


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: Clarksburg, Northwest, and Seneca Valley High Schools Boundary Study

Student enrollment is projected to increase at Clarksburg and Northwest high schools throughout the six-year planning period and beyond. Although an addition opened at Clarksburg High School in 2015, student enrollment continues to grow and will exceed capacity by more than 800 students by the end of the 6-year planning period. Although two additions were constructed in 2001 and 2006 at Northwest High School to accommodate growth at the school, student enrollment continues to increase, and projections indicate that student enrollment will exceed capacity by approximately 700 students by the end of the 6-year planning period.

The Clarksburg and Northwest high schools' service areas are adjacent to the Seneca Valley High School service area, which has a revitalization/expansion project scheduled for completion in 2020. As part of the revitalization/expansion project, the school was designed and currently is under construction for a capacity for 2,581 students. The enrollment at Seneca Valley High School is projected to be 1,301 students by the end of the 6-year planning period. With a capacity of 2,581 seats, there will be approximately 1,280 seats available to accommodate students from Clarksburg and Northwest high schools when the project is complete.

As part of the *FY 2019 Capital Budget and the FY 2019–2024 Capital Improvements Program*, the Board of Education approved a boundary study to explore options to reassign students from Clarksburg and Northwest high schools to Seneca Valley High School. The Board of Education also approved including Roberto W. Clemente; Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and Kingsview middle schools as part of the boundary study to evaluate the enrollment patterns and utilizations of these schools.

WHEREAS, The superintendent of schools, as part of the recommended Fiscal Year 2019–2024 Amended Capital Improvements Program, expanded the scope of the boundary study to include all middle schools in the Clarksburg, Northwest, and Seneca Valley clusters to evaluate the enrollments and split articulations among the middle schools in the three clusters; and

WHEREAS, On November 1 and 16, 2018, the Board of Education conducted work sessions on all capital and noncapital items in 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; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the boundary study for Clarksburg, Northwest, and Seneca Valley high schools be expanded to include all of the middle schools in these three clusters, and the boundary study be conducted in accordance with Board of Education Policy FAA, *Educational Facilities Planning*, and Montgomery County Public Schools Regulation FAA-RA, *Long-range Educational Facilities Planning*; and be it further

Resolved, That the boundary study explore high school reassignments for Clarksburg, Northwest, and Seneca Valley high schools, as well as address the student enrollment patterns and utilization rates at the middle schools in the Clarksburg, Northwest, and Seneca Valley clusters; and be it further

Resolved, That the boundary study begin in winter 2019 and the superintendent of schools will forward a report to the members of the Board of Education by the end of the 2018–2019 school year.

JRS:AMZ:JS:ds