

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

November 26, 2019

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Boundary Study to Determine the Service Area for the Gaithersburg Cluster Elementary School #8 (Kelley Park Site)

Elementary enrollment has continued to grow in the Gaithersburg Cluster since 2007. Enrollment projections are expected to exceed capacities at several elementary schools in the cluster throughout the six-year planning period. Following the findings of the Gaithersburg Cluster Elementary School Capacity Study and a site selection committee to evaluate potential school sites in the Gaithersburg Cluster, the Board of Education approved the opening of Gaithersburg Cluster Elementary School #8 on the Kelley Park site to relieve overutilization in the cluster. The school is scheduled to open in September 2022.

Through our discussions about the new Gaithersburg Cluster Elementary School #8, strong interest has been expressed by the community and several Board of Education members that the boundary study be initiated and completed earlier in advance of the school opening to the degree possible. I understand the community's interest in knowing the school boundaries, and I am recommending that we conduct the boundary study in spring 2020, approximately 30 months prior to opening the school.

We also have heard interest from the community and the Board of Education in examining the middle school boundaries and articulation as part of this boundary study. I also am recommending that the middle schools be included in the scope of the boundary study for the new Gaithersburg Cluster Elementary School #8.

WHEREAS, The superintendent of schools recommended a boundary study to determine the service area for Gaithersburg Cluster Elementary School #8 (Kelley Park site); and

WHEREAS, On November 4 and 19, 2019, the Board of Education conducted work sessions on all capital and non-capital items in the *Superintendent's Recommended FY 2021 Capital Budget and the FY 2021–2026 Capital Improvements Program*; and

WHEREAS, On November 5 and 7, 2019, 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, *Educational Facilities Planning*, on the superintendent's recommendation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a boundary study be conducted to determine the service area for Gaithersburg Cluster Elementary School #8 (Kelley Park site) in accordance with Board of Education Policy FAA, *Educational Facilities Planning*, and Montgomery County Public Schools Regulation FAA-RA, *Educational Facilities Planning*; and be it further

Resolved, That all of the elementary schools in the Gaithersburg Cluster be included in the boundary study: Gaithersburg, Goshen, Laytonsville, Rosemont, Strawberry Knoll, Summit Hall, and Washington Grove elementary schools; and be it further

Resolved, That Forest Oak and Gaithersburg middle schools be included in the boundary study to review the middle school articulation patterns for the Gaithersburg Cluster elementary schools; and be it further

Resolved, That the boundary study be conducted in spring 2020, a report be issued in fall 2020, and that the Board of Education take action on the superintendent's recommendation in March 2021.

JRS:AMZ:SPA:alk