

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY COMMUNITY MEETINGS SCHOOLS FOR OUR FUTURE

Standards for Baltimore County Public Schools' Facilities

- All schools should be air conditioned.
- All schools should be wireless to support the one-on-one devices in order to support students taking the assessments.
- All schools should be energy efficient.
- Playground and field space are important and should be equitable across the school system.
- All schools should have seating in outdoor stadiums.
- All schools should have state-of-the-art equipment.
- All older school buildings should be renovated and updated.
- Parking for schools should be upgraded.
- All schools should be handicapped accessible.
- Core areas (i.e. library, cafeteria, gym, etc.) need to be large enough to support the number of students.
- Sidewalks need to be improved for students who walk to school.
- Improvements to school buildings should be equitable across the county.
- Student drop off areas should be separated from the bus drop off areas to ensure pedestrian safety.
- Buildings should be used in the summer.

Safety and Security

- There needs to be a plan for the safety and security of students in the relocatable classrooms.
- Security plans must be factored into new school construction.
- Need to have adequate staff in overcrowded schools to manage any emergency.
- Metal detectors for all schools.
- All schools should have safe entry ways for visitors to go right to office and not into the school.
- Need plans to address the safety of open space schools.

Redistricting

- Consider walkability in the community when redistricting.
- 100% feeder school patterns should be developed.
- Consider new future housing developments when changing boundaries.
- Consider cross-zoning with other districts.
- Students should not be re-zoned to lower performing schools.
- Use consistent, clear, and logical criteria when redistricting middle and high school boundaries.
- Help ensure a diverse student body at every school.
- Keep neighborhoods together when redistricting.

Overcrowding

- Consider affects on class size and student success.
- Place limits on housing developments and future building.
- Residency audits need to be conducted.
- Student lunch times start too early and there are too many lunch periods.
- Prekindergarten classes are sometimes moved when a school is overcrowded.
- Consider a new forecasting tool that includes future housing developments.
- Elementary school overcrowding will affect middle and high schools.
- Overcrowding negatively affects classroom management and the quality of instruction.