Forest Knolls, Montgomery Knolls, and Pine Crest Elementary Schools Boundary Study

Process Overview

Division of Capital Planning

March 18 and 19, 2019

Agenda

- Board Resolution
- Projections and Seats Available
- Revised Policy FAA
- Boundary Process
- Decision Making Process

Board of Education Resolution

ADOPTED
2.3

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

November 27, 2018

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Forest Knolls, Montgomery Knolls, and Pine Crest Elementary Schools Boundary Study

As a result of a comprehensive capacity study conducted during the 2014–2015 school year to address overutilization in the lower section of the Downcounty Consortium, a plan was developed to address space deficits at Forest Knolls Elementary School. Classroom addition projects were approved at Montgomery Knolls Elementary School, which serves Grades pre–K–2 students; and Pine Crest Elementary School, which serves Grades 3–5 students: these are paired schools. These projects are scheduled for completion in September 2020. Forest Knolls Elementary School articulates to Silver Spring International Middle School, while Montgomery Knolls and Pine Crest elementary schools articulate to Eastern Middle School.

WHEREAS, On November 1 and 16, 2018, the Board of Education conducted work sessions for all capital and noncapital items for the *Superintendent's Recommended FY 2020 Capital Budget and Amendments to the FY 2019–2024 Capital Improvements Program*; and

WHEREAS, On November 8 and 12, 2018, the Board of Education conducted public hearings in accordance with Board of Education Policy FAA, *Educational Facilities Planning*, and Montgomery County Public Schools Regulation FAA-RA, *Long-range Educational Facilities Planning*, on the superintendent's recommendation; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent of schools recommended a boundary study for Forest Knolls, Montgomery Knolls, and Pine Crest elementary schools to relieve the overutilization at Forest Knolls Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent of schools also recommended that the boundary study include the middle school articulation of the three elementary schools to Eastern and Silver Spring International middle schools; now therefore be it

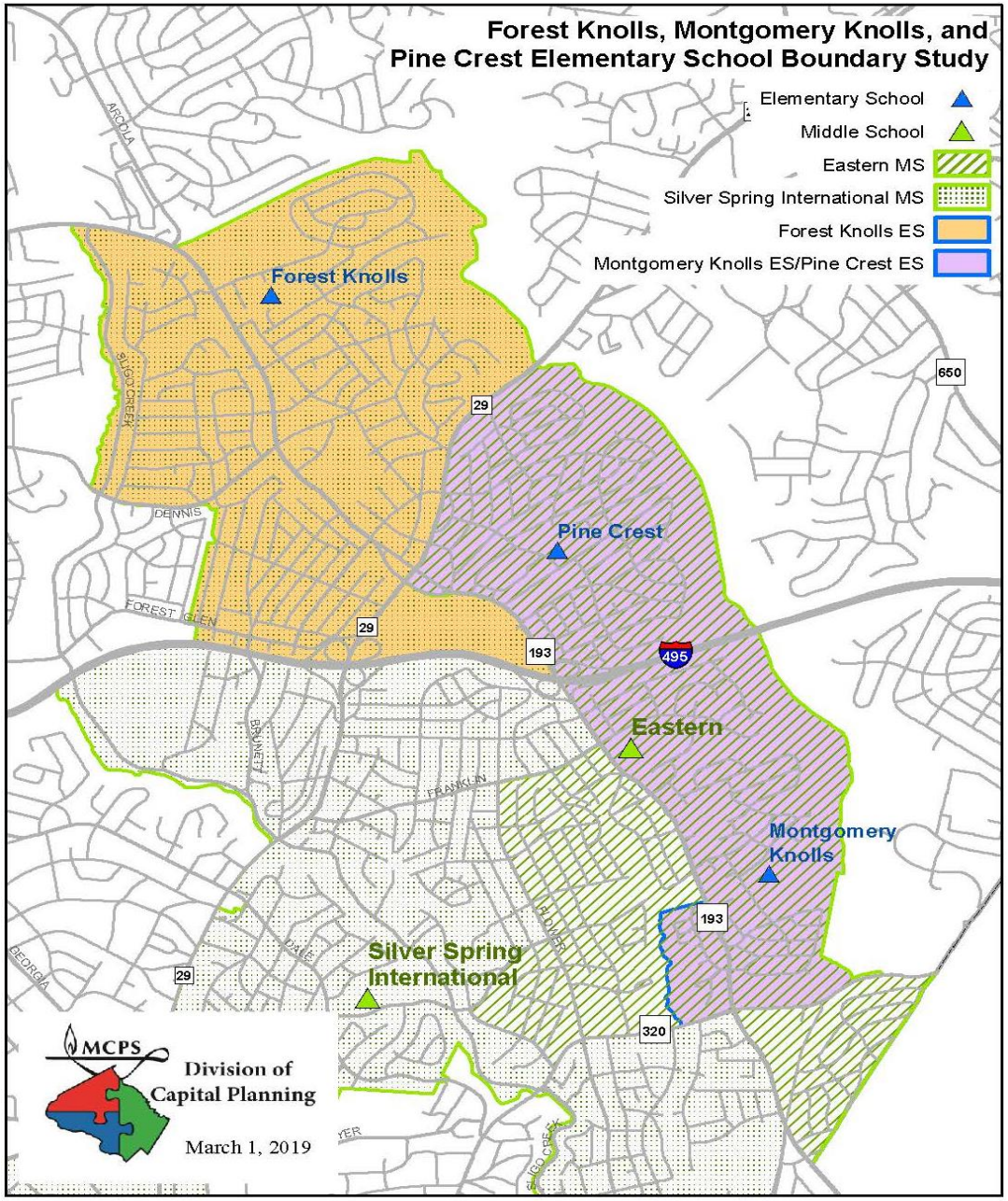
Resolved, That the boundary study be conducted to include Forest Knolls, Montgomery Knolls, and Pine Crest elementary schools to relieve the overutilization at Forest Knolls Elementary School; and be it further

https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/DownCountyESBoundaryStudy.aspx

Board Resolution

- To include Forest Knolls, Montgomery Knolls, and Pine Crest elementary schools to relieve the overutilization at Forest Knolls ES
- To include Eastern and Silver Spring International middle schools
  - Montgomery Knolls ES/Pine Crest ES articulate Eastern MS
  - Forest Knolls ES articulates to Silver Spring International MS
- To be conducted in spring 2019 with the superintendent's report submitted to the Board of Education by the end of the 2018–2019 school year

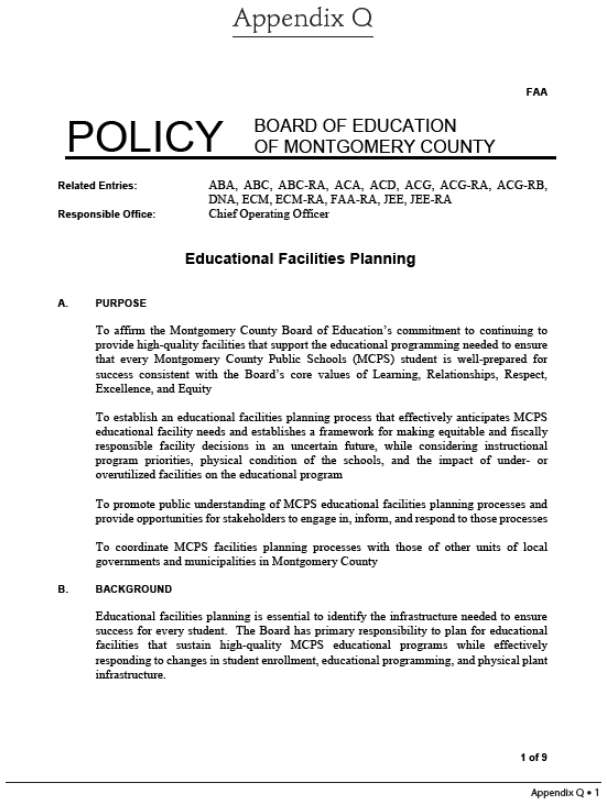
Map of Study Area



Projections and Available Seats

Schools		Actual 18–19	Projections 19–20	20–21	21–22	22–23	23–24	24–25
Elementary Schools								
Forest Knolls ES	Program Capacity	529	529	529	529	529	529	529
	Enrollment	**718**	**729**	**736**	**720**	**733**	**756**	**775**
	Available Space	*-189*	*-200*	*-207*	*-191*	*-204*	*-227*	*-246*
Montgomery Knolls ES	Program Capacity	537	537	681	681	681	681	681
Grades (K–2)	**Enrollment**	**490**	**467**	**469**	**472**	**473**	**469**	**468**
	Available Space	*47*	*70*	*212*	*209*	*208*	*212*	*213*
Pine Crest ES	Program Capacity	404	404	634	634	634	634	634
Grades (3–5)	**Enrollment**	**435**	**449**	**458**	**465**	**473**	**481**	**493**
	Available Space	*-31*	*-45*	*176*	*169*	*161*	*153*	*141*
Middle Schools								
Eastern MS	Program Capacity	1012	1012	1012	1012	1012	1012	1012
	Enrollment	**970**	**968**	**936**	**965**	**973**	**967**	**960**
	Available Space	*42*	*44*	*76*	*47*	*39*	*45*	*52*
Silver Spring	Program Capacity	1107	1107	1107	1107	1298	1298	1298
International MS	**Enrollment**	**1125**	**1129**	**1134**	**1147**	**1185**	**1207**	**1252**
	Available Space	*-18*	*-22*	*-27*	*-40*	*113*	*91*	*46*

Policy FAA
Educational Facilities Planning



Appendix Q

FAA

POLICY BOARD OF EDUCATION OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Related Entries: ABA, ABC, ABC-RA, ACA, ACD, ACG, ACG-RA, ACG-RB, DNA, ECM, ECM-RA, FAA-RA, JEE, JEE-RA
Responsible Office: Chief Operating Officer

Educational Facilities Planning

A. PURPOSE

To affirm the Montgomery County Board of Education's commitment to continuing to provide high-quality facilities that support the educational programming needed to ensure that every Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) student is well-prepared for success consistent with the Board's core values of Learning, Relationships, Respect, Excellence, and Equity

To establish an educational facilities planning process that effectively anticipates MCPS educational facility needs and establishes a framework for making equitable and fiscally responsible facility decisions in an uncertain future, while considering instructional program priorities, physical condition of the schools, and the impact of under- or overutilized facilities on the educational program

To promote public understanding of MCPS educational facilities planning processes and provide opportunities for stakeholders to engage in, inform, and respond to those processes

To coordinate MCPS facilities planning processes with those of other units of local governments and municipalities in Montgomery County

B. BACKGROUND

Educational facilities planning is essential to identify the infrastructure needed to ensure success for every student. The Board has primary responsibility to plan for educational facilities that sustain high-quality MCPS educational programs while effectively responding to changes in student enrollment, educational programming, and physical plant infrastructure.

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Appendix Q • 1

https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/policy/pdf/faa.pdf

Stakeholder Input (Section E)

- Use multiple strategies to obtain community input which may vary according to the nature, size, and scope of project
- Strategies may include, but not be limited to:
  - Systemwide committees
  - Focus groups
  - Task forces
  - Work groups
  - Roundtable discussion groups
  - Surveys
  - And other types of planning sessions

Stakeholder Input

- Superintendent directs staff to develop options to change school boundaries
- Staff develops options for community input to reflect a range of approaches to advance factors and provide rational
- Seek input from multiple stakeholders to advise superintendent on staff-developed options

Policy Factors (Section G)

- Demographic Characteristics of Student Population
  - Analyses of options take into account the overall populations of affected schools
  - Options should especially strive to create a diverse student body
- Geography
  - Options should take into account the geographic proximity of communities to schools, as well as articulation, traffic, and transportation patterns, and topography

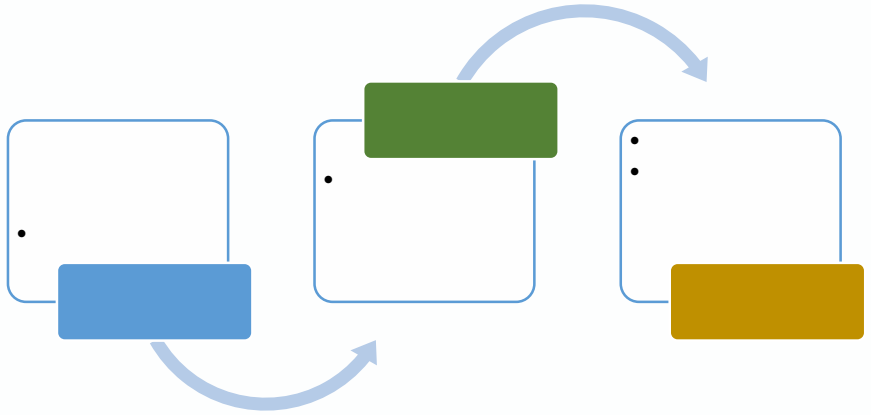
Policy Factors

- Stability of School Assignment Over Time
  - Options should result in stable assignments for as long a period as possible and consider recent assignments
- Facility Utilization
  - Plans should result in facility utilization in 80-100% range over the long term, whenever possible.
  - Shared used of a facility by more than cluster may be the most feasible plan in some cases
  - Plans should be fiscally responsible

Policy Factors

- Superintendent will provide a rationale for each recommendation that demonstrates extent to which each factor is advanced
- While each factor will be considered, it may not be feasible to reconcile each and every recommendation with each and every factor.

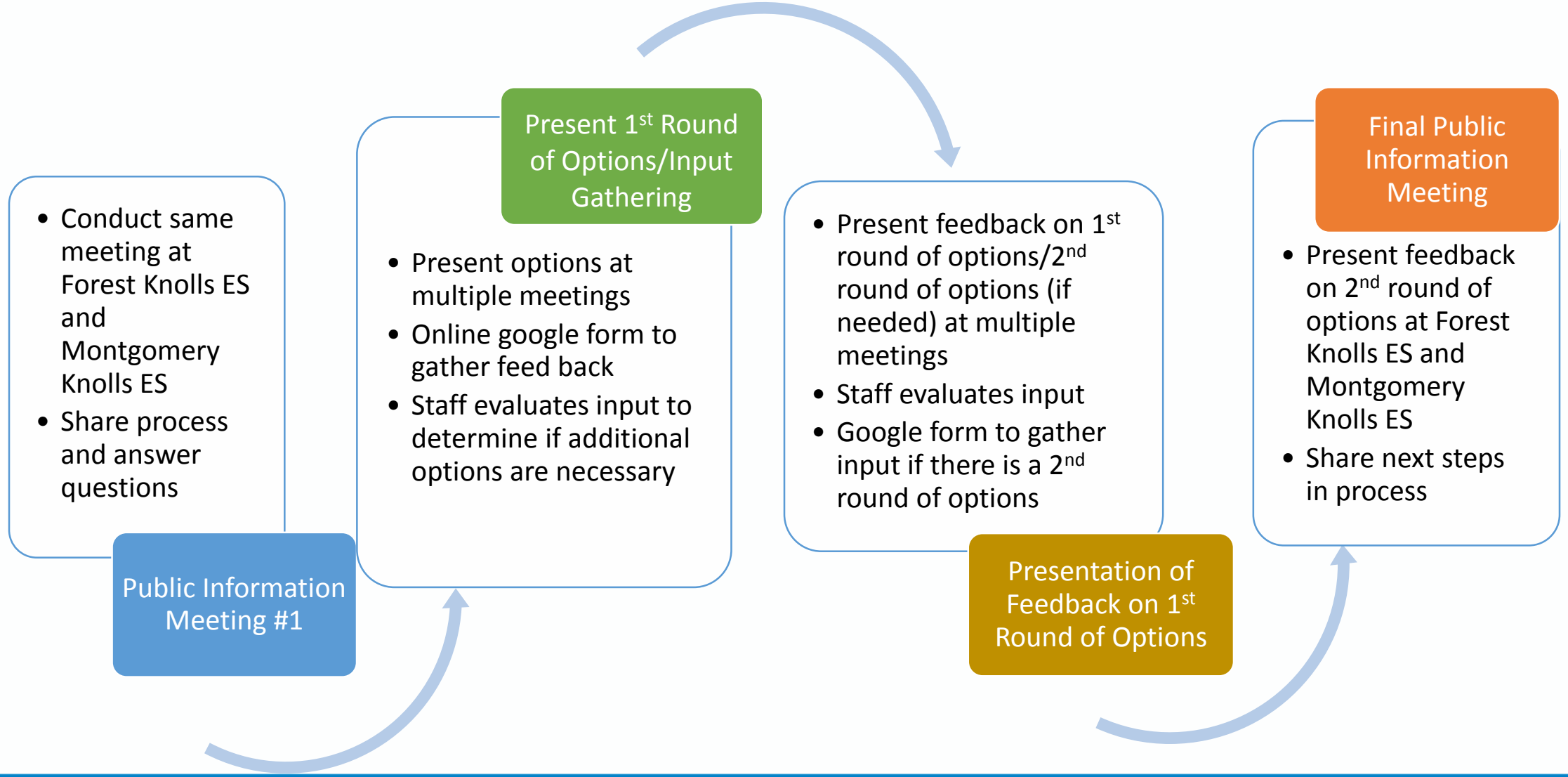
Boundary Process



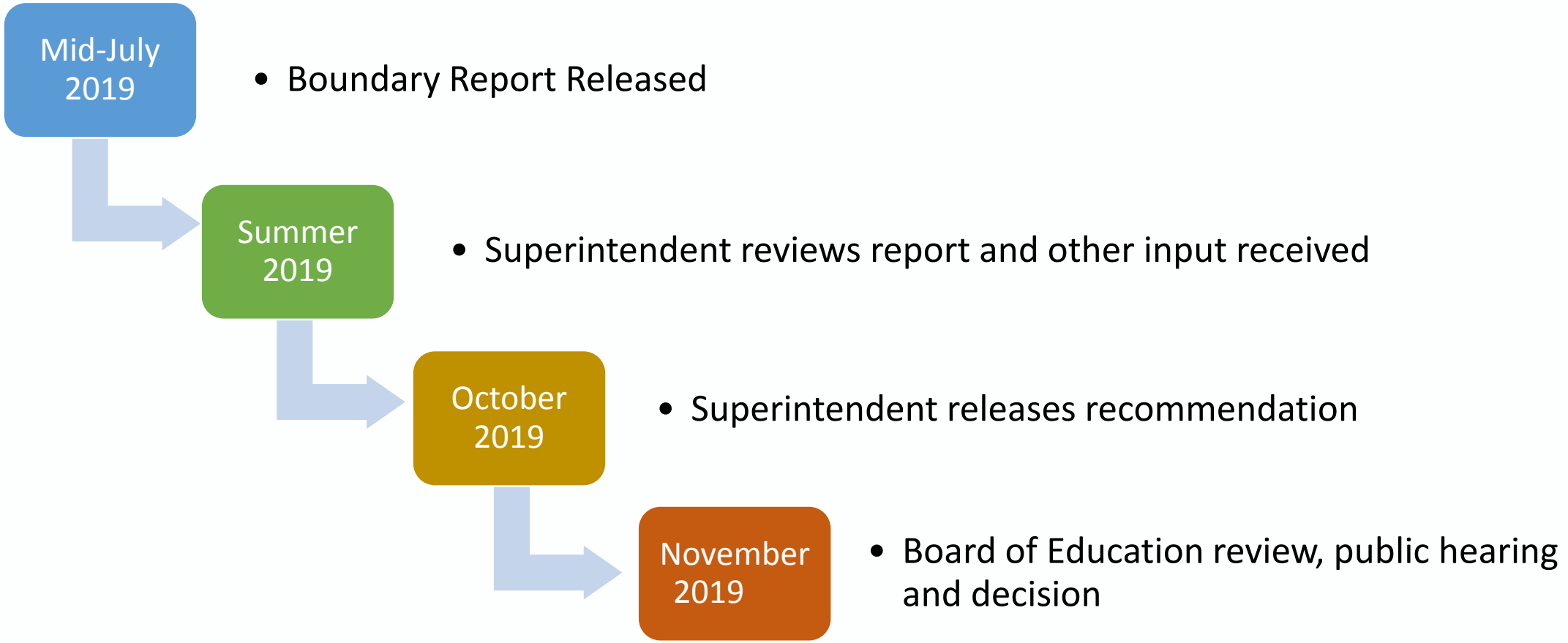
Changes in Process

Previous Process	Revised Process
Formation of Committee	Broad outreach using multiple strategies for obtaining community input which may vary according to the nature, size, and scope of the project
Criteria development (similar to four factors in policy) by Committee to guide creation of option development by staff	Policy factors will be used by staff to create options
PTA members gathered input at PTA meetings	Staff will gather input using various strategies: • Google forms/surveys • Community meetings to gather input • Video of meeting/questions • Letters to superintendent/Board
Committee evaluations	Staff evaluation of Google forms/surveys
PTA position papers included in report	PTA positions papers will not be part of report; can be submitted separately

Boundary Process



Next Steps


Mid-July 2019
• Boundary Report Released
Summer 2019
• Superintendent reviews report and other input received
October 2019
• Superintendent releases recommendation
November 2019
• Board of Education review, public hearing and decision

Schedule of Meetings

Date	Action	Location
Monday, March 18, 2019	Public Information Meeting #1	Forest Knolls ES Cafeteria
Tuesday, March 19, 2019		Montgomery Knolls ES Cafeteria
Tuesday, April 23, 2019,	Presentation of 1st Round of Options	Forest Knolls ES Cafeteria
Wednesday, April 24, 2019		Montgomery Knolls ES Cafeteria
Monday, May 20, 2019	Presentation of 2nd Round of Options	Montgomery Knolls ES Cafeteria
Tuesday, May 21, 2019		Forest Knolls ES Cafeteria
Monday, June 3, 2019	Public Information Meeting #2	Forest Knolls ES Cafeteria
Wednesday, June 5, 2019		Montgomery Knolls ES Cafeteria

All meetings at Montgomery Knolls ES are 7:00–9:00 pm
All meetings at Forest Knolls ES are 7:15–9:15 pm

Questions

Website

- https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/DownCountyESBoundaryStudy.aspx

- https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/