Walter Johnson Cluster Roundtable Discussion Group

Public Information Meeting
7:00–9:00 pm
May 11, 2016

Deborah Szyfer
Senior Planner
Division of Long-range Planning

Dana Davison
Executive Director
Office of Chief Operating Officer
Agenda

- Background
  - Enrollment Information
  - Development Information
- Roundtable Process
- Secondary School Approaches
- Elementary School Approaches
- Next Steps
- Questions and Answers
Handouts

- List of Roundtable Criteria
- Secondary School Approaches
- Elementary School Approaches
- Summary of Approaches on Schools
  - Utilization (Ideal rate is 80-100%)
  - Boundary Change Required
  - Program/Grade Reorganization Change Required
- Feedback Form
Housing Development Information

- White Flint Sector Plan—3 Phases Approved 2010
  - Phase 1—3,000 units; Approved and underway
  - Phase 2—3,000 units; Phase 1 must be completed and prerequisites required such as road realignments and other improvements
  - Phase 3—3,800 units; Phase 2 must be completed and transportation capacity must be committed
- White Flint II Sector Plan—Under Development
- Rock Spring Master Plan—Under Development
- WMAL Property
  - 330 housing units propose
  - Park/school site being considered
Roundtable Charge

- Interim superintendent provided charge to Roundtable.
- Charge directed Roundtable to discuss general approaches to solve the near-term and long-term enrollment increases and solve the projected space deficits in the elementary, middle, and high schools in the Walter Johnson Cluster.
- Consider closed schools in the cluster.
- Roundtable evaluated secondary and elementary school approaches.
Roundtable Process

- Guided by the BOE Long-range Educational Facilities Planning Policy (FAA) and MCPS Regulation (FAA-RA).
- Roundtable serve in an advisory role to the superintendent who will make recommendations for Board consideration.
- No specific boundary changes considered by the Roundtable.
- No recommendations or decisions made as part of the Roundtable.
Roundtable Member Role

- Two representatives from each school in cluster
- Developed criteria to help develop and evaluate approaches
- Brainstormed possible approaches to solve the space deficits in the Walter Johnson Cluster schools
- Met with the school communities to obtain feedback on the approaches
- Reported out on the feedback they received
MCPS Staff Role

- Facilitated all meetings
- Prepared all materials and developed additional approaches, when appropriate
- Invited staff from MCPS and other agencies to meet with the Roundtable as appropriate
- Drafted final report of the Roundtable
Roundtable Criteria

• Roundtable developed 30 criteria to guide development of approaches to help evaluate approaches

• General themes of criteria include:
  • Address population growth
  • Address capacity
  • Consider capital and operating budget
  • Consider housing developments, availability of land, and existing properties in cluster
  • Consider instructional program and extracurricular activities and provide similar choices to students
  • Consider community and cluster impacts
  • Ensure adequate play space, ideal school size, permanent structures
Roundtable Criteria

- General themes of criteria include:
  - Consider safe routes to schools, maximize walker and reduce buses
  - Ensure socioeconomic diversity at schools
  - Look at alternative facilities for schools such as commercial build
  - No school should exceed state recommended guidelines for school size
  - Provide state-of-the-art facilities (including the core facilities)
  - Consider short and long term conditions of the schools
  - Increase accessibility at schools with large special education populations
Roundtable Report

- Report will include the following:
  - Background information
  - Description of Approaches
  - Pros and Cons of each approach
  - Roundtable Member evaluations
  - PTA position papers, if submitted

- Report submitted to superintendent and Board for consideration.

- No recommendation or decisions included in report.
# Roundtable Meetings

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<td>Feb. 17</td>
<td>Process, Housing Development, Enrollment Projections</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Feb. 24</td>
<td>Develop Criteria, Brainstorm Secondary School Approaches</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Mar. 2</td>
<td>Review and discuss secondary school approaches</td>
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<td>Mar. 16</td>
<td>Share pluses/minus. Brainstorm elementary school approaches. Determine if additional secondary school approaches are needed.</td>
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<td>Review and discuss elementary school approaches/secondary school approaches. Continue discussion of secondary school approaches.</td>
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<td>Share pluses/minus of elementary school approaches. Determine if additional elementary school approaches are needed.</td>
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<td>May 4</td>
<td>Review additional approaches as needed. Continue discussion. Review items for report</td>
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<td>May 11</td>
<td>2(^{nd}) Public Information Meeting—Present Approaches</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>May 18</td>
<td>Share pluses/minus of elementary school approaches if needed. Finalize report.</td>
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PTAs will schedule meetings to share approaches/gather feedback.
Approaches
Approach

- The taking of preliminary steps toward a particular purpose
  
  *Merriam-Webster Dictionary*

- General method or steps to address a task or problem
Description of Approaches

For each approach:

- Capacity and facility considerations
- Program considerations
- Enrollment and capacity tables available in the handouts
# HS Enrollment Trends

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* Projections from 2035 to 2045 assume complete build-out of White Flint and Kensington sector plans and proposed housing not associated with these sector plans. Total build-out includes 115 single-family detached units, 115 townhouse units, 350 multi-family mid-rise units, and 14,334 multi-family high-rise units. Market conditions and the pace of redevelopment of existing properties could change the number of units built and the timing of full build-out. Most master plans never reach full build-out.

**The projection for 2045 considered peak enrollment. However, the projection for 2045 does not include White Flint II and Rock Spring sector plans, because housing unit counts for these plans are not known at this time. The longer the forecast period, the more error is possible. It is considered equally likely for enrollment to come in below the numbers as it is for enrollment to exceed them.**
HS Enrollment Trends

Walter Johnson High School Enrollment Projection

- Enrollment
- Capacity

Year: 15-16, 16-17, 17-18, 18-19, 19-20, 20-21, 21-22, 2025, 2035, 2045*

- Enrollment and Capacity: 2,200 to 2,400
- Enrollment: 2,865
- Capacity: 3,500

*Projected enrollment for 2045 is 3,500.
MS Enrollment Trends

North Bethesda Middle School
Enrollment Projection

- Planned Addition Opens
- Enrollment: Blue line
- Capacity: Orange line

Year: 15-16, 16-17, 17-18, 18-19, 19-20, 20-21, 21-22, 2025, 2035, 2045*

Enrollment:
- 864 in 15-16
- 1,229 in 18-19
- 1,181 in 20-21
- Projected to 1,300 in 2045*

Capacity:
- Starts at 864 in 15-16
- Projected to 1,300 in 2045*
MS Enrollment Trends

Tilden Middle School Enrollment Projection

- Planned Addition Opens
  - 2015-16: 939
  - 2017-18: 1,200
  - 2020-21: 1,132

- Enrollment (2015-2016: 939, 2025: 1,450)
- Capacity (2015-2016: 939, 2025: 1,450)

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Rockville, Maryland
Approach 1—Construct Additions

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Expand Walter Johnson HS for a capacity of 3,000 students in 2020
- One high school, no boundaries required
- Master plan Walter Johnson HS for a capacity of 3,600 students to accommodate future enrollment
- Eventually expand North Bethesda MS for a capacity of 1,350 students to accommodate future enrollment
- Eventually expand Tilden MS for a capacity of 1,500 students to accommodate future enrollment
- Core spaces would be provided to accommodate the appropriate student enrollment
Approach 1—Construct Additions

Program Considerations

- Consider academies or schools within a school at the high school to create smaller learning communities
- Consider smaller grade level teams at middle schools
- Increased course and program offerings at the high school level
Approach 2—Reopen Woodward as Grades 9–12 High School

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Reopen Woodward HS as a Grades 9–12 school in 2022
- Woodward HS cannot open until the Tilden MS revitalization/expansion is complete in 2020
- Two years needed to renovate the facility
- Creates two small high schools and would require boundary changes
- Leaves a great deal of space available at Walter Johnson HS
- Same plan for North Bethesda and Tilden middle schools as Approach 1
- Funding required to replace the Woodward Holding Center for future revitalization/expansion projects in the county
Approach 2—Reopen Woodward as Grades 9–12 High School

Program Considerations

- Consider a special program to increase enrollment at Walter Johnson HS
- Consider choice between Walter Johnson and Woodward high schools
- Create smaller grade level teams at middle school
- Reduced course and program offerings available at smaller sized high schools
Approach 3—Reopen Woodward as Grades 9–10 High School

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Reopen Woodward High School to serve Grades 9–10 students in 2022
- Woodward HS cannot open until the Tilden MS revitalization/expansion is complete in 2020
- Two years needed to renovate the facility
- Creates two small high schools; would not require boundary changes
- Leaves a great deal of space available at Walter Johnson HS
- Same plan for North Bethesda and Tildén middle schools as Approach 1
- Funding required to replace the Woodward Holding Center for future revitalization/expansion projects in the county
Approach 3—Reopen Woodward as Grades 9–10 High School

Program Considerations

- Consider transportation when needed for students to attend specialty/singleton classes
- Course opportunities may be reduced with grades split between two campuses
Approach 4—Reopen Woodward as a Grades 8–9 School

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Reopen Woodward HS to serve Grades 8–9 students in 2022
- Woodward HS cannot open until the Tilden MS revitalization/expansion is complete in 2020
- Two years needed to renovate the facility; no boundary changes are required
- Walter Johnson HS would serve Grades 10–12 students; master plan addition for 2700 students long-term
- North Bethesda and Tilden middle schools would serve Grades 6–7 students
- Remove North Bethesda MS addition from current CIP as additional capacity would not be required
- The Tilden MS revitalization/expansion capacity would be designed for 1,000 students
- Funding required to replace the Woodward Holding Center for future revitalization/expansion projects in the county
Approach 4—Reopen Woodward as a Grades 8–9 School

Program Considerations

- Provide transportation when needed for students to attend specialty/singleton classes
- Creates two schools (Grades 6–7 and Grades 8–9) with only two grade levels
- Staffing and program implications with the Grades 8–9 school (middle and high school level in one school)
Approach 5—Use Nearby Commercial Space as a Grade 9 or 9/10 Annex

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Lease or purchase commercial space in Rock Springs area for Grade 9 or Grades 9/10 students
- Walter Johnson HS would continue to serve Grades 9/10–12 students
- Same plan for North Bethesda and Tilden middle schools as Approach 1
- Could be a short-term or long-term solution
Approach 5—Use Nearby Commercial Space as a Grade 9 or 9/10 Annex

Program Considerations

- Consider Grades 9/10 students attending the annex for half the day and the main campus for half the day; half the grade attends annex in morning and then walks back to main campus; Students switch during lunch to walk to the other campus

- Consider Grade 9 attending annex for full day; walk to main campus for singleton classes
Questions/Answers
Approach 6—Alternative Schedule

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Extend operating hours of school to provide split sessions to utilize building for two sessions

- Walter Johnson High School would serve Grades 9–12 students

- Provide a morning and an afternoon session

- Same plan for North Bethesda and Tilden middle schools as Approach 1
Approach 6—Alternative Schedule

Program Considerations

- Impact on after school activities such as athletics and clubs
- Impact on specialty classes such as music and theater
- Implications for school operation such as transportation, exam schedules, school delays, and staffing
- Consider strategies to encourage significant enrollment online
Approach 7—Online Education

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Encourage all Grade 12 students to take half their course load online; attend school half day

- Walter Johnson HS would serve Grades 9–12 students

- Begin implementation in 2018–19 with fewer students

- Expand Walter Johnson HS to 3,200 students

- Same plan for North Bethesda and Tilden middle schools as Approach 1
Approach 7—Online Education

Program Considerations

- Provide sufficient number of course offerings to accommodate student need
Approach 8—New Middle and High Schools

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Purchase site for a new middle school and a new high school
- Walter Johnson HS and the new high school would serve Grades 9–12
- Open new middle school with a capacity for 1,000 students by 2025; utilize relocatables until new school opens
- Walter Johnson HS and the new high school would serve Grades 9–12
- Remove North Bethesda MS addition from current CIP as additional capacity would not be required
- The Tilden MS revitalization/expansion capacity would be designed to the current capacity of 939
Approach 8—New middle and high schools

Program Considerations

- Creates three smaller middle schools in the long-term
- Reduced course and program offerings available at smaller sized high schools
Approach 9—Collocate New High School and Middle School on Woodward Site

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Collocate Grades 9–12 high school and Grades 6–8 middle school on Woodward site
- Open collocated facility in 2022; utilize relocatables until new school open
- Walter Johnson HS and the new high school would serve Grades 9–12
- Creates two small high schools and would require boundary changes
- Leaves a great deal of space available at Walter Johnson HS

- Remove North Bethesda MS addition from current CIP as additional capacity would not be required
- The Tilden MS revitalization/expansion capacity would be designed to the current capacity of 939
Approach 9—Collocate New High School and Middle School on Woodward Site

Program Considerations

- Creates three smaller middle schools in the long-term.
- Reduced course and program offerings available at smaller sized high schools.
- Woodward site is only 29.8 acres; minimum acreage to accommodate full instructional program for high school is 35 acres and 15.5 acres for middle school for a total of 50.5 acres for both schools; approximately 5-6 acres of field space available in adjacent park.
Approach 10 — Reassign Grade 9 Students to Middle Schools and Reopen Woodward as Grades 6–9 School

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Reopen Woodward High School to serve Grades 6–9 students
- Woodward HS cannot open until the Tilden MS revitalization/expansion is complete in 2020
- Walter Johnson High School would serve Grades 10–12 students; master plan addition for 2,700 students long-term
- North Bethesda, Tilden, and Woodward middle schools would serve Grades 6–9 students
- Funding required to replace the Woodward Holding Center for future revitalization/expansion projects in the county
Approach 10 — Reassign Grade 9 Students to Middle Schools and Reopen Woodward as Grades 6–9 School

Program Considerations

- Staffing and program implications for Grade 9 students located at three middle schools
- Staffing and program implications with the Grades 6–9 school (middle and high school level in one building)
Questions/Answers
Elementary School Approaches
ES Long-term Enrollment Trends

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ES Enrollment Trends

Clusterwide Elementary Enrollment Projection

- **Enrollment**
  - 3,812 (15-16)
  - 4,402 (16-17)
  - 4,513 (17-18)
  - 4,631 (18-19)
  - 5,500 (2045*)

- **Capacity**
  - 4,402 (15-16)
  - 4,631 (16-17)
  - 4,513 (17-18)
  - 5,500 (2045*)

*2045 is an estimated projection.*
### Enrollment Trends

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ES Enrollment Trends

Ashburton Elementary Enrollment Projection

- 2015-16: 895
- 2016-17: 900
- 2017-18: 900
- 2018-19: 850
- 2019-20: 881
- 2020-21: 886
- 2021-22: 886

Planned Addition Opens

- Enrollment
- Capacity
ES Enrollment Trends

Garrett Park Elementary Enrollment Projection

- **Enrollment**
- **Capacity**

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Rockville, Maryland
ES Enrollment Trends

Kensington-Parkwood Elementary
Enrollment Projection

- Planned Addition Opens
- Enrollment: 472
- Capacity: 746
- Planned Capacity: 715
Approach 1 — Open a New Elementary School

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Reopen a closed school or open a new school the cluster with a capacity of 740 students by 2035
- Boundary changes would be required to create the service area for the new school
- Maintain current addition project for Ashburton ES of 881 students
- Maintain planned capacity for Luxmanor ES revitalization/expansion project of 740 students
Approach 1—Open a New Elementary School

Program Considerations

- Ashburton ES is built to a capacity above MCPS preferred range of enrollment
Approach 1a—Open a New Elementary School; Remove Ashburton ES Addition

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Reopen a closed school or open a new school in the cluster with a capacity of 550 students in 2022
- Boundary changes would be required to create the service area for the new school
- Remove Ashburton ES addition from current Capital Improvements Program and continue to use relocatable classrooms until new school opens
- Maintain current capacity for Luxmanor ES revitalization/expansion project
- Consider additions or new school in the future
Approach 1a—Open a New Elementary School; Remove Ashburton ES Addition

Program Considerations

- All schools fall within MCPS preferred range of enrollment
Approach 1b—Open a New Elementary School; Remove Ashburton ES Addition (Build Core Improvements Only)

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Reopen a closed school or open a new school the cluster with a capacity of 550 students by 2022
- Boundary changes would be required to create the service area for the new school
- Build only core and support spaces at Ashburton ES and continue to use relocatable classrooms until new school opens
- Maintain planned capacity for Luxmanor ES revitalization/expansion project of 740 students
Approach 1b—Open a New Elementary School; Remove Ashburton ES Addition (Build Core Improvements Only)

Program Considerations

- All schools fall within MCPS preferred range of enrollment
Approach 2—Reorganize Schools for Grades K–4 Elementary Schools in Conjunction with Secondary School

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Reduce size of Ashburton ES addition from 881 to 740 students
- Build addition at North Bethesda MS with a capacity for 1,229 students and master plan for 1,350 students
- Design capacity of Tilden MS revitalization/expansion project for 1,200 students with a master planned capacity for 1,500 students
Approach 2—Reorganize Schools for Grades K–4 Elementary Schools in Conjunction with Secondary School

Program Considerations

- All elementary schools are built to MCPS preferred range of enrollment
- Grade reorganization impacts current elementary, middle, and high school instructional models and staffing allocations
- Core instruction for Grade 5 students would continue as elementary school
Questions/Answers
Approach 3— Expand Some of the Elementary Schools for a Capacity of 850-890 Students

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Expand Kensington-Parkwood and Luxmanor Elementary School for a capacity of 850-890 students and consider boundary changes in the future.
- Consider opening a new school in 2045; future boundary changes would be required to create the service area for the school.
Approach 3—Expand Some of the Elementary Schools for a Capacity of 850-890 Students

Program Considerations

- Ashburton, Kensington-Parkwood, and Luxmanor elementary schools are built to a capacity above MCPS preferred range of enrollment
- Possible site constraints at some schools may limit expansions; feasibility studies would be needed to confirm if all schools could be expanded
Approach 4—Open an Early Childhood Center

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Open an early childhood center for Grades prekindergarten and kindergarten students and special education PEP students in the 2021–2022 school year
- Reassign prekindergarten and kindergarten students from Ashburton, Garrett Park, and Luxmanor elementary schools to this center
- Future boundary changes would be considered
- Consider opening a new school in 2045; future boundary changes would be required to create the service area for the school
Approach 4—Open an Early Childhood Center

Program Considerations

- Ashburton ES is built to a capacity above MCPS preferred range of enrollment
- Impact of reassigning kindergarten students to an early childhood center
Approach 5—Open a New Elementary School and Pair It With Ashburton ES

Capacity and Facility Considerations

• Reopen a closed school or open a new school in the cluster and pair it with Ashburton ES

• New school would serve Grades pre-K-2 and Ashburton ES would serve Grades 3–5

• Remove Ashburton ES addition from Capital Improvements Program because current facility could accommodate Grades 3–5 program

• Reassign students from Garrett Park ES to the paired schools
Approach 5—Open a New Elementary School and Pair It With Ashburton ES

Program Considerations

- Creates a set of paired schools with a primary school and upper grade school
- Transportation considerations with a paired school
Approach 6—Reorganize Schools for Grades K–4 Elementary Schools, Grades 5–8 Middle Schools

Capacity and Facility Considerations

- Reorganize elementary schools for Grades K–4 and middle schools for Grades 5–8, reopen Woodward as a Grades 5–8 beginning in 2021–2022 school year.
- Reduce size of Ashburton ES addition from 881 to 740 students.
- Build addition at North Bethesda MS with a capacity for 1,229 students
- Design capacity of Tilden MS revitalization/expansion project for 1,200 students
- Boundary reassignments would be required at the middle school
Approach 6—Reorganize Schools for Grades K–4 Elementary Schools, Grades 5–8 Middle Schools

Program Considerations

- All elementary school and middle schools are built to MCPS preferred range of enrollment
- Grade reorganization impacts current elementary and middle instructional models and staffing allocations
- Core instruction for Grade 5 students would continue as elementary school model
Questions/Answers
Important Dates

- June 8, 2016: Roundtable Report
- October 12, 2016: Superintendent’s Recommendation
- November 3, 2016: Board of Education Work session
- November 10 & 14, 2016: Board of Education Public Hearing
- November 21, 2016: Board of Education Action
Final Questions/Answers