resoundingly said that they wanted OUR kids to go to OUR school! I still stand by that belief and will oppose any vote that says otherwise and will absolutely, unequivocally vote out anyone who votes in favor of adding Sherwood to the consortium.</p>	<p>2019-04-13 17:41:30</p>
<p>I believe in equitable education for all. I think it is a good idea MCPS is undertaking a study to analyze our county's patterns and needs. The one concern I have is that for our family, I would not want to change my childrens' schools as they have established friendships and familiarity with their school community. We moved to the area for this very reason and it took our kids a long time to adjust and make new friends. I would not want that to be upended for them. This is my concern as their parent.</p>	<p>2019-04-13 19:28:05</p>
<p>Hi, I am writing to convey that from my perspective, geographic proximity is incredibly important. The reality of this area is that the roads are very congested, and our children should spend the least amount of time in transit to/from school. To me, this is by far the single most important factor. Thanks, [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-04-13 21:59:50</p>
<p>I am concerned that due to politics and the big role that they play in our lives , I think it's important for this committee to disclose the political party for anyone on this project. I think it's ridiculous to Bus kids from luxmanor to Silver Spring or vice versa. I think that everything that goes along with it is ridiculous. I don't want my kids having friends that live 30 minutes away. Women work, hello. Also my son's job is very important and he needs to be there right after school. Lastly I think the above committee needs to be made up of half Democrats and half Republicans.</p>	<p>2019-04-14 23:48:01</p>
<p>I think the consultants should review all school boundaries to address issues such as overcrowding in schools as well as socioeconomic and racial diversity in every cluster. It would be important for the consultants to analyze how changing the boundaries will impact either positively or negatively the future budget of the school system. For example, can an increase in transportation allocation offset the need for future construction? Or would construction costs be a better long term solution to address overcrowding at some of the county schools? I am also an advocate for changing boundaries so there is greater diversity in communities that have become unrepresentative of the county as a whole. Socioeconomic and racial diversity provides human connections for students. Greater diversity allows for students to become more sensitive and empathetic as they develop a broader understanding of perspectives that may differ from their own family's experiences.</p>	<p>2019-04-15 09:34:21</p>

<p>This study is long overdue. My twins will be starting in the fall at an elementary school that is 50% white, 10% ESOL, and 10% FARMS. One of their friends who lives 1.2 miles away will be going to a school that's <5% white, 65% ESOL, and 90% FARMS. The two schools are about 2 miles apart. Surely we can do better to integrate our schools, even without long-distance busing. I'd like the study to address the crowding that has led to a housing construction moratorium in the areas we most want to see growth - our transit-rich downtowns. And I'd like to see recommendations for a process of regular study and adjustment of boundaries. It shouldn't take so much community activism to revisit boundaries last studied 25 years ago - the process should be more frequent and routine so things don't get so out of whack.</p>	<p>2019-04-15 14:07:44</p>
<p>We are in the Whitman district and would love to see boundaries enable MORE PEOPLE OF COLOR in our cluster! (In addition to many more initiatives to welcome and support people of color to feel safe in our cluster).</p>	<p>2019-04-15 14:13:47</p>
<p>I look forward to the analysis. As it stands, the current shift in demography in communities in the northern part of the county have been met with resistance along socioeconomic lines. In a county as culturally and racially diverse as ours, we need to make sure that our schools are reflective of that and aren't segregated. Our community works best when we understand and appreciate our differences.</p>	<p>2019-04-15 19:57:22</p>
<p>I am in support of balancing class sizes and school resources across Montgomery County. Smaller classes, a diverse student body, and teachers that have the resources they need all make for a better learning environment for all children. My primary concern in redistricting is transportation. Students who must spend long hours on a bus to get to and from school are often unable to get the sleep, nutrition, exercise, and community they also need to thrive. Please make sure that your redistricting proposal is sensitive to the challenges of busing and does everything possible to balance schools within communities so that children can grown, learn, and thrive where they live.</p>	<p>2019-04-16 10:08:10</p>
<p>The analysis should focus on the long term needs of the county. Specifically, proposed changes to existing boundaries should be made with enough notice (i.e. more than 1 year) to allow families the opportunity to move to a different school district if they do not want to be in the new district assigned to them. Similarly, once changes are made, they should be set for a long period of time (i.e. 20 years), so that families can reliably know which school(s) their children will attend for their entire K-12 education in the county. Although there may be emphasis placed on accounting for new students moving into the county into newly constructed homes, I would also appreciate if the analysis could study how any potential changes to boundaries might impact existing MCPS families, and the possibility that such families may choose to move to a different residence within the County.</p>	<p>2019-04-16 11:02:20</p>
<p>I do think it's necessary to conduct a county-wide study to assess the current boundaries and potentially redraw them. Please make our schools more diverse. The kids need it. The families need it. Our community needs it. I'm looking forward to having my children attend Middle and High Schools with a more diverse population as it will prepare them for the future and enrich their perspective of our community. My children go to Laytonsville and my sole concern for the schools that they are sent to is the transportation time on the buses. The bus ride from Laytonsville to Gaithersburg Middle and Gaithersburg High School are both upwards of 40 minutes each way, which is a ridiculous amount of time for my children to be on a bus. If the boundaries aren't redrawn, but transportation routes are redone (and thus travel times are reduced), I'd be satisfied with that outcome.</p>	<p>2019-04-16 13:26:45</p>
<p>Thank you for undertaking this analysis. A few thoughts as you proceed: 1. Boundary assessments should be periodic; once every 5-10 years. Populations, demographics, and needs change. No one in MoCo should feel entitled to a certain school or another. Living in the county provides one ticket of equal value for every child (also of equal value) to attend "a" public school (of equal value) within MCPS. This should be an equitable public school system, not a hierarchy of privilege and opportunity. 2. What are best practices to create equal opportunity in other districts? How do consortia and special programs factor in to creating equity, building community? 3. Survey students -- how far are they willing to travel for a special program? 4. Please provide cost estimates associated with various scenarios. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	<p>2019-04-16 17:43:49</p>

<p>Schools are one of the few institutions in the county and in the U.S. where it might even be possible to build true community across boundaries of race and class. To do so, however, requires that we confront the ongoing history of the social reproduction of privilege through schools, and work to undo it. While the steps taken were far from what was necessary, Montgomery County in the 1970s began to tackle these issues as it set school boundaries. More recently, though, we have seen a sort of willed amnesia coupled with a reluctance to listen to the voices of students about the deleterious impact of the re-creation of segregation. Any analysis of these set of issues has to be rooted in history and push the boundaries of future discussion beyond what some might consider prudent.</p>	<p>2019-04-16 21:31:28</p>
<p>Westland Middle School should be an option to the surrounding neighborhood for those students who could walk there at a reasonable time and not need to wake up early just dor a busride to distant Pyle.</p>	<p>2019-04-16 23:04:49</p>
<p>Students in Takoma Park are at a disadvantage if we want walkable schools for our students. What's more, our middle Elementary School (Piney Branch) is overcrowded with LOCAL students, and our Middle School is crowded with out-of-boundary Magnet students, busing in from all over the county to a program that SHOULD be made available to more students (why push a few students, when you can inspire them all?). I'd love to see empty schools in Takoma Park be refashioned into new school space for our local students. Can we change the Adventist Hospital space and turn it into a new high school?</p>	<p>2019-04-17 11:41:56</p>
<p>Parent of former MCPS student. Served on the all-county PTA and also on a boundary committee for the Germantown cluster. The Gaithersburg cluster is an example of bad boundaries set up for ethnic balance, maybe. These consultants should look into clusters where the children have to walk past a school to get to their own school. Or like in Gaithersburg where the students in Saybrooke don't go to the middle school in their neighborhood and instead have to cross a 4-lane divided road (Girard) to get to GMS while the kids on the other side of the road have to cross it to get to Forest Oak Middle school.</p>	<p>2019-04-17 15:59:17</p>
<p>The four factors need to be weighted, with geographic proximity getting at 50-75% of the factor based assessment. As a community member and parent, our family spent a lot of time finding good schools nearby our future home, and we spent more money to be near those schools. It's very important to us that our child attends school with kids from the neighborhood for several reasons: 1) it enables easier coordination between the parents for joint after-school activities, carpools, pick-ups 2) school friends likely live nearby enabling easier 'play-dates' which makes for a happier and cohesive community 3) transportation time is limited, which reduces the risk of accidents during transportation and exposure to potential carcinogens released in car exhaust.</p>	<p>2019-04-17 18:29:28</p>
<p>Following the topic of discussion of exchanging students from certain schools into different schools, I am against the proposal. Some of these students have to wake up early to get on a bus to get to school in the first place, but with added distance if changed to another school it would impact the student's health waking up and being transported for a prolonged amount of time just to get to new schools. Furthermore it may impact the student's learning experience if moved. The student may not be able to focus or concentrate and/or may feel uncomfortable in the new school. Moving students from schools targeted towards behavioral management to regular public schools would not work well either. The goal is to even out and positively influence students on both ends. However it would not die to the flaw that is balance in amount of student's on both sides.</p>	<p>2019-04-18 13:36:50</p>
<p>We live off of [REDACTED] Rd in bethesBe MD are are in the Whitman school district. We purposely waited and waited until we were able to purchase a home in this school district. We would be devastated for our district to change. Our future highschooler is very excited to be able to ride a bike to Walt Whitman un his near future.</p>	<p>2019-04-20 09:13:41</p>
<p>As an education specialist I'm strongly aware of the importance of the community. Schools are not only supported by the teaching and administration staff and students but also by the community which is proximate to the schools. Neighbors and parents often get involved in school activities. Feeling of proximity to the school matters for such actions, not only because of convenience (distance to the school) but also because of the feeling that the school belongs to us. The fact that the people are physically close contributes to more daily interactions, more interest in each other, and a stronger sense of community. The relationship between the people and the school is no different. Uprooting and relocating students from their neighborhood school to another could seriously damage such a sense of community, resulting in negative effects on neighborhood support for the school, and ultimately, on the student learning of those affected students.</p>	<p>2019-04-22 02:19:29</p>

...	2019-04-22 07:33:45
Greetings - I don't understand why we have some schools with portables and at >100% enrollment, while we have underenrolled schools very nearby. I understand local schools play a role in the purchasing of a home, but it makes logical sense to me to have a regular (every 5 years?) review of the boundaries in order to better distribute students. This would decrease the crowding at some schools and *potentially* generate more diverse (in terms of socioeconomic status) schools, while also improving the quality of the education for all. (since diverse classrooms improve everyone's education) I fully support redrawing boundaries on a regular schedule. Thank you.	2019-04-22 08:06:22
I feel very strongly that MCPS should consider diversity, integration and equity as key values in any boundary analysis. Many of our schools are currently segregated by race and socioeconomic status, especially in the Whitman cluster where I live, and none of our students are well-served by learning and interacting in largely homogenous schools. Since MCPS has not yet been successful in reducing the achievement gap, as the recent equity accountability reports have so starkly demonstrated, I believe we need to take more dramatic measures to desegregate our schools, and revisiting the boundaries provides an opportunity to do so. Of course, it would be better if we could integrate our neighborhoods, but that responsibility falls to the county council.	2019-04-22 14:49:24
As a Hispanic woman who was educated in the LA Unified School District, volunteered to attend an integrated magnet program that required busing to a wealthier community and whose family income was below the poverty level, I believe the best way to provide an equitable education that crosses the socioeconomic divide is to provide additional resources to local schools for teacher assistants. Every child has different aptitudes and should have the opportunity to have specialized instruction to help where needed and accelerate where needed. I think doing a blanket approach with redistricting doesn't get to the core of helping students from different socioeconomic backgrounds to succeed and will lead to unintended consequences including impacts on property values on which taxes that fund public schools are based and nefarious efforts to circumvent the system to get students in a desired school. In sum, I don't believe redistricting is the answer.	2019-04-22 20:49:45
I strongly support the goal of improving school diversity in any boundary adjustments. Significant research shows that school diversity benefits students and families of all types. As a community member, I believe that the health of our public schools is crucial to ensuring a strong and vibrant community, and diversity is an important part of a healthy school. I hope the school and cluster boundaries review focuses on ways to improve diversity and reduce inequality within MCPS.	2019-04-22 23:46:32
I hope that we are ready to make the hard decision to withstand some very negative feedback from affluent members of the community. The structural barriers that work against what appears to be the majority of our children is shameful, and works against all of our children. I am disgusted by comments folks have made in these community meetings, and proud of the students who have been brave enough to confront biased and racist and classist parents. Many white people are afraid, afraid that they will lose their privileged positions and that of their children. We can't wait for these folks to get right with their own fears. I realize our school system benefits from the real estate values, and vice versa, but right is right, even when it hurts your pocket.	2019-04-23 08:23:18
Based upon data from the MCPS website, it is clear that there is economic gerrymandering occurring in the school zones. The economic gerrymandering is stark in the cluster of schools that fall along Rockville Pike, Viers Mill, and Randolph Road. For example, Farmland Elementary School has a 6.9% FARMS rating. It shares a boundary with Twinbrook ES, which has a FARMS rate of 70.0%. In maps of existing boundaries, it is clear that the boundaries are not natural. Boundaries that would be natural, such as major roads, forests, and creeks, are eschewed for straight edges that selectively catch communities. One of the most egregious boundary is that of Wheaton HS. Wheaton's boundaries are frog-like with two additional islands that are in no way touching the main catchment area of the school. These borders selectively include and exclude children, which is inherently antithetical to MCPS's ethos of diversity and inclusion.	2019-04-23 08:53:12

<p>Dear Sir/Madam, I oppose the redistricting plan since three since Walt Whitman has been awarded millions for a 3-story addition adding space for nearly 400 more students. It provides students currently in the Walt Whitman zone to attend a school that has much to offer. I am a former student of Walt Whitman (class of 1974) and like to see others have the opportunity to attend this high school. Many of us do not want to see the value of our homes negatively affected by the proposal to redistrict the Walt Whitman zone. Thank you. [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-04-23 10:02:57</p>
<p>OLNEY: There is incredible value to children developing a sense of community. Children in Olney attend church, clubs like scouts and athletics, and rely on these families in times of need both in and out of school. High schoolers especially need this for after school activities and to keep them local for evening social events. We have not been immune to tragedy in our town and to break up our tightly knit community would be a travesty for future concerns, issues, or needed support. I personally witnessed a private high school's lack of community and support outside of the school walls when families have no attachment to the town with which their children attend (and even shared this with them). Community attachment is critical for our culture and valued as much as diversity so PLEASE do not compromise one for the sake of trying to "better" another.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 11:21:09</p>
<p>1. is pulling children out of schools that are geographically near them to bus them to further away schools really the right answer to increasing diversity? 2. is optical diversity really the solution vs. increasing resources to resource-poor schools, decreasing class sizes in those schools, etc? 3. how did the PG county experiment with bussing children OUT of district work? Not well.. 4. if re-districted, will children ALREADY going to a certain school (lets say, 10th or 11th grade) be forced to move schools?</p>	<p>2019-04-23 11:28:19</p>
<p>This is a huge waste of money! Better to add classes and teachers to existing programs.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 11:33:58</p>
<p>I suggest that that the analysis takes into consideration impacts on student movements into and out of the Montgomery County public school district as a result of any redistricting. History has shown cases in which these efforts have led to some existing high performing students leave for other public school systems or to private schools thus impacting the district's overall scores. In addition, changes could impact the number of parents enrolling their children in the public school system. Parents move to Montgomery County expressly to have their children attend Montgomery County public schools which could very well change with redistricting. I think there are much better ways of addressing education equity than redistributing children. Greater resources such as more teacher aides in the classroom will directly aid students versus putting them into different schools. Overcrowding is less an issue if students receive a good education which is the primary goal.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 12:03:25</p>
<p>Stability and continuity are important. When making changes, focus on alleviating overcrowding and reducing travel times. Reducing travel times would 1) help rationalize bell times (start HS later, tier 2 ES earlier) and 2) reduce fuel use and our impact on climate. Increasing the number of campuses would help. Diversity is important, but so is excellence. MCPS needs to guard its reputation for excellence. Families in my neighborhood are moving to private schools. MCPS can't prevent families from moving out of the system if they no longer feel that it represents their interests. As an immigrant—an asylee and refugee—I received an excellent education in LAUSD but missed out on exposure to professional class families. Complaints of segregation may come true if families with means bail on MCPS. The Superintendent and BOE should worry more about excellence across the system, opportunity for all students, and keeping teachers engaged and happy.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 12:18:42</p>
<p>What problem are you trying to solve? Why are we dedicating so much resources on this? When evaluating the four factors, why is demographics #1! The school should be in the community it serves, and the students should live in the close proximity to their school and that community. If not, the school experienced is diminished. We are not a rural jurisdiction, there is NO reason students should be on a bus for extended periods of time for miles in rush hour simply to balance the demographics of the student body. The demands for transportation and participation in the community for a school that is 10 miles away, but an hour of travel time given the area and traffic patterns in the area is not feasible for many families, nor is it a positive experience for our students. I cannot imagine the bussing costs for such a proposal!</p>	<p>2019-04-23 12:33:49</p>

<p>MCPS please stop doing things based on races. The so called racial inequity is a symptom of our society. My kids are innocent and have nothing to do with it whatsoever. You must let my kids go to the nearby school. Please stop using innocent kids as a scapegoat to fix problems not caused by them. If MCPS is serious about why some kids lag behind academically, you should study why this is happening and then treat the root cause. Nevertheless, I believe that our society can help students from disadvantaged family in other ways. For example we can give these families more financial aid if that helps their grades.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 13:39:56</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-04-23 14:02:45</p>
<p>The scope of work should include near and long-term analysis of the impact of any suggested modifications to current school boundaries. For instance, how would any suggested modifications affect demand for MoCo properties and schools (versus demand for properties in nearby counties in MD or VA with attendant in-boundary public schools, or private schools in or out of MoCo)? Where such demand could be affected, how would any decrease in demand impact near and long-term enrollment and thus budget projections for the MCPS schools? I would move for the RFP and responses thereto be made public.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 15:34:56</p>
<p>We moved to our neighborhood from Washington DC only so that our kids would attend Carderock, Pyle and Whitman. We pay exorbitant property taxes to live here and are willing to support our community as long as we are able to reap the benefits of living here. This means having our children attend the schools within our current cluster. If Montgomery County decides to enforce busing, then we will likely move to Virginia instead of putting our children through such a traumatic experience. I grew up in the LA Unified School District, which also used busing as an unsuccessful means to education. Do not transport children away from their homes, neighborhoods, and existing school clusters. That will be the end of this County's educational achievements, revenue generation and future growth. Sincerely, [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-04-23 15:44:14</p>
<p>The scope, framework and focus of this analysis should exclude any solution that destroys communities and should place the burden on reallocating resources rather than reallocating families and students to schools outside their communities. There are ample examples of how destructive these programs are across the country. Any consideration to bussing or redrawing district lines would quickly destroy the county's future growth.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 15:54:41</p>
<p>The analysis should focus on the needs of the students to be geographically close to their neighborhood school and retaining legacy families in the schools they are currently enrolled in until their youngest child is out of school. Rearranging boundaries for families who have made relationships with their schools, friends, and neighbors is a disservice to our entire community and puts enormous strain on families and young children who are just beginning to form precious bonds with their classmates.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 16:00:00</p>
<p>Our oldest will be entering into MCPS in fall 2020. We just moved here last year and a big portion of the decision for this location was based on the schools. At what point in this process would they introduce new boundary proposals? I'm very concerned about the prospect of longer bussing routes.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 16:03:04</p>
<p>I look forward to a thoughtful analysis but would like to see a more efficient use of resources within the current school boundaries. Bussing students far distances just to even out socioeconomic groups would be terrible. If boundaries changed by only 1 school away, this could make sense but when my daughter goes to the next school over next year for CES, the bus ride will be 55 minutes. That is really too long and the school is very close. Long bus rides, especially with late schools, would be very detrimental to the lives of young children. Achievement gaps within high performing schools also exist. Perhaps addressing the curriculum and providing resources for all learners would be effective.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 16:34:49</p>

<p>The thought to put children on buses for a lengthy ride across town is just unfair and not right. Don't use our kids to demonstrate diversity; however, work on real solutions for the schools in need, like attracting real talent by offering reasons for teachers to work there, bonuses, higher paying teaching jobs, extra staff if needed, extra support like supplies, equipment, training or whatever it may be. It is unfair to have them sit in long traffic ridden rides, get up extra early and more time on the roads is just wrong. These kids are not the solution and are not yours to use to make it easier. Use tax money to make areas more attractive to live, bringing businesses to the area by providing tax benefits, bringing more jobs and families. Look at our neighbor, VA, how are they able to make their state so attractive live?</p>	<p>2019-04-23 16:55:31</p>
<p>I oppose the boundary study proposal and think it is shocking that the BOE has decided not to countenance such opinions, instead limiting feedback to questions based on a presumption that the study will and should occur. The County's obsession with race in school placement has already caused it trouble. The U.S. Dept of Education is investigating the County's race-based magnet school selection criteria. And the Supreme Court struck down race-based "diversity" criteria for school placement in Parents Interested in Community Schools v. Seattle School District #1 (2007). Questionable and ill-defined concepts of "diversity" will no solve disparate school performance. Innovation at under-performing schools, and focusing on English-illiterate illegal immigrant children, would help greatly, but this is too difficult for the BOE, evidently, so it will fall back on the liberal shibboleth of diversity. This invites protracted litigation. Be prepared for a huge hard-fought legal battle.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 17:05:01</p>
<p>The boundary study and diversity within our communities is not something which should be undermined or taken into full account by the words of privileged parents - it is something that should be accounted before by those who lack a voice, the underprivileged, particularly minorities, who have no choice but to be in lowerclass schools unequal to others These are the ones who need to face diversity to feel comfortable, safe, and acknowledged in an equally diverse world. They shouldn't be limited by the neighborhood they have no choice but to live in because of their family's financial income or lack thereof.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 17:31:44</p>
<p>Keep community schools, community schools. Kids should stay with their peers from their neighborhoods and not be bussed across the county. You can't orchestrate SES with boundaries. People will naturally flock to people like themselves. Feel free to put more resources into schools that need it, but don't mess with the community school boundaries. It is not fair to parents and students, especially those who bought homes in particular neighborhoods because of the schools boundaries. Now they have to move?? It won't work - people who have money will just move and to the better school districts and then MCPS will just have to repeat their efforts until students from Clarksburg are all attending schools in Takoma Park and vice versa.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 17:45:45</p>
<p>I think that it is ridiculous to bus kids so far. High schoolers already have to get up so early. As a parent Of students that get bused to Cabin John it's such a Pain for appointments and if they need to get picked up early. Students should go to their homeschool. Put resources into fixing up the schools. Wootton needs to be redone! The bathrooms are gross and the water fountains need to be fixed.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 18:16:14</p>
<p>Given the existing pressures our children face with regard to managing their schedules (homework, sports, extracurricular activities, work) I am confident that any school solution which would increase their time spent traveling to/from school each day would be significantly detrimental. These kids are going to be asked to get up earlier? Get home even later? That is ridiculous. Further, the potential scenario which divides friends whose relationships have been created and strengthened through elementary and middle school seems potentially quite harmful.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 18:30:14</p>
<p>Do whatever it takes to promote equity for our students Schools like Brown Station pull from too limited of a population and end up hurting our students. Each student deserves and excellent MCPS education regardless of house or apartment, SES, home language, or educational attainment of parents.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 18:36:51</p>
<p>Do not change school boundaries! We do not want our children having to take a bus to a school far away.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 18:42:10</p>
<p>One focus I would like to be included is looking at the utilization of space with some thought towards the future and space. My kids at at Bethesda elementary and we are limited in growth by our smaller footprint. In the 6 years I have been at the school dropping off a kid at school has become more and more difficult with major traffic back ups. The APR and gym are packed at school events . When looking at boundaries please look ahead to what is the max a space can take ?</p>	<p>2019-04-23 18:52:52</p>

<p>No changes to boundaries or redistributing is beneficial to students in any way besides extending travel time. More schools are needed in Montgomery county because the only real research backed metric to improve students learning is class size. Resources should be spent on infrastructure rather than consultants. The investigation of district wide boundary analysis was not done with the support of the community. Feedback from parents and community members should be heeded and focus on analyzing how to improve infrastructure and improve overcrowding.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 19:35:24</p>
<p>As a full-time working parent, busing my kids outside of our home school district would be awful! My daughter has recently settled into her school after we moved and to move her again would be very difficult on her emotionally and socially. In addition, because me and my husband both work long hours, we picked our home and school district to be close to our offices to ensure that we could pick up our kids at their school when necessary. If our children were bused to a school district outside of where we live, it would make it very difficult for us to pick up our children, particularly in the event of an emergency, and this is very concerning especially given that our schools are extremely vulnerable places because our country still doesn't have strong gun control laws.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 19:37:47</p>
<p>As a former MCCPTA CIP chair, cluster coordinator and AVP, i had the opportunity to participate in several boundary studies. i participated in study of FAA. i am an administrative secretary in a large elementary school and am involved in my cluster high school's education foundation. i think that the geographic proximity of communities to schools is one of the most critical factors to consider. The strength of a walking and nearby communities, of children who naturally play together at home or on sports teams, at church/temple or Scout type activities, and the whose families build on neighborhood pride in schools is so important. Over the years since my children were in elementary school until now, not only has it almost doubled in size, but the school has seen a dramatic increase in diversity. School capacity and enrollment must be considered with creative solutions to allow for a community feel.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 20:01:17</p>
<p>My [redacted] goes to [redacted] MS.I heard from other moms in the community that there's a proposal to have our kids bused to Silver Spring and that has me very concerned.We sold our house in Silver Spring several years ago and made great financial sacrifices in order to move to our current neighborhood, and the only reason we did this was for the schools.We don't have any family in this area or any other reason to be here but for the schools.It would be very unfair to us, after the sacrifices we have made to move to this school cluster, to have our son bused to Silver Spring. The trip to and from school will take more of his day and would separate [redacted] from [redacted] friends. At this age, stability is essential to children's emotional and intellectual development. For these reason,I am strongly opposed to this proposal.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 20:48:49</p>
<p>Over- and under-utilization of facilities, land, and busses should not be the sole focus of this study because impoverished and wealthy students being sent to schools with similar per pupil building expenditures will not narrow the county-wide inequality in educational attainment between these two groups of children. In order to more equitably distribute county resources, please consider examining disparity in free/reduced lunch recipient rates across schools. If average poverty rate at the county level hovers around 7%, 65% of students qualifying for free/reduced lunch at Twinbrook Elementary should concern the Board. Similarly, the overall racial and ethnic makeup of the county should be reflected in student demographic if we want to invest in the future of this county instead of the select handful who happen to live in expensive neighborhoods.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 20:49:12</p>
<p>I'm a parent of an incoming MCPS kindergarten student and another a few years behind. Education is very important to my wife and I. The local school system was a large factor in choosing to live in Montgomery County. I wanted to share my opinion on this matter. I'm strongly opposed to busing children further than necessary. Our children live such busy lives in our society today. The last thing they need is to sit on a bus for long periods of time. I respectfully and strongly request the board not seek to bus children to schools further than necessary. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 20:53:35</p>
<p>I have purchased my property based on where I would like to send my children to school. I have paid my taxes and do not want my children sitting on a bus for an hour to go to a school across county - away from friends that they made during elementary and middle school. I am opposed to this and do not support it. I have a right to send my children to the neighborhood school I chose when I purchased my home.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 20:57:56</p>

<p>I attended the boundary assessment meeting at WJ tonight and it was a complete farce. It was immediately apparent at my table, that my opinion was not welcomed or agreed with by half of the participants. I did NOT feel like I could voice my opinion freely and when I tried to voice my opinion, one of the other participants began to argue with me. I told him this was not the forum to engage in an argument, rather, to voice our opinions. The person writing did eventually write my thoughts down. Had I have known this was going to be the format, I would not have hired a baby sitter to watch my children so I could attend.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 21:04:41</p>
<p>As a native to Montgomery County, I attended MCPS schools (Watkins Mill HS) and found that geographic proximity of communities to schools is imperative for students to participate in extracurricular activities. Living in Gaithersburg and traveling to Bethesda in the middle of rush hour would have been miserable and dissuaded a lot of children to participate in after school activities, particularly if the children do not have the parental assistance or resources to have transportation back home after the activities (since buses do not operate, or at least did not in 2005, for after school soccer practices, drama club, etc.). Now living in Bethesda with three children, I would not want to have my children attending schools so far from the neighborhood, and likely be separated so we would be traveling to multiple school locations. Please consider geography as the most important aspect for determining boundaries for student assignments.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 21:23:36</p>
<p>Having been a life long Montgomery County resident, product of MCPS K-12 and current MCPS Speech language pathologist, I feel it is critical for student to be able to remain in their neighborhood schools throughout all of their education. Social emotional development is at the forefront of education. Removing students from their neighborhood schools hinders friendships and creates unnecessary challenges for community growth in addition to transportation. The complete impact on students' must be taken in to account during this analysis.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 21:32:24</p>
<p>It would be unacceptable to change the boundaries. Parents buy property based on the desired school district. Therefore it is unfair to redistribute students.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 21:37:12</p>
<p>Students should attend neighborhood schools where they live. This is a superior use of county resources for the following reasons: 1-fewer students on school buses, less safety/traffic risk 2-fewer bus routes thus less air pollution and less fossil fuel use 3-fewer student on buses reduces the need for weather-related closures 4-students attending school close to home have a shorter day, less transportation time 5-students in neighborhood schools develop a sense of community 6-property values are impacted by the assigned school district. 7-as a senior citizen, declining property value will impact my ability to retire 8-diminished property values cause reduced property tax revenue for state and local governments. 9-volunteers enjoy working with their neighbors-again supporting the concept of local community collaboration 10-encourage children walking to school, particularly given the health issues/childhood obesity, the amount of screen time they can use on a school bus, the lack of physical education/fitness curricula in MCPS.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 22:00:26</p>
<p>I can appreciate wanting to utilize all of Montgomery Counties Facilities and be able to spread the resources amongst the schools, BUT I CANNOT SUPPORT THIS Proposal. We moved to our specific location for the schools, knowing our children would stay with their neighborhood friends. I DO NOT want my child bused across the county, just so that school can be filled or have a higher amount of funds given to it. My child does not deserve to have longer hours on a bus or a longer school day. Children are already busy enough and adding to their day, let alone stress level, is not something our children should have to bare. If the county wants to allocate more resources or have school more full, then they need to consider the placement of future schools and/or redistrict school lines. I do not support this proposal.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 22:16:31</p>
<p>I suggest the study include boundaries for programs for children with special needs. My [REDACTED] has been in the [REDACTED] program for four years, and even though we live 15-20 minutes away from [REDACTED] current school, [REDACTED] is on the bus an hour each way. It was the same for his elementary school program; we lived 25 minutes away, and [REDACTED] rode the bus for an hour+ each way. Our concern is that for students with special needs, the length is too long. My [REDACTED] says he feels tortured by the volume of other students by the time [REDACTED] reaches school or home. [REDACTED] gets a pounding headache every day. Are the programs optimally located? Boundaries properly drawn? Would another site help meet need? Further, I know families who have chosen NOT to send their children to the program specifically because of the bus ride. Location = access = equity.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 23:00:32</p>

<p>Bussing kids out of WJ or any neighborhood school is something I strongly oppose. The high school is part of the community and we should maintain that connection. This is not the answer to our overcrowding issue. And many people buy homes based on schools and this will significantly impact home values.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 23:07:19</p>
<p>Given the growth of Montgomery County, I am sure it is difficult to effectively plan school capacity and facilities needs. I salute Montgomery County for having a strong history of providing quality education for our students. Providing adequate classroom sizes, strong curriculum, and well qualified teachers is part of achieving that success. That said, a framework needs to have clear, transparent guiding principles. One of those principles needs to be quality of life. Any boundary changes that put students in longer commutes and takes them away from their neighboring pupils needs to be strongly factored into these considerations. Speaking from experience of redistricting as a high school student, this is a major decision. It can create difficult commuting challenges for working parents. It can disrupt teacher/student mentoring. It can derail student athlete's opportunities and playing tenure. There are many alternatives. Moving students longer distances is not the answer.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 23:15:38</p>
<p>Using boundaries to solve the many problems associated with low-performing schools is significantly and fundamentally flawed. Just changing boundaries will not alone solve issues of student engagement and performance, school resources, committed communities, and staffing. With new boundaries, come new problems, (hours busing, loss of community connections). Instead, the question needs to be framed more broadly; Why are some schools less successful than others? What can MCPS do (beyond boundaries) to change that? We need to replicate best practices at many schools. The end result should not be in making all schools alike, but to build flexible systems that embrace strengths of very diverse students and families. And, we should consider whether MCPS is too big and rigid to support all of its students effectively. Structural changes could make our system smaller and more flexible; allowing schools to apply for waivers to do things more effectively on a school-by-school basis.</p>	<p>2019-04-23 23:20:34</p>
<p>To Whom It May Concern, We specifically moved from City of Rockville to south Potomac in Fall 2018 to enroll our two children into the Whitman school district. We tripled our home mortgage debt to move to our current school district to enroll our children into the highly rated public school district. It would be unjust to rezone our school districts given that is the sole reason we moved and paid a significant premium to live in our current neighborhood and enroll our children in its current school district. We would be forced to seek any legal action available to us if we were to rezoned to any other school district. Sincerely Yours, [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-04-23 23:29:51</p>
<p>It is my hope that the boundary study will increase integration, especially in schools with dramatically different demographics than MCPS as a whole, while minimizing time in transit for the students. I attended the boundary study meeting at WJ last night and recommend that for future meetings, the handout explicitly mention students. Some parents at my table seemed to believe that the students attending did not have a right to share their concerns, and it was disappointing to hear them discouraging our students' civic engagement. It might also be helpful to create a FAQs or myth-busting handout, as some of the concerns parents brought up seemed based on misinformation.</p>	<p>2019-04-24 06:33:09</p>
<p>Busing causes wasted time, increased traffic, and added emissions into environment. Many, including my family, moved our home so our kids could go to the schools we wanted. If my kids are moved to another school cluster our next move won't be to that school cluster, it will be to Virginia.</p>	<p>2019-04-24 08:13:32</p>
<p>There may be some benefits to ensuring the clusters makes sense for family living a certain distance go to the right school. Enabling them to be an active member of their communities school from the parents to the students. Any busing of kids out of their communities makes zero sense. We already have in place section 9 housing in affluent areas to try to enable equality. I get wanting to bridge the gap between the lower-middle-upper class. You can't help where you live. However MCPS can ensure low income children's schools are provided with adequate schools big enough so it's not over crowded and ample resources to serve the communities needs. I'm all for spending tax payers money to upgrade and give ALL students the same resources no matter their income bracket. MCPS should use this project to find the inconsistencies of resources and facility imbalances.</p>	<p>2019-04-24 09:56:44</p>

<p>Thank you so much for making these proceedings available. As others stated, we all value and see the myriad benefits of diversity. No question that's a vital value to work from; let me join the chorus who stated such. I'd like to add my voice to those expressing concern about elaborate bussing plans as a way to move populations around. I am against this because of the disruptions (aptly articulated by others in the meeting above). I also believe that any survey or assessment needs to take place in the context of other county efforts to address issues about housing costs, community safety and community resources. We don't necessarily need to scoot people around, we may need to change our resource allocation and community effort and then watch how populations respond (less flight, more thriving, hopefully). Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-04-24 10:04:42</p>
<p>Proximity to the local school is extremely important. Busing kids to distant schools creates inefficiencies, is costly and takes up important time especially for the high school kids who require more sleep (as research has shown). Further, busing children will disrupt the community surrounding the local public school and will not allow for friendships with the local students to develop. Members of our community spent significant time and resources choosing their neighborhoods based on the local schools, and maintaining that stability and predictability is important for the residents of Montgomery county. Transparency of the process is key - how were the consultants chosen, what is the scope of the work, cost and results. Opportunities to provide parent input would be important as well. Evidence based research and past experience in other states need to be considered before proposing any recommendations. Boundaries cannot be used effectively to achieve other social goals.</p>	<p>2019-04-24 10:12:11</p>
<p>I am strongly against the prospect of altering school boundaries. It will negatively impact my childrens' educational experience and cause an immediate decline in property values in my neighborhood. Busing my children to another school would increase their commute time, which would infringe on their time to do homework, extracurricular activities and spend time with friends and family. As a student of MCPS, I experienced the disruption and negative impact of being bused nearly an hour each way to a holding school while my middle school was being renovated. This plan would also disrupt existing friendships that have been cultivated since kindergarten. Finally, the existing school boundaries were a crucial factor in my home purchase decision. Any redistricting would significantly and unfairly impact the property value of my house and entire neighborhood.</p>	<p>2019-04-24 10:23:57</p>
<p>The main priority of any boundary changes need to be decreasing the segregation of schools in this district. This is what the students have asked for and this is what we need to push the county to do. While all students need neighborhood schools, when possible, the discrepancies in the schools along SES and race have become too great to tackle without boundary changes. Granted much of the stratification has happened based on county priorities out of the control of the school board, but to not address these issues is to not do right by our students and our democracy. The blatant racism hidden behind phrases like "property values" and "maintaining challenging curriculum" must be called out and the county must educate all constituents on doing what is right for all students. MCPS has the opportunity to lead other districts on this issue. Thanks you!</p>	<p>2019-04-24 10:32:31</p>
<p>Address equity issues by enabling students access to schools outside their neighborhoods instead of forced busing. Examples: allocate a number of seats at high-performing schools to at-risk, non-neighborhood students or create assignment algorithms that include high-performing schools as potential choices for all students. Focus on improving school quality throughout the system to better serve all students. Strengthen district-wide policies that enhance the effectiveness of schools and the teacher workforce. Ensure accurate enrollment projections by using five-year projections (vs 20 year) integrated with historical and current data from multiple sources, such as local housing plans, land use, and transportation plans with demographic, facilities, enrollment, cost, and program data. Use computer mapping and demographic analysis tools to get better accuracy. Close underutilized or underperforming schools. Use technology for online or blended instruction for more efficient teaching. Consider alternate schedules: year round, split-day, or staggered lunches. Collaborate with Universities to conduct analysis.</p>	<p>2019-04-24 10:54:57</p>

<p>The main priority of any boundary changes need to be decreasing the segregation of schools in this district. This is what the students have asked for and this is what we need to push the county to do. While all students need neighborhood schools, when possible, the discrepancies in the schools along socioeconomic status and race have become too great to tackle without boundary changes. Granted, much of the stratification has happened based on county priorities out of the control of the school board, but to not address these issues is to not do right by our students and our democracy. The blatant racism hidden behind phrases like "property values" and "maintaining challenging curriculum" must be called out and the county must educate all constituents on doing what is right for all students. MCPS has the opportunity to lead other districts on this issue. Thank you!</p>	<p>2019-04-24 10:58:53</p>
<p>As onetime magnet student myself (in Texas) and a new parent in MCPS, I value diversity greatly. But we are sending the consultants on the wrong task. We should have the consultants research what other school districts have done successfully rather than just repeating mistakes from unsuccessful fights here and other districts. One school district that has done rezoning successfully is Durham, N.C. See these two articles. One elementary school was literally failing 10 years ago. Now, parents from all over the city are begging to get their children into it. https://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2015/10/27/450903995/forcing-schools-to-hit-the-reset-button https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/education/article191746189.html I also can speak from personal experience about the boundary problems in District 3 in New York City, if anyone would like input on that.</p>	<p>2019-04-24 12:37:43</p>
<p>1. Compare work ethic of students in high achievement schools with underperforming schools. 2. Study P.G county's experiment of 20 years of busing, to justify MoCo experimentation. 3. Enumerat inequality among schools, what exactly the underperforming schools are lacking.</p>	<p>2019-04-24 12:42:31</p>
<p>I attended the Walter Johnson meeting and was disappointed there was no opportunity to address the school board. I find it hard to believe the board will go through hundreds of whiteboard notes to influence real decisions. The rhetoric in the event can get heated, and I have to believe most people only want what's best for their children. There is a real palpable fear of students being redirected to schools on the other side of the county. If that is NOT in scope then I wish the Board would simply say that, which would calm the rhetoric and create productive dialogue. If that IS in scope, I wish the Board would also say it so people can react appropriately. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-04-24 14:31:33</p>
<p>I have a child with [REDACTED], and he is a [REDACTED] grader at [REDACTED]. Before that, [REDACTED] attended the [REDACTED] Program where, [REDACTED] needed to ride the bus to a different school cluster. It was extremely challenging for [REDACTED] socially as [REDACTED] lived far and scheduling social activities was nearly impossible. The first day at [REDACTED], [REDACTED] met a neighborhood boy and they became fast friends. [REDACTED] also made other friends from neighboring communities. [REDACTED] is motivated to go to school each day. I [REDACTED] had to take a long bus ride, this would be detrimental to [REDACTED] learning and mental health. Time riding the bus would be much better spent with friends and family, learning and relaxing. No child should have to spend hours on the bus each week. The opportunity cost of this is too great. Please think carefully about the well-being of all of our students.</p>	<p>2019-04-24 14:50:05</p>
<p>I attended the meeting at Wood MS earlier this month, & was able to submit feedback then. I wanted to submit this form as well to document attributed feedback. I have lived in MC for going on 10 years now and was a teacher with MCPS for 6 of those years (5 years plus internship). Now, I have a 5-year old son who will start Kindergarten this fall. I am very supportive of ensuring that our schools our as diverse as possible and that ALL students have access to as many opportunities as possible. We need to analyze how the current boundaries have led to and are perpetuating overcrowding of some schools and not others, how they have affected some students commutes, how/why decisions are made for students living right on the boundary lines as to which schools they can attend, what information is used to determine population growth, etc.</p>	<p>2019-04-24 16:29:04</p>
<p>I would be firmly against boundary changes.</p>	<p>2019-04-25 09:41:15</p>

<p>We need to focus on SES and race makeup of the county in order to create a comprehensive and integrated school system. We have a vastly diverse but highly stratified county and without work done to improve this other race and class problems in the county will persist. We need to observe how overcrowded the schools are and if possible lessen the weight of this overcrowding on schools, finding ways and possible places to build more while increasing diversity and integration. This study must also have strong input from the students bodies as they, more than parents with property values, will be most affected by these changes and should therefore have the most input.</p>	<p>2019-04-25 10:14:50</p>
<p>My [redacted] attends Farquhar middle school and will attend Blake high school because we live on one side of [redacted] rd. I don't understand why some members of the Olney community get to attend Sherwood high while others don't. It is my belief that all members of the Olney community should attend Sherwood high school. It has been the claim that Sherwood high should not be placed in one of the consortiums since it is a community school. If this is true, then all residents, not just some should attend Sherwood High School.</p>	<p>2019-04-25 10:45:30</p>
<p>I'm not in support of 'busing' children to other facilities in differing districts. My wife and I recently purchased a home off of MacArthur to be in a specific school district for the quality in said district. If the idea of busing my future children comes to fruition, not only will my home will lose significant property value, many other residents in the county would. While we are both in support of increasing diversity in our schools, recent incidents prove more is certainly needed, we aren't in support of anything that will adversely affect the value of our home, other homes and potentially ruin one off the last good parts of Montgomery County, MD.</p>	<p>2019-04-25 11:47:40</p>
<p>Traffic in Montgomery County has a detrimental effect on health and quality of life. It is also an important factor in decisions for companies and individuals to move here. Proximity to school needs to be the most important factor in determining school cluster boundaries for the health and well-being of our students and community. We cannot add to traffic and carbon emissions by increasing commute distance for students.</p>	<p>2019-04-25 14:46:22</p>
<p>Proximity to school is the most important factor in determining school cluster boundaries because of its direct effects on the health and well-being and environmental impacts of our students and community. We cannot add to traffic and carbon emissions by increasing commute distance for students. Traffic in Montgomery County is an important factor in decisions for companies and individuals to move here and has a detrimental effect on health and quality of life. Please include considerations of economic impacts (both in terms of student and parent time as well as transportation costs, property values), environmental impacts and participation impacts (students and parents) associated with decreasing proximity to a child's school.</p>	<p>2019-04-25 15:57:31</p>
<p>MCPS may not allocating resources efficiently because of arbitrary school boundaries. This study should investigate whether simple and common sense boundary adjustments near closed schools (e.g., Rocking Horse Elenentary School) could relieve overcrowding. Additionally, MCPS should study whether alternative approaches, such as a voluntary application process to any school in the County as a minority percent of overall enrollment (e.g., 15%), could help bridge the achievement gap. Regardless of school location in the County, every child deserves the same opportunities and amenities.</p>	<p>2019-04-25 16:31:47</p>
<p>Please do not do this.</p>	<p>2019-04-25 17:23:31</p>
<p>I suggest that special attention be paid to schools with split articulation. In my experience, they fracture the friendship of the middle schoolers, impact school involvement as well as the social landscape of the high schools that they go to. In some case a full middle school will go to a high school with a small proportion of the kids from the other middle school. This leads to social inequities and difficulties for the kids from the smaller school making friends.</p>	<p>2019-04-25 20:12:43</p>
<p>I think a change in boundaries will have a very dramatic effect on both life styles (travel distance to distant schools) as well as property values. As a real estate agent, I know the value of properties can be based on what school district the house is in. If you change that, there will be lots of very disgruntled parents and home owners. I do not recommend any changes that would require busing to school outside our neighborhoods.</p>	<p>2019-04-25 20:41:52</p>

<p>The most important factors in this analysis are class size and school proximity to students' homes. The Board undertook an analysis several years ago to determine how best to alter bell times in the county to support optimal learning. This was based on data showing that high school students benefit from later start times. Despite the bell time changes, high school start times remain early. Because of this, setting school boundaries that create the shortest possible distance between home and school is paramount. Maintaining adequate class size limits also is critical to support student learning. Schools should continue to have graduated class size allowances based on grade level and the particular needs of the school. Resource allocation to schools should be commensurate with the number of teachers/classrooms the school requires to meet class size limits and with the specific needs of the student population.</p>	<p>2019-04-27 12:23:56</p>
<p>It is especially important to review boundaries as the county grows exponentially and infrastructure doesn't align to meet the population growth. One of the prime considerations should be a student's proximity to the school. This not only fosters a stronger community, but also allows for more active student parent involvement. Schools that should be focused on are those whose boundaries are drawn and exclude students in walking distance to the actual "neighborhood" school. Examples include Wootton HS, were students and community members who live in walking distance or extremely close proximity (less than 2+mi) are bused to RM rather than being able to attend their local school. If this is solely a diversity discussion, it must be considered that diversity is a broad word that captures more than just racial makeup of a school community. There seems to be no discussion of the role of family in student achievement</p>	<p>2019-04-28 13:03:18</p>
<p>My husband and I are parents of two elementary school aged boys. We are currently looking to buy a house in Montgomery County and one of the main deciding factors on where we buy is which schools are children will go to. That is the main basis for our search. We are very worried with the redistricting, that our children will go to a school other than what we planned for them, and therefore ask that very careful consideration of this matter- regarding how this will impact families and students in the county-be taken into account. We want our children to go where we are planning for them to go, depending on where we move/which property we buy. We do not want this to change after we move. Thank you</p>	<p>2019-04-28 17:37:40</p>
<p>A key focus must be equity and efficient use of resources. Minimize the number of school that have a FARMs rate of over 50% as research shows that impedes academic achievement. I'd like the study to investigate the feasibility of periodically adjusting boundaries in response to population growth and shifts, perhaps every decade in response to census data. When geographic proximity allows it makes more fiscal sense to adjust boundaries to move students from a school that is over capacity to a neighboring school that is under capacity rather than always building additions. We should value diverse schools - don't create boundaries that result in majority minority schools or majority white schools. We should spread the challenges of poverty and linguistic barriers across every school so no staff is exempt from deep equity work to engage students from diverse racial and linguistic backgrounds. Please look at whether consortiums make sense.</p>	<p>2019-04-28 21:33:40</p>
<p>I agree with looking at school boundaries and comparing to population forecasts to reduce the growing school overcrowding we have in Montgomery County. This information should be used to prioritize school expansions and rezone as appropriate for schools that have excess capacity. However, I fear this boundary study is not to focus on overcrowding, but rather to lay the groundwork for putting forced bussing into effect. This should not be an aim of our county as it doesn't serve the interests of our residents and has been proven time and again to be a failed approach to driving racial equality. The boundary study should simply focus on the following: 1. School boundary population forecasts vs. school capacity (goal to optimize building usage) 2. Student proximity/commute times to existing schools (goal to keep low) Consultants should show independence from any political party and without pretext of driving forced diversity</p>	<p>2019-04-29 13:03:55</p>

<p>I am concerned about any changes that result in children not being allowed to walk to the nearby school, but being forced onto a bus for a school further away. That poses a challenge to parents who themselves have mobility challenges, who then find themselves geographically separated from their children's school. While school bus service might be provided for students, what about transportation for parents who do not have access to a car and who then have difficulty going to the school for teacher meetings, picking up an ill child, or participating in the school activities aimed at the entire family? When changes are made to school boundaries, flexibility should be offered to families already dealing with hardship such as a physical disability that cause a school reassignment to have horrible unintended consequences. Your analysis should also result in a proposal for a framework that would allow exceptions. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-04-30 14:09:33</p>
<p>While I agree with the end goal of this initiative, I very strenuously disagree with the proposed method of attempting to achieve that goal. Having any kid spend more time on a bus than is necessary is counterproductive for that child (and in fact detrimental to that child). Not to mention that fact that children will not be connecting with other children that they easily can spend time with outside of school, hampering their social development. Low performing schools can be improved in other ways. Those ways should be implemented.</p>	<p>2019-04-30 18:17:06</p>
<p>As an MCPS alumna who attended an over-crowded, internally segregated high school (Blair '06), it is long overdue for the county to reckon with its boundary policy and explore ways to more equally distribute students and more equitably distribute resources. Do not allow homeowners to bully the county into kicking the can down the road once again, as the status quo is untenable and only serves to perpetuate narratives that have long hindered economic development and shared prosperity across what should be some of the county's most accessible neighborhoods. To not pursue a study and thoughtfully implement its recommendations, the county would be making clear its lack of concern not only about the educational attainment of its lower-income communities and communities of color, but also Legacies of segregation, redlining, and exclusionary zoning.</p>	<p>2019-05-01 18:42:55</p>
<p>I am a former MCPS student, who was annexed into MoCo from PG in 1996. I attended SSIMS as the first class and graduated from Blair in 2006. Both schools were overcrowded, and Blair was unbelievably overcrowded. It is horrifying but not surprising how much push back the boundary study is receiving. MoCo has an extreme problem with NIMBYism and liberal racism, that are allowed to go unaddressed because our county is so well-educated and diverse. (The percentage of folk in MoCo who voted for Hogan vs folk in PG is a sad example of this) This boundary analysis is necessary, as is an analysis of tracking in MCPS. This school system cannot pride itself on being equitable when it conveniently and consistently leaves students of color and poor students in the dust. I applaud the students pressing for this, and hope they to continue to speak up.</p>	<p>2019-05-01 19:02:48</p>
<p>The analysis should discuss what is working in the Whitman district and why, and how recommendations on boundary adjustment will affect high quality schools. It should not simply be pre-cooked to require major departures. The analysis should take a balanced look at the effect on students of long times spent on buses far from home, and whether busing kids far out of their neighborhood has ever provided an effective solution to ineffective schools. The analysis should include an examination of whether school construction and charter schools could be the best solution to school crowding and quality issues. The county should release preliminary findings of the boundary study for a 30-day public comment period. This is not an uncommon practice in similar types of studies. That will ensure the public has a full and fair opportunity to contribute toward a quality product and will help increase perceptions of transparency and fairness.</p>	<p>2019-05-01 20:59:09</p>
<p>I do not want my kids to be relocated and bused out farther to another school. The impact: long bus ride, if my kids get sick they are farther away from home, arranging after school activities gets harder to do, and we live close to our school so it makes no sense to take my kids farther away. The whole idea of forcing kids to be bused out to somewhere farther away is upsetting. If there were a medical emergency and one of my kids had to go to a hospital from school we have one right here very close to our home/school. Under no circumstances do I want my kids bused out - it is very upsetting that MCPS would force people to have their children taken farther away from their secure base. All Children have enough on their plate as it is, please don't disrupt their home base.</p>	<p>2019-05-01 21:19:21</p>

<p>I think the Boundary Assessment needs to keep community cohesion in the front of mind along with equity, which is not always an easy balance. Communities want neighborhood elementary schools. That said, the inability of MCPS to address overcrowding is absolutely ridiculous. The DCC is overcrowded by large, large numbers. Our students deserve better.</p>	<p>2019-05-01 22:35:20</p>
<p>This has been going on for far too long. Your race and where you live in Montgomery County, two things students cannot control, should not determine the quality of education you receive. Forcing all the high-income white and Asian students into the same few schools in order to get higher rankings and get away with expensive tax rates in those areas is not okay. How can we claim to be such a diverse community when all you do is deny students of color equal access to higher education for the interests of yourselves and rich parents? You have been getting away with this for years. This causes black and latino students to feel less valued than their white peers. They have to self study for APs they could take if they went to Churchill. Please consider the success of all MCPS students when drawing district lines. Thanks!</p>	<p>2019-05-02 09:17:32</p>
<p>This is a very hard thing to manage. I appreciate all of your efforts in this endeavor and I know you will never make everyone happy. My opinion as a parent is that Neelsville middle school should be closed and the students should be districted to new middle schools while Neelsville is rebuilt and improved. By doing this you show the community and the population of students that they are valued and you have an easier time creating a proper boundary for the dense socio-economical areas in and around Germantown. My child goes to Fox Chapel elementary and neelsville Middle is his middle school. I don't care as much about high school because in Montgomery county he could go almost anywhere. Middle school will be the biggest concern for most parents in my opinion because ones like Neelsville are in need of renovation.</p>	<p>2019-05-02 10:33:13</p>
<p>I think that in a very large school system that we need to do what we can to preserve our sense of community and that kids need to go to their community schools. Bussing kids in and out of districts will not level the playing field but will cause strife and stress to the kids. What 14-18 year old needs an hour long commute to school when there is one in their neighborhood? There is strength in community, put the resources there vs. breaking apart communities.</p>	<p>2019-05-02 17:03:11</p>
<p>As a part of the study, I would like to have the consultant analyze current bus routes for times and geographical coverage, and overlay those with county public bus stops. I think in some areas of the county, students could be better served with more frequent public bus options. I would also like to see the consultant produce a GIS map with all of the schools and zones around each school designating the actual safe walkable zone, and bus ride zones for <10min, 10-20 min, 20-30 min, 30-45 min, and >45 min (remaining area). These zones should just represent current roads and traffic, not the current boundaries. I think it is important for people to clearly understand transportation times as overlaying zones around schools, so that people can see that some areas have several schools that they could attend, all within a reasonable time range.</p>	<p>2019-05-02 19:52:46</p>
<p>-survey school assignment processes from other districts; provide list of alternative, adjustable methods -suggestion: assign each and every neighborhood to 2-5 schools at each level. These would be similar to the existing consortia, except that zones for each neighborhood would overlap and contain different schools (Area #1 covers schools A,B,C, #2-B,C,D, and #3-C,D,E) and there would be no guaranteed home school. When students enter K,6,9 they rank their choices. Placement is made to level school utilization across the district, allowing students to be shifted towards schools in aging neighborhoods or away from heavy development. Various factors could give weight to certain choices (siblings, transportation, SES). Advantage is that the process is stable over time and predictable for real estate, while eliminating hard boundaries. After initial leveling (to fix current issues), most neighborhoods will settle into a typical attendance pattern, with gradual shifting over time.</p>	<p>2019-05-02 20:11:15</p>
<p>I believe students should go to the closest school possible. This will save students' time on commuting and cost on school buses. It is also for the interest of students and tax payers.</p>	<p>2019-05-03 11:41:53</p>

<p>As a graduate of County schools and the parent of two recent graduates from Walter Johnson, I believe neighborhood schools are critical. Long bus rides, great distances that impact participation in after school activities, etc are huge problems caused by busing. My husband taught in PG when busing was in place and saw what a disaster it was. Don't ruin our schools and make activities, friends and home too hard for children to reach. Busing also will impact parent participation in school activities and destroy the ownership communities take of their schools.</p>	<p>2019-05-03 16:36:42</p>
<p>While no one who currently walks to school, including one of the W schools in Bethesda or Potomac, should have her school changed, it seems totally reasonable for a student who currently rides a bus to school to ride a bus to a different school if the commute times are roughly the same. Also, quotes from earlier forums suggest that many parents seem to view home ownership with the expectation of a risk free investment. This is not how home ownership works.</p>	<p>2019-05-04 11:35:11</p>
<p>My family is most interested in focusing on geographic proximity of our community to our assigned school.</p>	<p>2019-05-05 20:47:47</p>
<p>It's ok I feel that focusing more on the students education will help with raising better young men and women for today's world with what's goin on out here today</p>	<p>2019-05-06 17:30:17</p>
<p>We live half a mile from Greentree and specifically moved to the area for the school district. This possible boundary change would have a significant impact on our childrens' educations as well as our home resale.</p>	<p>2019-05-06 23:27:10</p>
<p>As a parent of the Sherwood cluster, maybe we should be focusing on decreasing class size and increasing teachers/aides/paraeducators. Changing the boundaries is not going to help the achievement gap lowering class size would. I bought my home based on the proximity of our schools. I do not want my child bused over 15 minutes. These children are limietd on sleep as it is. What a terrible idea to spend taxpayer dollars to analyze boundaries. This same money could be used in a more efficiently.</p>	<p>2019-05-07 22:22:20</p>
<p>I do not believe that the Sherwood Cluster should be included in this analysis for many reasons. My family just moved to Olney for several reasons but one of the driving factors for exact location within Olney was school cluster. We wanted to assure that our children go to school with their neighbors and want to assure continuity of friendships from elementary through high school. These changes can have a dramatic impact on my children as well as many others. Please consider that Sherwood cluster is built on community and neighbors, breaking that up could be detrimental to our community as a whole. Thanks you, [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-05-07 23:00:27</p>
<p>The four factors should not be equally weighted in the analysis. Based on the above description, there is no weighting provided for each of the four factors and there should be. Specifically, geographic proximity of communities to schools should be weighed highest due to the traffic congestion in Montgomery county and the need to continue to promote development of communities. Would it really make sense to place students based on demographics at the expense of increased traffic congestion and decreased local community unity (since neighborhood kids would go to different schools)? Other factors not named are increased expenses, such as those related to school transportation and administration (of new enrollment/admissions process), inconvenience to parents, who now could have to travel outside of local community to attend school events, and increased potential for fraud/corruption in the admissions process (see current events related to college admissions scandal that is rocking the country).</p>	<p>2019-05-08 07:01:14</p>
<p>I am a parent of two children in the Sherwood cluster and I do not support redistricting our current school boundaries. We moved to the Sherwood school district because of the strong community ties that start with the elementary schools, continue with Rosa Parks and ultimately end at Sherwood High School. Our family believes it is important to have neighborhood based schools to strengthen and promote strong community ties and friendships. Having to commute to a completely different school and community for school events, after school activities and meetings would be an unnecessary burden and put a greater time strain on families. For families that rely on public transportation just getting to school and to participate in school events could require multiple bus changes. I do not support boundary changes. Thank you and sincerely, [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-05-08 08:57:27</p>

<p>I'm a parent a parent\resident of the Sherwood Cluster and I'm totally against the idea of redistricting students. The reason I bought a home with much effort was so my kids can attend the schools in this area. I'm sure that the money being expend of contracting external consultants could have been used to improve the schools structures and getting more teachers.</p>	<p>2019-05-08 09:25:50</p>
<p>I am a parent in the Sherwood Cluster. I am not in favor of re-zoning school boundaries. I do not think it is in the student's best interest to be sent out of their community for school at any age. I also think that by re-zoning schools, down the road you are going to create the same problem that you are trying to solve now...that families who have the resources to move out of a less desirable school district, will...creating new schools that are considered "good" and "bad" within the county. Schools in this county that draw from communities who have a large percentage of underserved families, need more resources and better teachers. Simply shipping these kids off to a W school is not going to insure that they are successful in school and in life.</p>	<p>2019-05-08 10:42:24</p>
<p>We purchased our home 9 years ago specifically because we wanted our children to attend Sherwood High School. We had many other options when buying a home but we chose to only stick to the Sherwood Cluster. Please do not change the cluster boundaries. I understand that in recent years the population of Olney and Brookeville has increased and the number of kids is growing. Maybe a different option will be more feasible. Maybe building an additional school or adding on to Sherwood HS to accommodate?</p>	<p>2019-05-08 12:29:01</p>
<p>I am against changing the school boundaries. We walk to Greenwood Elementary and to Rosa Parks and then live to Sherwood High School. Our community has foster relationships within these schools to benefit the faculty and students and it shows with our test scores. Rearranging where students will go to raise test schools in other schools isn't improving the results, it is fudging results. If my children were to buses to different high schools of middle schools we will move or go to private school. Support the schools that need help not rearranging students to make it "look better on paper".</p>	<p>2019-05-09 15:16:56</p>
<p>Moving students from Greenwood and Rosa away from.Sherwood to a school.garther away is ludicrous. My young children already co sider Sherwood their high school. We bought our house here to go there. We attend their sporting events because that is our community. Why doesnt mcps support the schools that have issues instead of depending on devastating s hooks and communities that are getting it right. If you do this. We will.move to Howard county!</p>	<p>2019-05-09 15:50:30</p>
<p>I am a rising junior at Montgomery Blair High School, I am writing you on the topic of the new boundary study that would further integrate predominantly white high schools in our county. Personally I feel this would benefit the kids that attend these predominantly white schools because unlike kids like us(down county)who have gone to school with all cultures and races since kindergarten, they have only seen and experienced people and things they are familiar with in their schools. Being exposed to different cultures is somethings that only has positive benefits.</p>	<p>2019-05-10 13:39:39</p>
<p>I'm writing this to inform you about my personal experiences with segregation at Blair.There's segregation within the classes and friend groups.In the magnet, you have a majority of Asian students that are isolated from the rest of the student population and then CAP is a majority of white students. They aren't as separated from the rest of the students but it is still a problem within the school.We need to intervene with other students to learn about each other's cultures so that racism and stereotypes can end. We are so used to gravitating towards our own race and people that look like us that we don't even think twice about it.Blair is one of the most diverse schools in the county and we need to take advantage of that and learn more about each other and each other's cultures.The zipcode of where we live shouldn't define what schools we attend.</p>	<p>2019-05-10 13:45:01</p>
<p>For the study one thing that should be considered and evaluated is whether the number of students in a school are inflated because of people falsifying residency to enroll in schools with good reputations. My son is at Olney Elementary which is over capacity, but one factor driving the high numbers is parents falsifying residence in order to fall in the catchment area. While DC is very active in policing this Montgomery County is not, we need to evaluate the extent of this practice and, before we define a school as "over capacity", we should verify the extent of the problem of students enrolled under false addresses. This is probably not just an issue for OES and may be leading to distortions across the county with regards to which schools are truly overcrowded or the degree of the overcrowding. When studying boundaries this should be considered. Thank You.</p>	<p>2019-05-14 10:06:56</p>

<p>I strongly would urge the county to readjust the boundaries to provide more equitable resources between students. The schools are far too segregated along race and income lines. I attended a listening session and was appalled by some of the racist comments provided by parents of students in one of the wealthiest public schools in the country. I pay taxes, I fight for this community and even though low-income families may not have the time and resources to provide input on the boundaries, the purpose of the county and the school district is to serve their needs just as much as the rest of the county. Desegregated schools are essential for a strong, vibrant community. These problems can't fully be solved through altering school boundaries but that is an important first step. The research is clear, everyone benefits when schools become less segregated.</p>	<p>2019-05-15 07:55:16</p>
<p>Here are some thoughts regarding why attending school further away from your home could be less desirable: If a child misses the bus, how does he or she get to school? Right now, we know all of our neighbors and the kids attend school together so we can reach out to neighbors to help. How would this affect the bond between neighbors who have grown up together. It takes a village as they say! It is so amazing to see our kids be able to play sports together, do activities, and in the longer term help each other with HW. How would this work if they didn't attend school with their neighbors? I love the idea of volunteering in my children's school. If they attend further away, frankly this would be quite difficult to balance with work, etc. The same is true of picking up sick kids, etc. Thank you!</p>	<p>2019-05-15 15:58:29</p>
<p>Bus in and out definitely is NOT a wise idea. First, it cannot solve the existing problems at all. Some school are already over crowded. Bring-in more kids from further area results in even worse crowding. If using this policy, kids will go to the school that is one hour away, significantly not good for their healthy and bringing more inconvenient to parents. Second, the government should find the main reasons why some schools have bad education outcomes. Fewer facilities? Lower involvement? Fewer hard-working students? Please keep in mind only hard working and good parenting can help improving the education, "SELF DRIVEN" is the key! Not good facilities and good teachers. Lastly, please refer to the results of other states who had bus in and out policy before. PA, DE, and GA. None of them had good outcomes. Bad education, poor economy, people moving out, and bad real estate values.</p>	<p>2019-05-16 15:51:49</p>
<p>I'm writing to submit my thoughts on re designing the school boundaries.... I believe they should remain as they are. I moved from another school district where my children were going to be bused to another school far away because that wasn't how I wanted to educate my child. I believe they should attend schools close to home and be able to maintain friendships with their neighbors. I purchased a home in a specific area primarily due to the schools. Busing my children to another school far away when there is a perfectly fine school a few blocks away is unnecessary and a poor waste of time. I strongly urge you to reconsider and to keep children in their neighborhood schools.</p>	<p>2019-05-17 20:59:04</p>
<p>As a parent and community member, I strongly believe it is important for children to go to their home schools (closest proximity). It is important for their development to grow up with their peers and know their neighbors. As a parent, I need support from my family and friends to help with the growth and supervision of my children. It takes years to develop proper relationships to know who you trust. Being able to walk to school is very important to our family. Since MCPS just spend money to change the bell times to allow students to sleep longer, I feel we should continue to acknowledge this change and supported research by continuing to send our children to their neighborhood school. Busing children does not help with sleep or a child's mental health.</p>	<p>2019-05-20 17:09:24</p>
<p>I'm a former MCPS teacher with toddlers living in Sherwood cluster. We would be disappointed to see our town be broken up by redistricting. Sherwood cluster is a tight knit community and that's why we pay a lot to live here. We don't want to be in a consortium or have other towns bussed here. Don't break up our community or we will have no other choice but to leave the county. I want my children to spend as little time as possible commuting to and from school, and that only happens if you go to your neighborhood school. Demographics should NOT be a factor when determining boundary lines. Diversity comes in many forms. You only increase the gap by moving children from low income households to further away schools as their parent involvement becomes much more inconvenient or nearly impossible. ONLY redistrict as little as possible for overcrowding issues.</p>	<p>2019-05-20 18:21:17</p>

<p>There is a factor that should be included in my opinion. Property value. Schools dominate the real estate market and if districts change, there will be a sharp increase in foreclosures. Home values will decrease and those who have moved in to certain areas within the last 5 years would be underwater. Home values are very important.</p>	2019-05-20 20:44:40
<p>Our family lives in a multi-cultural diverse neighborhood. We have chosen to live in our current neighborhood making financial sacrifices to attend the schools in our cluster. We would hate to see a redistricting take place based on other parts of the county to keep up with MCPS statistics. Please consider this when making decisions.</p>	2019-05-22 07:40:28
<p>As a Sherwood Cluster family, I hope you will keep Brookeville a community-based school area. I specifically moved here so that my children could be students within the local Brookeville-Olney community. I want my kids to live and learn within their neighborhood, through Greenwood ES--Rosa Parks MS--Sherwood HS. This area has a strong community identity that people love. Please let the kids thrive where they live. Thanks for your time.</p>	2019-05-22 09:27:25
<p>I am a parent and Resident of the Sherwood Cluster. I am writing to inform you that my family is against the idea of redistricting students. I want my children to attend schools that are in close proximity to my neighborhood from elementary to high school. I want to have community based schools.</p>	2019-05-22 09:39:57
<p>As a parent even I believe that the part in the dress code about exposed shoulders and spaghetti straps is extremely sexist and frankly redundant. What the boys do is not the girls issue and vice versa. Also there is a double standard not only between genders but between the students and the teachers. I have gone to the school and seeing teachers dress the exact way you tell the students not to dress and it sets a bad example. Also Vice Principle of Earle B. Wood is threatening to ruing all of the reputations of the girls attend that school with and ADMIN REFERRAL if their shoulders are exposed at any time. I read your disciplinary actions and theses girls never received a warning or even a detention. There are some cases when a child needed to be notified of their poor actions, but this is not one.</p>	2019-05-22 21:42:27
<p>• I am a Olney/Brookeville parent of Sherwood Cluster, and am against the idea of redistricting students. • I hope my children continue to attend local schools that are in close proximity to their neighborhoods from Elementary to High School, promoting community-based schools.</p>	2019-05-23 10:46:58
<p>I am a Olney/Brookeville parent of Sherwood Cluster, and am against the idea of redistricting students. I hope my children continue to attend local schools that are in close proximity to their neighborhoods from Elementary to High School, promoting community-based schools.</p>	2019-05-23 10:53:29
<p>My opinion is that the length of time from scope to awarding the contract and then to getting a study completed needs to be significantly consolidated. At the pace of change that Montgomery County is experiencing in population. By the time you get the results of the study, they will be outdated.</p>	2019-05-23 12:30:57
<p>I am the president of the Decoverly I Homeowner's Association representing 155 homes, as well as the Vice President of the Decoverly Community Association representing 577 homes. My community directly abuts the Crown property and has existed here since 1989. What makes NO sense is that that boundary change for our High School changed us from Wooton to Gaithersburg, while we have a Rockville address (zip is 20850) and the school board decided to redistrict apartment homes in Washingtonian Center/Rio located on the opposite side of Crown (which have a Gaithersburg address) from Gaithersburg HS to Wooton. My community feels very strongly about and deserves to be within the boundary for the new Crown HS once it is built! This makes sense as it is literally located within blocks of our community. We hope that MCPS listens to the request of our community !</p>	2019-05-24 13:42:35
<p>I'm writing as a parent of 3 children in the Sherwood cluster, including one with special needs. I urge the Board, Superintendent, and consultants to continue supporting a model of community-based schools, and to not undertake redistricting, which will significantly weaken the fabric of community in Montgomery county. Please don't place additional burdens on children such as my own with special needs, whose support from her community and peers is so important to her being able to thrive. As an educator myself I know that there are many alternatives to redistricting, and these options should be explored and pursued instead. There is simply no good reason for redistricting that couldn't be solved with more targeted and efficient initiatives instead. Redistricting is a blunt and extremely disruptive instrument. Please allow our children to grow up with the stability and support of having their schools and peers close by in community-based schools.</p>	2019-05-28 22:29:29

<p>To Whom It May Concern: As a parent/resident of the SHERWOOD CLUSTER, I am 100% AGAINST any redistricting efforts. This would be an absolute catastrophe. My wife and I chose the area we live in particularly because of the great schools our children go to and will go to: Greenwood Elementary School, Rosa Parks Middle School, and Sherwood High School. There is absolutely no need for redistricting when I have excellent schools in such close proximity to my home. This is a colossal waste of time and taxpayer money. If you want to reduce overcrowding, build more schools--that's why I pay taxes. There's no need to up-end everyone's life. Again, I reiterate, that I AM 100% AGAINST any redistricting efforts which would have a disastrous effect county-wide. A concerned citizen and taxpayer, [REDACTED]</p>	<p>2019-05-29 13:12:29</p>
<p>As a former MCPS student and hopeful future MCPS parent, I think the consultant should consider the following factors: - Assess the current and likely future capacity of MCPS schools to understand which, if any, can accommodate additional students. - Assess the current and likely future demography at the block level of different school districts. How would moving one block between districts affect student population size and demographics? - Explore affordable housing policy and zoning laws to improve diversity within school boundaries. - Consider the utility/ability of magnet schools to increase student diversity and manage school population size. - DO NOT consider busing as a means of increasing diversity. Busing creates a natural divide within schools between those that are in and those that are not. It makes it hard to maintain friendships given students may live very far apart and places a substantial transportation burden on students.</p>	<p>2019-05-30 09:13:32</p>
<p>As a resident and parent, our home school designation continues to impact the value of our homes in the Goshen area. Families are deterred and our values diminished due to bussing of students to Gaithersburg High and Gaithersburg Middle. The extensive time spent on a bus to send our children across town impacts their ability to get the proper rest and is not reasonable. The overcrowding of classrooms continues to impact our schools as there continues to be excessive development in Laytonsville with no restructure of the boundaries</p>	<p>2019-05-30 20:11:09</p>
<p>We strongly suggest that the consultant focus on: 1. Current school boundaries, positive impact and negative impact (if any) on the community (families, residents and business) aligned to these schools; support the school receives from the community (business, families, residents); crime rates, safety, etc. 2. Impact of any proposed changes to the school boundaries (Short Term and Long Term) on the students, communities, families, residents, and business. The impact should also be considered on the long term property values, crime rates, safety, security, emotional wellness, hardships caused by school boundaries changes, etc. 4. Future budget and staffing allocation needs due to school boundaries changes 5. Case studies demonstrating impact of school boundaries changes from other communities (e.g., Virginia, New York, California)</p>	<p>2019-06-03 18:01:47</p>
<p>I am outraged at this. My husband and I purposely moved to our house to put our kids in the schools we wanted and now you are telling me they aren't going to those schools. I will take action if needed.</p>	<p>2019-06-12 10:02:59</p>
<p>Please keep the neighborhood school/cluster model intact. Schools build community and lifelong social networks for our children. Arbitrary bussing to random schools throughout the county is a cruel thing to do to a small child. Schools were the primary influence on our decision to purchase a home in Montgomery County. I would hate to have the rug pulled out from under us with a change in assignment. It would seriously impact our property value and our way of life.</p>	<p>2019-06-19 09:57:25</p>
<p>A reassessment of boundaries is desperately needed, and should focus on how to more equitably utilize the resources available to the county's schools. It is embarrassing that in 2019 Montgomery County continues to have under-resourced and overcrowded schools (predominantly minority) adjacent to schools with ample resources (predominantly white). The question of equitable distribution of resources is connected to demographic segregation in the county's schools. The premise that different student populations might be served by "separate but equal" schools has been thoroughly debunked by historical experience: integration and the creation of diverse schools is the only path to equity. Moreover, insulating students from their non-white and less wealthy peers serves their moral development poorly and deprives them of the skills needed to participate fully in civic life. Please move forward with the boundary analysis and prioritize demographics and equitable use of resources in any future drawing of school boundaries. Thank you.</p>	<p>2019-06-29 12:28:09</p>

<p>The fact this is being considered by MCPS is mind blowing to me. Numerous hardworking families have chosen your county and your schools for their children's education. MCPS using education as political tool to the detriment of their constituents is wrong. Rewriting boundaries could lead to massive financial losses and huge negative impacts for children whose families worked hard for their kids future. In what world is it ok for a local government to damage the finances of its constituents for their own political agenda. This is not ok! As a former student of an MCPS school this makes me incredibly disappointed. I hope MCPS makes the right choice... I expected better from the school district that helped me learn about the world.</p>	<p>2019-07-02 21:33:11</p>
<p>I think it should be kept in mind that the proposal is talk of changing two issues that are very important to most people. First, our home values are tied to school district, your potentially risking a significant amount of peoples net worth based on where this line is drawn. An 500-800K loan may not make sense after this. Next, our kids. We bought a house and moved to this this location because of the schools, You cannot expect people to not be upset about a change of this magnitude. These are life decisions that were made with the expectation our children would be attending these schools.</p>	<p>2019-07-03 16:19:43</p>
<p>While I am supportive of the review, it is important to ensure that parents are kept up to date. Children switching schools can be disruptive, made easier only with a lot of information and help from parents. PLEASE make sure we are all informed every step of the way. Thanks!</p>	<p>2019-07-08 10:56:45</p>
<p>While diversity should be a consideration, the other three considerations listed in the resolution should be the more heavily weighted factors. Sacrificing family time (school proximity/commute) and community/family cohesiveness (relative continuity of catchment, consistency of assignment) for Montgomery County residents are not the trade-offs we should first seek in addressing the important social issues surrounding diversity of race, ethnicity, economic condition, etc. Since the relocation of Blair HS twenty years ago, there have been no high schools inside the Beltway and east of Beach Dr., an area that comprises a high population, with many disadvantaged and/or underserved residents. The boundary study should examine the effects of placing a new high school within that area to relieve congestion, shorten commutes, etc., understanding that location would be a challenge. Should the study show positive effects, MCPS & the county should endeavor to undertake the challenge and achieve a traditional remedy.</p>	<p>2019-07-12 11:47:31</p>
<p>Changing boundaries will crush some real estate values that people pay dearly to live in while significantly boosting others. That's an injustice. Rather than systemically creating an enormous wealth transfer on the backs of the middle class, I propose that the boundaries remain the same, but give students choice to go to whatever school they desire. 10% of each school's enrollment should be reserved for such students. Underperforming schools (that families within that zone are trying to avoid), should provide teachers with special incentive pay packages to attract the best teachers and the school board should provide additional resources for equipment, supplies, renovations, etc. as a way to boost the quality of the school and the curriculum it's providing. This might create a scenario where others from outside that boundary will want to attend a school within, boosting property values. This could better equalize the diversity and economic zero-sum game.</p>	<p>2019-07-20 08:55:56</p>
<p>Please focus should be on doing best for the children; the very elongated and strangely shaped districts cause children to sit on a yellow bus for about 3 hours (sometimes even more) every school day. In my view it's unacceptable and appalling to treat children this way as you bus them past other school districts. It's hard for them to be ready to learn and achieve their potential when the commute is so excessive. Consider 10 miles along a rural road is quicker than 10 miles through a heavily built-up area with lots of traffic and intersections. Your own bus timetables show this. Some districts that have this bizarre shape, extremely elongated and then mushrooming in size at a great commute distance from the actual school, resulting in long daily commuter lives for young minds and bodies. Gaithersburg HS boundary is one notable example, but there are a few others.</p>	<p>2019-07-24 10:44:03</p>

<p>Homes are purchased and rented based on school clusters. Hard earned savings and life work go into the decision of where to buy or rent a home based on schools. I am a teacher and I chose to move to a specific school cluster (like many other people!) for my children. Now you are going to possibly affect my property value by changing boundaries. I will sell my home and move before I allow my son to be sent to a different school and uprooted from his friends, teachers, and proximity to home because you want to experiment. Proximity of school to home and community are extremely important especially for WORKING parents! My son is able to be involved in his school community because it is close to home and our larger community of neighbors. This would NOT be possible otherwise. Please know communities are awake; we will VOTE accordingly!</p>	<p>2019-07-26 18:02:13</p>
<p>I think it's important you guys do this because there's a lot of schools like my school, that lack diversity. So with this boundary study, I'm hoping change would occur.</p>	<p>2019-08-01 14:45:59</p>
<p>We paid a lot for a 2,000 s.f. house built in 1970, because we wanted to send our children to Wayside/Hoover/Churchill. If the Board changes where our children attend school or the caliber of the schools they currently attend declines due to some voluntary action taken by the Board, we will move. The trend is for more high wage earning families to stay within the DC city limits. On top of that, Maryland is losing the battle with Virginia for high wage earning families that do decide to select suburban living over urban living. Re-districting the one area school district that can compete with Fairfax and Loudoun will only exacerbate that situation. Taxes are already higher in MD than VA and if the schools are not equal or better caliber, home buyers will have zero incentive to consider MD over VA.</p>	<p>2019-08-16 15:09:34</p>
<p>Current school boundary map should remain in effect, bringing back Seneca Valley HS neighborhoods that were assigned to Clarksburg HS when that school was open.</p>	<p>2019-09-02 05:24:59</p>
<p>Could you please post on the website the name and costs associated with the external consultant hired to conduct the analysis per above? Thank you</p>	<p>2019-09-16 12:25:20</p>