

## BCPS High School Capacity Study Email Log: 09/17/18 through 09/25/18

**September 17, 2018, 1202 hours**

**Sean & Kim**

Perry Hall High School and more importantly Perry Hall Middle's overcrowding needs to be addressed. In addition to needing new schools, I think there needs to be more attention and follow through given to number of students in compliance with address zoning. Eastern technical High is in desperate need of updating. It is a magnet school and rated one of the best high schools in the county, yet it's facilities are not up to par. Half of the school does not have working air conditioning making the working environment less than ideal. Areas of the school are in need of repair- cracked walls & ceilings. The one gym literally looks like the ceiling will collapse. The gyms themselves are very old and needs updated. The high school has no auditorium or sports fields to allow students to fully participate in extracurricular activities and to be competitive with other schools. The band room is essentially in a construction zone.

**September 17, 2018, 1921 hours**

**A. Brooks**

My child is attending her last year at Randallstown High. I received an auto call about school laptops. But I'm having trouble locating the site on BCPS one for the details. Can someone email me the information.

**September 18, 2018, 1952 hours**

**L. Sumter**

Hello, I am more concerned about a middle school for the New Town area rather a high school. New Town elementary, Deer Park elementary, Woodholme Elementary, Lyons Mill Elementary all feed into Deer Park Middle School and with Deer Park Middle also being a magnet school the school is way over crowded.

If we needed 3 new elementary schools in this area at what point will the school board realize a middle school is much needed. Our classroom sizes are appx 30 kids or more to a class and this is not fair to our kids and their learning.

Hopefully someone will take my concern into consideration and build us a new middle school. Thank you, LaShel Sumter

**September 18, 2018, 1251 hours**

**J. Brown**

Hello, If Redistricting is chosen, will this start the next school year or a few years down the road? Much Thanks

**September 18, 2018, 1536 hours**

**M. Fischer**

Hello, Has anyone attempted to validate that the students actually reside in their reported domicile? There has to be a better way to track this. I can tell you that people use friends/family addresses with their knowledge/permission, so their child can go to another district. How about validating whether students are coming from the city and attending county schools illegally. I know HCPS has a pupil personnel worker that makes a spot check at the provided address when a student moves from another district/county. Like I said, there has to be a better way to validate. I can almost guarantee this overcrowding is due to fraudulent enrollment. People find ways around the system. Thanks, M. Fischer

**September 18, 2018, 2203 hours**

**M. Richardson**

I would like to thank all of the BCPS staff and school board members who came to New Town High School tonight to give an overview of the three overcrowding solutions. I am a parent of elementary age children in Catonsville, and last year we had to fight a proposal to redistrict our children away from the high functioning neighborhood school 1 mile away to a failing school 4 miles away across major highways. That was a poor plan which was, thankfully, not adopted. The challenges we face are those of overcrowding, and the solution is choice.

We need to make under-capacity schools like Woodlawn attractive places for students to attend by building high-quality academic magnets, and by giving maximum support to the population there through increased teacher pay and facilities improvement.

What we do NOT need is for anyone's children to be redistricted away from high functioning local, community schools to failing inner-city campuses. That serves no one except politicians who need to make pretty charts. In sum:

1. Do NOT force Catonsville Middle students to go anywhere except Catonsville High school.
2. Generate incredible programs away from crowded schools to attract the over-capacity.
3. Fix and staff the broken schools like Woodlawn so that every child has access to quality education.
4. Raise taxes to do these things -- property values will rise and offset the cost to all people in the community.

Thanks.

**September 19, 2018, 1024 hours**

**L. K. McAfee**

I was very disappointed to see that the results of the efforts so far have narrowed the options down to three that completely ignore our neighborhood's priorities. My daughter is at Catonsville High, and my son soon will be. From the previous survey results, it was very clear that those of us in the Southwest area placed a very high priority on NOT redistricting students to the maximum extent possible. And yet all three of your current options do nothing to address overcrowding at CHS EXCEPT redistricting.

You have already chosen to break up our community by sending half our kids to Arbutus Middle - but at least they can all come together again in high school. Please do NOT further exacerbate the problem by splitting our high school.

Sincerely,

Laura K. McAfee

## BCPS High School Capacity Study Email Log: 09/17/18 through 09/25/18

**September 19, 2018, 1636 hours**

**M. Richardson**

If BCPSS is going to have over-capacity by 2000 students in the next ten years, we can spend a fraction of the proposed \$600m and build portable classrooms for all them WITHOUT the need to redistrict.

An air-conditioned portable classroom costs about \$150,000 to build.

Each one holds 30 students.

The county would need to build 66 or so of them across the crowded schools.

That costs \$9,900,000 to build. (hundreds of millions of less than the proposals)

Throw in other VOLUNTARY methods of reducing capacity, and paying for the facilities upgrades necessary at "overcapacity" schools...

...and this problem can be solved for much less money than proposed while also ensuring that no one is forced to send their students to schools outside their communities.

**September 19, 2018, 2055 hours**

**K. Olson**

I noticed that you do not show boundary changes in any of your three options. You say there will be some but do not identify where they will change. I am not sure the community can properly evaluate your offer unless this detail is included. Kris Olson.

**September 20, 2018, 1743 hours**

**E. Middleman**

Dear Mr Basu and other esteemed representatives of the Baltimore County public school system:

With respect to scenario A, it appears that 482 students would be taken from Catonsville and transferred to Western School of Technology.

Is this transfer a mandatory redistricting or is it the product of improvements to Western School of Technology and an assumption that the 482 students would voluntarily transfer? Thanks.

**September 20, 2018, 1758 hours**

**C. Dishon**

Hello, I am a parent of an elementary-aged BCPS student and I just took the survey. I wasn't able to compare and contrast plans A, B, and C from the outset and I wasn't able to choose "Don't know/Not sure" as an option. I think this will skew the results. Unless I'd attended a detailed presentation or had been able to view the plans side by side, this relies on memory, which in a parent who's trying to work full time and manage a household is going to be faulty and unreliable at best. Thanks for your time, Cheryl Dishon

**September 21, 2018, 1150 hours**

**L. Feigenson**

Hello, I am a parent of children in BCPS. I tried to take your survey, but found the 3 scenarios utterly incompressible. I doubt you will get many meaningful responses with this version of communicating the options to people— without some narrative to describe the differences between A,B, and C, and the ability to see the maps side by side, no one can make any sense of this! Respectfully yours, Lisa Feigenson

**September 22, 2018, 0721 hours**

**D. Fu**

Hello, I just took the online survey. I found it useless. I strongly disagreed with all scenarios, because \*none\* of them told me \*specifics\* about what would happen to my school, Catonsville High School. Moreover, in \*every\* scenario, the effect on Catonsville High School was the same: increase magnet participation or redistricting. I am strongly against any redistricting plan that will not give me specifics, and I think the \*or\* language about magnet schools only serves to further cloud the issue. A useful survey would be based on SPECIFIC DETAILS about how each plan effects me. Thus, the subect line. Sincerely, David Fu

**September 22, 1124, 1921 hours**

**C. Likakis**

What are the redistricting options in the scenarios? Do you know what the new boundary lines would be?

**September 24, 1124, 2202 hours**

**T. Seiple**

I would like to fill out the online survey, however, the scenario maps do not provide sufficient detail to evaluate the costs and benefits of each scenario, from a residents perspective. Could you please provide details on the proposed actions for individual schools within each scenario. For example, in scenario A, where are the 500+ plus students from Catonsville transferred to? A table or summary for each scenario would be nice. Thanks, Tim Seiple, Catonsville

## BCPS High School Capacity Study Email Log: 09/17/18 through 09/25/18

September 24, 1124, 2220 hours

**J. Jaeger**

After attending the second of the two high school study public forums, I am befuddled as to how Baltimore County doesn't allow itself to break up. Especially with how the survey from the previous round did, in fact, break it up into regions. The county is too big for all of this. It would make so much sense to create districts - South east, north east, central, north west and south west.

Also - no one wants to be redistricted into the Woodlawn, Randalstown, area. And nothing is being proposed for new buildings there, so I would assume that the facilities aren't the problem. What, then, is being done for these kids that no one wants to be with? I know that isn't the issue of the capacity study per se, but it IS an issue and one that seems to have an affect on the capacity issues of the south west district.

My last thought - the size of the schools is overwhelmingly large. I do understand that land is an expensive commodity, but I fear that planning so many huge high schools will only lend to more problems. I feel that even with the proposals, we still need more schools. And I am wary of nearsightedness- Carver was just recently rebuilt, and yet no one had the presence of mind to increase the capacity to be able to handle any change in the amount of students who could attend there. I don't want all these projects to happen and then there is yet another massive problem at hand another 10 years down the line.

Thank you for allowing our input. Our kids' education is of the utmost importance and it is why we live where we do - so we can send our kids to public schools. Thank you, Jessie Jaeger