July 27, 2018

Dear BCPS Family, Community, and Stakeholders:

I want to thank staff and the community for its early engagement in the high school study conducted by the Sage Policy Group, Inc. (“Sage”). As we begin to develop the foundation for a plan to meet our ever growing high school population, it is important that we hear from stakeholders from across our system.

I am pleased that Sage quickly summarized the key themes that have emerged from the focus groups and public information sessions. We are committed to using this feedback to shape the remainder of the study.

First, Baltimore County Public Schools (“BCPS”) will work with Sage to ensure that building conditions are taken into consideration as we move forward. We have asked that Sage proceed with this recommendation and make the consideration of conditions transparent in the scenarios presented in the public information sessions in September.

Secondly, from both the information sessions and early survey results, it is clear that the continuity of communities and feeder patterns is very important to our stakeholders. Therefore, Sage will also take community continuity and feeder patterns into account as they develop the final round of scenarios.

Finally, improving instructional opportunities for students is at the core of our work. Expanding magnet programs provides an opportunity to improve instructional programs and to provide more equitable opportunities for our students while potentially limiting the number of boundaries that would need to be changed.

I look forward to seeing the next round of scenarios that will reflect the feedback to date, and I encourage our community to remain engaged with the process as we move forward. We are listening to you.

Please continue to provide input through the survey and the remaining public information sessions. Your feedback is important as we plan for the future of our community.

Thank you.

Verletta White
Interim Superintendent