

## NE Elementary Community Boundary Study Public Email Log: 11/27/17 to 11/30/17

**Date:** 11/28/2017, 0834 hrs

**Name:** Graig Saur

To Whom it may concern, I am a parent of a child in the current Vincent Farm district in Baltimore County. Our community is the FieldCrest Community right off Allendar Road. I am voicing my opinion that we would highly advocate that our community be redistricted into Chapel Hill Elem. This is a big change for some of us as it would mean changing schools in the middle of our children's educations, but I believe it is in the best interest of Baltimore County Schools and the children of our community. Below are some reasons that I believe this to be true.

Currently Vincent Farm has:

- Over a thousand staff and students in the school daily
- Limited bathroom, cafeteria and classroom space
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- six to seven classes per grade
- Lunches start at 11:15 and end at 1:40
- 7 portables on site already

Allowing our neighborhood, which has just finished construction of over 175 houses to attend Chapel Hill instead of Vincent Farm will relieve a great deal of the above mentioned congestion, and more evenly distribute Baltimore County students across available schools. Additionally if you look at this from a pure distance perspective, Chapel Hill is the closest school to our neighborhood. Being a new community, we are filled with young families that are continuing to grow, and our population will only increase in the coming years.

I thank you for your consideration, and look forward to hearing what the final suggestion is.

Thank you, Graig Sauer

**Date:** 11/28/2017, 0851 hrs

**Name:** Kate Dzintars

Members of the Board: After listening to the most recent meeting, as well as evaluating options A-E provided to the surrounding communities, I believe it is in the best interests of NE Baltimore County as a whole to proceed forward with Options B or C provided. Those options provide the most relief while maintaining diversity throughout the area. This particular area of Baltimore County is still undergoing tremendous growth (particularly in the area of 43) and the revisions to the districts accounts for these changes as well.

As a parent of first graders at Vincent Farm, I have the same concerns as most. While I couldn't be happier with the education my children are receiving, I recognize the fact that there are nearly 1000 individuals moving in and out of that building everyday. There is limited bathroom facilities, lunch is too long with most kids eating too early or too late in the day, the inability to have class assemblies due to size (even after hours activities are limited to a certain number of participants) as well as having 6 – 7 classes for each grade. The school is already restricted to two small recess areas for this many children, one of which would likely be taken away if more portable classrooms become necessary. At some point the system is going to break and this environment will no longer be safe for my children.

I appreciate the Board taking the time to act now and listen to the voices of the community. I don't doubt that all communities will have something unpleasant to deal with, whether it be a busy road/traffic pattern, a change in distance, etc.; however, it is the best interest of the NE Baltimore Co community as a whole, Options B & C remain in everyone's best interest. Thanks, Kate Dzintars

**Date:** 11/28/2017, 1026 hrs

**Name:** Faraz Abbasi

Dear Committee Members, This email is to voice my opinion as a resident of PB9 and how important it is to redistrict kids from this community to Chapel Hill Elementary. As you have heard from many residents of this community that we all love Vincent Farm but VF is maxed out to its capacity and way too overcrowded and just to overcome and accommodate everyone they have 7 portable class rooms on school premises and many other concerns raised by many residents (Cafeteria & lunch issues, bathroom issues, no full assembly etc. etc.).

Being a parent of two small children it is extremely important that kids this young receives a proper attention to their needs and have proper resources to go to when needed.

We all have opinions and every opinion matters but those opinions should be based on reality not on the basis of FEAR. I strongly believe that safety should be considered as the boundary process but we should look at safety concerns for ALL schools not only Chapel Hill. If you don't redistrict properly there will be huge safety concerns at Vincent Farm as well. Overcrowding at any school is unsafe and in my opinion VF needs a relief now. I am hopeful that committee will consider the best available option which will ease every school and solve all the concerns from all the communities not just only one. Thanks,

**Date:** 11/28/2017, 1111 hrs

**Name:** Anuradha Mohanty

Members of the Committee

I live in the PB 9 community. My child is currently attending the Vincent Farm school(VFES). In the two years she has attended VFES, we have noticed significant rise in the number of students. This school is not equipped to handle the excessive enrollment which if anything will continue to grow in the future. The lack of facilities and infrastructure is unfortunately starting to affect the quality of education. Safety is also an issue as at this time some elementary school children in our community reach home around 5 pm due to transportation related issues.

Every community that is being affected by this change will have difficulties and challenges but the current conditions can't continue also. I am in favor of the Option B which redistricts our community PB 9 to Chapel Hill ES from VFES.

Thanks for your continued efforts to find a solution.

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**Date:** 11/28/2017, 1347 hrs

**Name:** A.C.

To Whom it May Concern,

My husband and I would like to take the time to express some concerns we have with discussions regarding Vincent Farm Elementary and the overflowing population. We hope that you will take the time to consider our thoughts regarding this subject matter. We are in strong support of an elementary school change. This is needed for our growing Fieldcrest development.

Our child currently attends Vincent Farm. We have been extremely pleased with the teachers and staff at the school. Unfortunately, as the student size has grown, there have been concerns that have developed. We live in the Fieldcrest community off of Allender Road. Our development has two bus stops. When they ride the bus home, she would get home at 4:16.

A few weeks ago, the two stops were split between two buses because of the overflow of students on the first bus. The bus is now a separate bus that comes through the development. As a result of this change, they now get home at 4:55. This added 35 minutes to the commute from school. Due to this change, they are getting home close to dark and this affected our after school activities.

I contacted BCPS transportation as a concern for the bus stop being across the street and them having to cross the street in the dark on the main road into our development. This was a safety concern for us. They were unable to honor any requests due to there being 16 bus stops prior to our stop at home.

The hour bus ride home is too long for the children on the bus. There were fights occurring and there was no bus assistant to help during the transport time.

We no longer felt safe during the ride home and requested to be changed to a parent pick up. We never want our child or any child to feel unsafe at school or on the bus. This bus is at full capacity along with the other bus that comes into our development.

We now pick up from school at the end of the school day. Which then presents another concern regarding the overcrowded school and limited parking. It is necessary to arrive to school an hour prior to dismissal to obtain a parking spot. If there are no lot spots available, vehicles have to park on Ebenezer road and walk and cross the street with children. There is no crossing guard present at the school to assist during the process of arrival and dismissal which presents a huge safety concern for parents, students and other small siblings.

We have other concerns as well as our development continues to grow and more children will attend the school. BCPS transportation stated during conversation that our development has too many children to accommodate even one separate bus just for our neighborhood.

Next year, they have planned for three buses to transport children from Fieldcrest to Vincent Farm.

In addition to transportation safety and concerns, we have other areas that are in need of attention:

- there are over a thousand staff and students in the school daily. This could be a huge safety issue in the event of an emergency even with practice drills in place. With the unfortunate frequent school tragedies that have occurred in other areas, we hope and pray our students and teachers never have to experience anything like that. However, in the event something were to occur, how safely and efficiently will the school be able to react with an overcrowded school full of students and staff?

- there is limited bathroom, cafeteria and classroom space. There is also expressed concern regarding the volume of students and loudness during lunch time.

- limited outdoor play space.

- unable to have full school assemblies due to size

- six to seven classes per grade. The second grade class had seven classes at the beginning of the school year.

- lunch time starts at 11:15 and ends at 1:40 to accommodate all the students. On early dismissal days, some classes have lunch not long after arriving to school.

- the school already has 7 portable classrooms. If there are additional ones added, this then takes away from the children's already limited play space where the courts are located.

- end of school events. Last year, parents were excluded from the end of year picnics due to the capacity of students. This is very upsetting as we don't want to miss out on our children's experiences throughout their school years.

We are strongly in favor of option B and feel this would be the best resolution to our developing community safety and concerns. We feel the move to Chapel Hill Elementary for the Fieldcrest development is a valuable decision.

Thank you for taking the time to allow us to express our safety and concerns. We hope that our voice is heard and our concerns will be thoroughly addressed with a resolution that will benefit our students and teachers of Vincent Farm Elementary.

AC

**Date:** 11/28/2017, 1443 hrs

**Name:** Julius Tolentino

To Whom it may concern, I am a parent of a child in the current Vincent Farm district in Baltimore County. Our community is the FieldCrest Community right off Allender Road. I am voicing my opinion that we would highly advocate that our community be redistricted into Chapel Hill Elem. This is a big change for some of us as it would mean changing schools in the middle of our children's educations, but I believe it is in the best interest of Baltimore County Schools and the children of our community. Below are some reasons that I believe this to be true.

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Allowing our neighborhood, which has just finished construction of over 175 houses to attend Chapel Hill instead of Vincent Farm will relieve a great deal of the above mentioned congestion, and more evenly distribute Baltimore County students across available schools. Additionally if you look at this from a pure distance perspective, Chapel Hill is the closest school to our neighborhood. Being a new community, we are filled with young families that are continuing to grow, and our population will only increase in the coming years.

I thank you for your consideration, and look forward to hearing what the final suggestion is.

V/r

MR. TOLENTINO, JULIUS

US ARMY RETIRED

Source: Boundary Study Inbox ([boundarystudy@bcps.org](mailto:boundarystudy@bcps.org)) unless otherwise noted

Prepared by the Baltimore County Public Schools

Office of Strategic Planning, November 30, 2017

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**Date: 11/28/2017, 1543 hrs**

**Name: Josh**

Comments: I would like to submit feedback for Option B. It maintains diversity of the schools and balances school enrollment both now and in the future for all children involved in the study. I believe Option B will provide a safe learning environment. Thank you.

**Date: 11/28/2017, 1550 hrs**

**Name: Leena Desai**

To Whom it may concern, I am a parent of a child in the current Vincent Farm district in Baltimore County. Our community is the FieldCrest Community right off Allendar Road. I am voicing my opinion that we would highly advocate that our community be redistricted into Chapel Hill Elem. This is a big change for some of us as it would mean changing schools in the middle of our children's educations, but I believe it is in the best interest of Baltimore County Schools and the children of our community. Below are some reasons that I believe this to be true.

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Being a new community, we are filled with young families that are continuing to grow, and our population will only increase in the coming years. I thank you for your consideration, and look forward to hearing what the final suggestion is. Leena Desai

**Date: 11/28/2017, 2042 hrs**

**Name: Babatope Dada**

To Whom it may concern, I am a parent of a child who is currently zoned to Vincent Farm Elementary School in Baltimore County. Our community is the FieldCrest Community right off Allendar Road. I am appealing to the board that our community should be zoned to chapel Hill Elementary. My other kids attended Chapel Hill and we have been looking forward to continuing our daughter's education at the same school. Attending Chapel Hill is in the best interest of Baltimore County School Board and our entire neighbourhood. Below are some reasons why I believe this to be so:

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**Date: 11/28/2017, 2220 hrs**

**Name: Chris Burley**

Good Evening, I would like to comment on what myself and several of my community members have been reading the past few weeks. It is deeply troubling that we, in Fieldcrest, are to blame for other planning blocks disdain for the recommended changes. Everyone involved in this process will have to make adjustments to their original school district plans. Volunteers on this planning board have put their own interest aside to insure we comply with the rules, regulations, & policies set forth by Balto. County. (see Rule 1280) So that it is clear, we should not bring our biases to the table for our own self interests. The volunteers have been and will continue to think of the entire NE Boundary of Baltimore County.

Fieldcrest is approx. 5 yrs old. Our children, if attending public schools, have attended Vincent Farm ES, Perry Hall ES, & Perry Hall HS respectively. So to insinuate that we were promised other schools is inaccurate and needs to be clarified. If anyone stated that, they were given misleading information. The parents in this neighborhood knew what schools were available for public school options at the time.

2nd- The new Principal of North East ES has been in attendance at every meeting and was readily available to meet any and everyone. So there has been representation for the new school.

3rd- I entered my home address to Vincent Farm ES and my house to Chapel Hill (ref. GOOGLE MAPS).

VFES-4.1 miles

Chapel Hill 2.8 miles. So as you can see Chapel Hill is still closer.

In closing, my purpose is not to rebut or refute what other planning blocks are providing. This transition will be challenging for all involved as I stated above. I just ask that as adults, we take a step back and not blame the volunteers, and paid staffers for trying to make a boundaries that complies with the standards set forth by Baltimore County. We have to come together and find compromise for our children and our communities futures. Hope everyone has a blessed 2017.

Respectfully, Chris Burley, Parent

## NE Elementary Community Boundary Study Public Email Log: 11/27/17 to 11/30/17

**Date:** 11/29/2017, 1810 hrs

**Name:** Simon Su

Dear Sir/Ma'am, We would like to support our neighborhood being redistricted to Chapel Hill Elementary and leave Vincent Farm. Thank you for your consideration

Best Regards,

Simon Su and Fen Li