

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

S. Dallas Dance, Ph.D., Superintendent

6901 Charles Street Towson, MD • 21204-3711

May 21, 2015

Dear Southwest Area Families and Community Members:

As you are aware, Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) has many capital projects scheduled for the Southwest area. On Wednesday, May 20, 2015, at the Southwest Area Education Advisory Council, an overview of the upcoming capital projects and the boundary process for establishing the boundaries for the schools involved was shared.

We understand that not everyone could make that meeting so the purpose of this letter is to inform you of the information that was discussed at the meeting.

Construction Project Status

Relay Elementary School Replacement

- Relay contracts are scheduled for presentation to the Board in August 2015.
- Construction will begin in the fall, with school opening in August 2017.

Westowne Elementary School Replacement

- Construction will begin in June, with the addition opening in August 2016.

Westchester Elementary School Addition

- Construction will begin in June, with school opening in August 2016.

Catonsville Elementary School @ Bloomsbury

- Construction will begin in June, with school opening in August 2016.

Boundary Process

Schools participating in the boundary process include the project schools and the adjacent schools as outlined below.

- **Project schools** – four schools to be constructed and/or renovated to increase capacity: Catonsville ES, Relay ES, Westowne ES, and Westchester ES
- **Adjacent schools** – seven schools that share a boundary with a project school: Arbutus ES, Edmondson Heights ES, Halethorpe ES, Hillcrest ES, Johnnycake ES, Lansdowne ES, and Woodbridge ES.

Timeline

- **Fall 2015** – Begin boundary study process with committee, anticipate six meetings including one public forum
- **February 2016** – Recommendations for boundary changes presented to the Board of Education (BOE). BOE holds a public hearing regarding boundary change recommendations

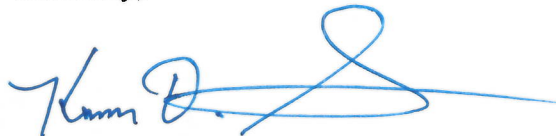
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- **March 2016** – BOE votes on boundary change recommendations
- **July 2016 or July 2017** – The Boundary Study Committee may recommend that boundary changes be implemented in a phased manner based on when construction is complete:
 - Catonsville ES, Westowne ES, and Westchester ES – August 2016
 - Relay ES – August 2017

This information, along with Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), are posted on the BCPS Web site under the “What’s Happening” section. Also, included in the PowerPoint presentation on the Web site are the results of the traffic study for the Bloomsbury site which will house Catonsville Elementary School.

Next year will be a productive year for all of us as we work together on these exciting, and much needed, projects.

Sincerely,



Kevin D. Smith
Chief Administrative and Operations Officer



Verletta White
Chief Academic Officer