

Castanea Court Boundary Study FAQ

What is the purpose of this boundary study?

In 2017, the former Chestnut Ridge Golf Course was approved to become a residential development, known as Castanea Estates. This development is split across two elementary, two middle, and two high school attendance areas. To align these school attendance areas, Baltimore County Public Schools has initiated a boundary change process to begin in the fall of 2018. The scope of the boundary study will be to address the alignment of the attendance areas for the [Castanea Estates development](#).

Why do this boundary change now?

The current boundary alignment causes homes at the front of the cul-de-sac to be zoned to one set of schools with students at the rear of the cul-de-sac zoned to another set of schools. As the change of use from a golf course to residential at this property has happened relatively recently, most of the homes for this development have yet to be constructed. By addressing this boundary now, the disruption caused by a boundary change to students/families can be avoided.

Since no children are impacted why do we need a boundary process, can the boundary just be moved to fix the issue?

Boundary changes are governed by [Policy and Rule 1280](#) which provides the process and procedures that must be followed. BCPS does not have any other process (e.g. administrative) for addressing boundary issues like this. Even though the scope of this boundary study is limited, BCPS must still follow all requirements including notice to parents of the schools impacted by the boundary change.

What schools are included in the boundary change study?

- Mays Chapel and Fort Garrison elementary schools
- Ridgley and Pikesville middle schools
- Dulaney and Pikesville high schools

What impact will this have on capacity at my school?

The development is planned for the construction of 40 single family detached homes. According to the [BCPS Pupil Yield Study 2017](#), this development is projected to produce nine elementary, four middle school and seven high school students. The development will not have a significant impact on utilization at these schools.

Will this boundary study address overcrowding at participating schools?

- 1) BCPS may conduct a boundary study for many different reasons. The reason for this study is to address the conversion of the golf course to a residential neighborhood.

- 2) BCPS is currently engaged in a high school capacity study. The purpose of the study is to develop a systemwide approach to addressing capacity relief at high schools. Following the completion of that study, BCPS will evaluate how to proceed with any boundary studies related to high school capacity.

Where can I find more information?

Visit the BCPS Web site regularly: <http://www.bcps.org/construction/Castanea/> This link will be updated throughout the boundary change process with new information

How is the boundary determined?

A boundary study committee will meet throughout October and November. Following those meetings, including a public information session, they will provide a recommendation to the Board of Education. After receiving the committee's recommendation, the Board will hold a public hearing and then vote on the boundary change at a subsequent Board meeting.

Who do I contact if I would like to be part of the boundary change committee?

Let your principal know that you are interested in serving on the boundary study committee (see more below). Participation is limited; schools may not be able to accommodate all requests. Committee members are asked to commit to serving the interests of all students and schools involved.

What is the timeline for the boundary change process?

Committee members are selected during September. Committee meetings begin in October and will be conducted through November. A public information session will be held on October 29 at 7 PM at Mays Chapel Elementary School. The Board of Education will receive the committee's recommendation in February. A public hearing and board decision will take place in February and March. The boundary changes will become effective for the 2019-2020 school year. The full public calendar with all dates, times and locations can be accessed on the boundary website:

<http://www.bcps.org/construction/Castanea/>