

## Victory Villa Community Boundary Study Public Email Log: 02/03/17 to 02/08/17

**Date: 2/03/2017, 1137 hrs**

Name: Casey Cox

Dear Boundary Study,

I currently reside at 703 Sterling Avenue in Middle River with my husband and two children which is located in the semi-new neighborhood of Grantleigh Station. It has come to my attention that the county plans on rezoning the elementary schools in order to deal with overcrowding. While I understand this issue and am sympathetic to the problem, I do not agree with the approach to solving it. Currently, there are 3 proposed rezoning solutions. All but one (zone option 3) have the zone for Hawthorne elementary school jumping over Eastern Avenue. This is problematic.

There are several new single family home neighborhoods built or being built on Wampler Road. We purchased these homes with the understanding that our children would be going to Vincent Farm Elementary School which is highly rated. It was one of the great selling points for us to stay on the eastern side of Baltimore County and not move to Harford County. If Zone option 1 or Zone option 2 are chosen, our son and daughter will go to Hawthorne Elementary which currently has a 3 out of 10 rating on [GreatSchools.org](http://GreatSchools.org). This is alarming, to say the least. I would not have spent the amount of money I did on a home in Middle River if I knew my kids would not be going to Vincent Farm.

I have watched a few of the past meetings to discuss the zoning online. It appears that the 4-person group representing each school is made up of teachers and current parents. It may be beneficial to open this up to parents of potential students as well. I understand that there are more options to come, and I hope that the opinion of new neighborhoods is taken into account. As I mentioned previously, many of us bought our house here because we thought our children would go to Vincent Farm. It seems that we may be regretting that decision.

Thank you for the consideration, Casey Cox 703 Sterling Ave. Middle River, MD 21220 410-303-2991

**Date: 2/03/2017, 1157 and 1159 hrs**

Name: Megan Bongiovanni

To Whom It May Concern:

As a resident of the area which will potentially be impacted due to the upcoming elementary school redistricting process, regarding the reconstructed Victory Villa Elementary and new North East Elementary buildings I am extremely concerned. We are currently zoned for our children to attend Vincent Farm Elementary school. According to the proposed changes two of the three options will have my children redistricted to Hawthorne Elementary. This does not sit well with my family or numerous members of my neighborhood.

These proposals do not reflect the needs or desires of the impacted community. As a recent resident into the area I have witnessed firsthand the joy and commitment that my neighbors have had pertaining to their time and interaction with Vincent Farm Elementary. This is largely the reason I decided to transport my own family to this area. We much like many others purchased our home in this particular neighborhood because of Vincent Farm Elementary School and would NOT have made the purchase otherwise. This potential redistricting is going to have an extremely negative economic impact on a large number of constituents in the area. We would not have paid the price we did, nor made the move recognizing the loss we would regretfully end up taking due to this potential boundary change. The economic hardship will be considerable for my family.

Not only will this potential redistricting of our neighborhood to Hawthorne deplete our housing values drastically but also it will be extremely detrimental to the morale. The reality is we love our neighborhood school of Vincent Farm Elementary and the current student's parents have been extremely involved in the school community. If one of the two options which have our area redistricted to Hawthorne Elementary are implemented you will be guaranteed to see large populations fleeing the schools and fleeing the area. Whether it is in a total residential move or a move to private or parochial schools, you will absolutely be losing an extremely productive, supportive, quality community base.

At the end of the day, we all want our students to be joyful in their learning. Moving students in the midst of their elementary careers and redistricting incoming students away from a highly rated school leaves me to question whether this is ultimately the viewpoint of those involved in making this decision. Both options having our neighborhood districted to Hawthorne are also not taking into consideration the fact that Hawthorne is currently not a feeder school for Middle River Middle School, which is where our neighborhood is currently zoned. Thus forcing our children to once again endure a drastic and unnecessary change throughout their school year. As an educator, I cannot see how this will set our students up for success.

As a constituent with two and potentially more children in the area, whose parents have moved to the area to support these incoming students I am extremely concerned. I would love to be an active member in this boundary change process and look forward to hearing from you all!

Thanks for your time and understanding! Megan Bongiovanni 822 Salvatore Road Middle River MD 21220