

DISCUSSION/ACTION

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

April 19, 2016

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Larry A. Bowers, Interim Superintendent of Schools *Larry A. Bowers*

Subject: Interim Superintendent's Recommendation Concerning the Tri-cluster Roundtable Discussion Group for the Gaithersburg, Col. Zadok Magruder, and Thomas S. Wootton Clusters

On November 16, 2015, the Board of Education authorized a Tri-cluster Roundtable Discussion Group (Roundtable) process to include representatives of the Gaithersburg, Col. Zadok Magruder, and Thomas S. Wootton clusters. The purpose of the Roundtable was to explore approaches to address overutilization at Gaithersburg Cluster elementary schools through an evaluation of all three clusters.

WHEREAS, In January 2016, the interim superintendent of schools convened a Tri-cluster Roundtable Discussion Group, including representatives of the Gaithersburg, Col. Zadok Magruder, and Thomas S. Wootton clusters, to explore approaches to address overutilization in Gaithersburg Cluster elementary schools; and

WHEREAS, The Tri-cluster Roundtable Discussion Group met from January through February 2016 and submitted a report to the interim superintendent of schools on March 4, 2016, with member evaluations of the seven approaches that had been identified; and

WHEREAS, The interim superintendent of schools reviewed and carefully considered the report of the Tri-cluster Roundtable Discussion Group and feedback from the community at-large and on March 11, 2016, submitted a recommendation to the Board of Education to address overutilization of Gaithersburg Cluster elementary schools; and

WHEREAS; On March 21, 2016, the Board of Education conducted a work session to consider the interim superintendent of school's recommendation for the Tri-cluster Roundtable Discussion Group and adopted an alternative for consideration that would build an addition at Gaithersburg Elementary School and maintain a Pre-K-5 school; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted a public hearing on April 12, 2016, 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 interim superintendent of school's recommendation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a feasibility study for an addition at Gaithersburg Elementary School be conducted beginning in July 2016 to include an option to construct an addition for a Pre-K–5 school, and an option to construct an addition and create two schools in one adjoining building—Grades Pre-K–2 in one part of the facility, and Grades 3–5 in the other part of the facility—with physical separation where possible; and be it further

Resolved, That the Gaithersburg Elementary School addition be completed in August 2020; and be it further

Resolved, The six older relocatable classrooms at Summit Hall Elementary School be evaluated for replacement with newer relocatable classrooms, or modular classrooms, by fall 2017; and be it further

Resolved, That the portion of the Shady Grove Sector Plan that is located east of Interstate 370 and in the Washington Grove Elementary School, Forest Oak Middle School, and Gaithersburg High School service areas be reassigned to Col. Zadok Magruder Cluster schools with a boundary study to be conducted in spring 2017, Board of Education action in fall 2017, and reassignments beginning fall 2018.

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