

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY'S PUBLIC
HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BOUNDARIES FOR NEW TOWN HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, March 10, 2003
Deer Park Middle Magnet School

The public hearing was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Barbara Walker, Assistant to Dr. Scott Gehring, Executive Director of Schools for the Northwest Area. The following Board members were in attendance: President Donald L. Arnold, Ms. Sarah D. Bormel, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzynski, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Ms. Janese Murray, Mr. James R. Sasiadek, Mr. Sanford V. Teplitzky, and Mr. James E. Walker.

Ms. Walker reviewed the boundary process to date.

Mr. Hayden entered the room at 7:09 p.m.

The following citizens addressed the Board:

1. Ms. Jeanette Key shared her concern that with the recommended scenario, New Town High School will not be as racially balanced as the neighborhood it serves, nor will Owings Mills High School. She also requested the Board to fund the curriculum at the school.
2. Mr. Len Tyner, a representative of the White Hurst community, noted that his community would not be affected by Scenario A or B. He did share his community's concern that New Town High School would experience overcrowding, as does New Town Elementary School.
3. Ms. Emily Wolfson stated Scenario A would provide greater relief to Owings Mills High School. She noted that the formula for determining capacities is flawed. Ms. Wolfson stated that the use of a building should be determined by the needs of the student population. She urged the Board to discuss the issue of school capacity.
4. Mr. Jose Anderson, a member of the Boundary Committee and a resident of the Village of 12 Trees, voiced his appreciation of how the process tried to take many groups into consideration. He was pleased that in both scenarios older, more settled communities were included and that the new school will not serve only new communities.
5. Ms. Diane Banks shared her concern about the lack of notice for this hearing. She was also concerned about the racial diversity at Randallstown and New Town High Schools. Ms. Banks stated the racial diversity at New Town is not indicative of the neighborhood. Finally, Ms.

Report of the Public Hearing – Page 2

Banks urged more stringent verification of addresses of students attending New Town to prevent overcrowding.

Mr. Arnold announced that a vote on the proposed boundaries would take place on March 25th. The audience was urged to contact any member of the Board with additional comments.

The hearing was concluded at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Zepp
Administrative Assistant