

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

March 30, 2017

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Superintendent's Recommendation for the Unity Area Boundary Study

On November 16, 2016, the Board of Education directed the superintendent of schools to solicit community input in a boundary study process to obtain viewpoints on the school assignments for the Unity area that is currently assigned to Laytonsville Elementary School, Gaithersburg Middle School, and Gaithersburg High School. The boundary study was the result of a request from members of the community who live in the Unity area.

WHEREAS, In December 2017, the superintendent of schools convened a Boundary Advisory Committee comprised of representatives from Greenwood and Laytonsville elementary schools, Gaithersburg and Rosa M. Parks middle schools, and Gaithersburg and Sherwood high schools in accordance with Board of Education Policy FAA, *Long-range Educational Facilities Planning*, and Montgomery County Public Schools Regulation FAA-RA, *Long-range Educational Facilities Planning*; and

WHEREAS, The Boundary Advisory Committee met from December 2016 through January 2017 and submitted a report to the superintendent of schools on February 8, 2017, that included committee member evaluations and Parent Teacher Association position papers on one boundary option; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent of schools reviewed and carefully considered the report of the Boundary Advisory Committee, the position papers, and feedback from the community; and

WHEREAS, On February 15, 2017, the superintendent of schools submitted a recommendation that the Unity area assigned to the Gaithersburg Cluster at all school levels remain in the Gaithersburg Cluster; and

WHEREAS, On February 27, 2017, the Board of Education conducted a work session to consider the superintendent's recommendation regarding the reassignment of the Unity area; and

WHEREAS, On February 27, 2017, the Board of Education adopted two alternatives to the superintendent's recommendation regarding the school assignment for the Unity area; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted a public hearing on March 9, 2017, in accordance with Board of Education Policy FAA, *Long-range Educational Facilities Planning*, and Montgomery County Public Schools Regulation FAA-RA, *Long-range Educational Facilities Planning*, on the superintendent's recommendation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the area bounded by the Gaithersburg Cluster boundary to the west, Damascus Road to the south from Griffith Road to Howard Chapel Road, east of Howard Chapel Road to Sundown Road, Rachel Carson Park to the south, the Gaithersburg Cluster boundary to the east, and the county limit to the north (Attachment) be reassigned to Greenwood Elementary School, Rosa M. Parks Middle School, and Sherwood High School; and be it further

Resolved, That rising Grade 11 and Grade 12 students from Gaithersburg High School, as well as rising Grade 5 students from Laytonsville Elementary School and rising Grade 8 students from Gaithersburg Middle School be grandfathered with transportation in their current school assignment; and be it further

Resolved, That rising Grade 10 students at Gaithersburg High School should be granted liberal change of school assignments.

JRS:AMZ:JS:ak

Attachment

Unity Area Board of Education Adopted Boundary

