MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Superintendent’s Recommendation for the Highland Elementary School Service Area Boundary Study

On November 21, 2016, the Board of Education directed the superintendent of schools to solicit community input in a boundary study process to obtain viewpoints on the possibility of reassigning the area of Highland Elementary School that is currently assigned to Sligo Middle School to Newport Mill Middle School. The boundary study was a result of a request from the Highland Elementary School Parent Teacher Association.

WHEREAS, In December 2016, the superintendent of schools convened a Boundary Advisory Committee comprised of representatives from Highland Elementary School, Newport Mill and Sligo middle schools, and an Albert Einstein Cluster coordinator 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 at-large; and

WHEREAS, On February 15, 2017, the superintendent of schools submitted a recommendation for the middle school reassignment for the Highland Elementary School service area; and

WHEREAS, On February 27, 2017, the Board of Education conducted a work session to consider the superintendent’s recommendation for the Highland Elementary School service area middle school reassignment; 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 of Highland Elementary School bounded by Dalewood Drive, Goodhill Road, Valleywood Drive, and Veirs Mill Road currently assigned to Sligo Middle School be reassigned to Newport Mill Middle School; and be it further

Resolved, That the reassignment begin with Grade 6 students in September 2017, followed by Grades 6–7 students in September 2018, with full implementation of Grades 6–8 students in September 2019 and thereafter.

JRS:AMZ:JS:bmr

Attachment