

Southwest Area Boundary Study Community input update

At the October 14, 2015 Boundary Study Committee meeting, facilitator Matt Cropper shared the following communications protocol:

Emails from the general public regarding the study:

- Each will receive a general acknowledgement
- Where appropriate, questions will be directed to FAQ and Web site
- Will be consolidated and compiled by theme or topic and shared with the committee prior to each meeting
- Communications received from committee members regarding committee work will be shared with all members
- Use bdystudy@bcps.org to send questions and comments

Compilation of emails received from general public: 10/14 – 10/27/15

Concerns/input/requests:

- 1 regarding involving any school north of route 40 unless all of their adjacent schools are involved as well – concerns included excess space at school to the north of Johnnycake ES
- 1 regarding not changing Johnnycake at all – included concern that Johnnycake is a caring, successful school that is very popular
- 1 regarding reducing overcrowding overall so they will have better access to special permission transfer option in Catonsville schools
- 5-6 regarding not moving Westowne’s boundary across Route 40 – included concerns and suggestions such as: include PB’s 465, 467, 468 instead to fill available space, property value, school performance, affluence/poverty, disruption of quality of life, Arkla Court should be considered a part of Garden Ridge
- 2 that favor option 2 (from meeting #2)
- 2-3 regarding not disrupting current walkability to any school
- 1 regarding keeping PB 447 at Catonsville ES included concern that shifting ES boundaries disrupts feeder pattern integrity – may create cases where small numbers of student go to a separate MS than their peers
- Many regarding opposition to changes at Hillcrest as follows:
 - 4-5 concerned that the end of Hilton Ave / 500 block of Hilton Ave adjacent to BP 8 in Patapsco woods can walk to Hillcrest and should be considered separately – should be included in PB 8, that part of Newburg Heights has a bus stop and are not walkers to Hillcrest
 - 2 concerned that Hillcrest should not change at all
 - 20-21 regarding keeping Newburg Heights in Hillcrest zone – concerns include: walkability to Hillcrest versus unsafe walk to Catonsville ES – Rolling Rd and Bloomsbury Ave, general sense of neighborhood cohesion, safety of Catonsville/Bloomsbury neighborhood, school quality, committee members advised community to start a petition and appeal to BOE members, no child in school but don’t want change, disruption of feeder pattern integrity – splitting ES kids who attend same middle school, some advocate specifically for PB 153, some for PB 513, want better access to the decision-making process, concerned that PB process is flawed

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- 1 regarding making PB 351, 514, and 1000 (?) one big planning block. Want them to stay together and not move from Hillcrest – concerns include that while a bus is provided, many walk instead --
- 4 that favor option B or E (meeting #3)