

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

November 19, 2009

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Jerry D. Weast, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Boundary Recommendations for East Silver Spring, Piney Branch, Sligo Creek, and Takoma Park Elementary Schools and Silver Spring International and Takoma Park Middle Schools

In November 2008, the Board of Education authorized a boundary study to review boundaries for East Silver Spring, Piney Branch, Sligo Creek, and Takoma Park elementary schools and their attendant middle schools—Silver Spring International and Takoma Park. Current enrollment at Sligo Creek Elementary School exceeds capacity and the school is projected to remain over capacity for the next six years.

This boundary study followed as a result of earlier community involvement that occurred in winter 2006. At that time, a roundtable discussion group explored options to relieve overutilization at Sligo Creek and Takoma Park elementary schools. Subsequent to the roundtable process, the Board of Education adopted a plan, on March 27, 2006, to construct an eight-classroom addition at East Silver Spring Elementary School to support the reorganization from a pre-K–2 program to a pre-K–5 program, beginning in August 2009 with Grade 3. The plan also included construction of a 16-classroom addition to Takoma Park Elementary School to relieve overutilization and to provide capacity to accommodate students from Sligo Creek Elementary School. The additions at East Silver Spring and Takoma Park elementary schools are scheduled to open in August 2010.

WHEREAS, In March 2009, the superintendent of schools convened a boundary advisory committee composed of representatives from East Silver Spring, Piney Branch, Sligo Creek, and Takoma Park elementary schools and Silver Spring International and Takoma Park middle schools; and

WHEREAS, The Boundary Advisory Committee met from March through June 2009 and submitted a report to the superintendent of schools on June 10, 2009, with committee member option evaluations and Parent Teacher Association position papers on six boundary options; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent of schools reviewed and carefully considered the Boundary Advisory Committee's report, Parent Teacher Association position papers, and feedback from the community at-large and on October 15, 2009, presented a recommendation for elementary and middle school boundary changes for consideration by the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, On November 5, 2009, the Board of Education conducted a work session to consider the superintendent of schools' recommendation for boundary changes and requested one alternative to the superintendent's recommendation; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted public hearings on November 11 and 12, 2009, in accordance with Board of Education Policy FAA, *Long-range Educational Facilities Planning*; and Montgomery County Public Schools' Regulation FAA-RA, *Long-range Educational Facilities Planning*; on the superintendent of schools' recommendation and Board of Education's requested alternative; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the boundaries for East Silver Spring, Sligo Creek, Takoma Park, and Piney Branch elementary schools and Silver Spring International and Takoma Park middle schools reflect the following reassignment (also see attached map for zone references):

Reassign Zones SC4 and SC5 from Sligo Creek Elementary School to Takoma Park and Piney Branch elementary schools and from Silver Spring International Middle School to Takoma Park Middle School

Zones SC4 and SC5 include the area located northeast of Long Branch, southeast of Carroll Avenue, southwest of University Boulevard, and bounded on the east by the Montgomery County and Prince George's County line

Reassign Zone ESS5B from East Silver Spring Elementary School to Sligo Creek Elementary School and from Takoma Park Middle School to Silver Spring International Middle School.

Zone ESS5B includes the western portion of the East Silver Spring Elementary School service area, that includes the area bounded—in clockwise order—by Route 29, Georgia Avenue, Thayer Avenue, Fenton Street, Burlington Avenue, East West Highway, Blair Mill Road, and the Montgomery County and District of Columbia line; and be it further

Resolved, That the boundary changes be implemented with the following phasing schedule:

Reassign zones SC4 and SC5 from Sligo Creek Elementary School to Takoma Park Elementary School, beginning in August 2010 with Grades K-1.

Grade 2 students at Sligo Creek Elementary School in the 2010–2011 school year will be grandfathered at Sligo Creek Elementary School and then articulate to Piney Branch Elementary School for Grade 3 in the 2011–2012 school year.

Reassign zones SC4 and SC5 from Sligo Creek Elementary School to Piney Branch Elementary School, beginning in August 2010 with Grades 3–4.

Grade 5 students at Sligo Creek Elementary School in the 2010–2011 school year will be grandfathered at Sligo Creek Elementary School and then articulate to Silver Spring International Middle School for Grades 6–8 and will not be impacted by the boundary change.

Reassign zones SC4 and SC5 from Silver Spring International Middle School to Takoma Park Middle School, beginning in August 2012 with Grade 6.

Grades 6–8 students at Silver Spring International Middle School in the 2010–2011 school year will be grandfathered at Silver Spring International Middle School and will not be impacted by the recommended boundary changes. The phased change will begin with Grade 6 students from zones SC4 and SC5 in the 2012–2013 school year. These students would have attended Piney Branch Elementary School in Grade 5 during the 2011–2012 school year.

Reassign zone ESS5B from East Silver Spring Elementary School to Sligo Creek Elementary School, beginning in August 2010 with Grades K–4.

Grade 5 students at Piney Branch Elementary School in the 2010–2011 school year will be grandfathered at Piney Branch Elementary School and then articulate to Takoma Park Middle School.

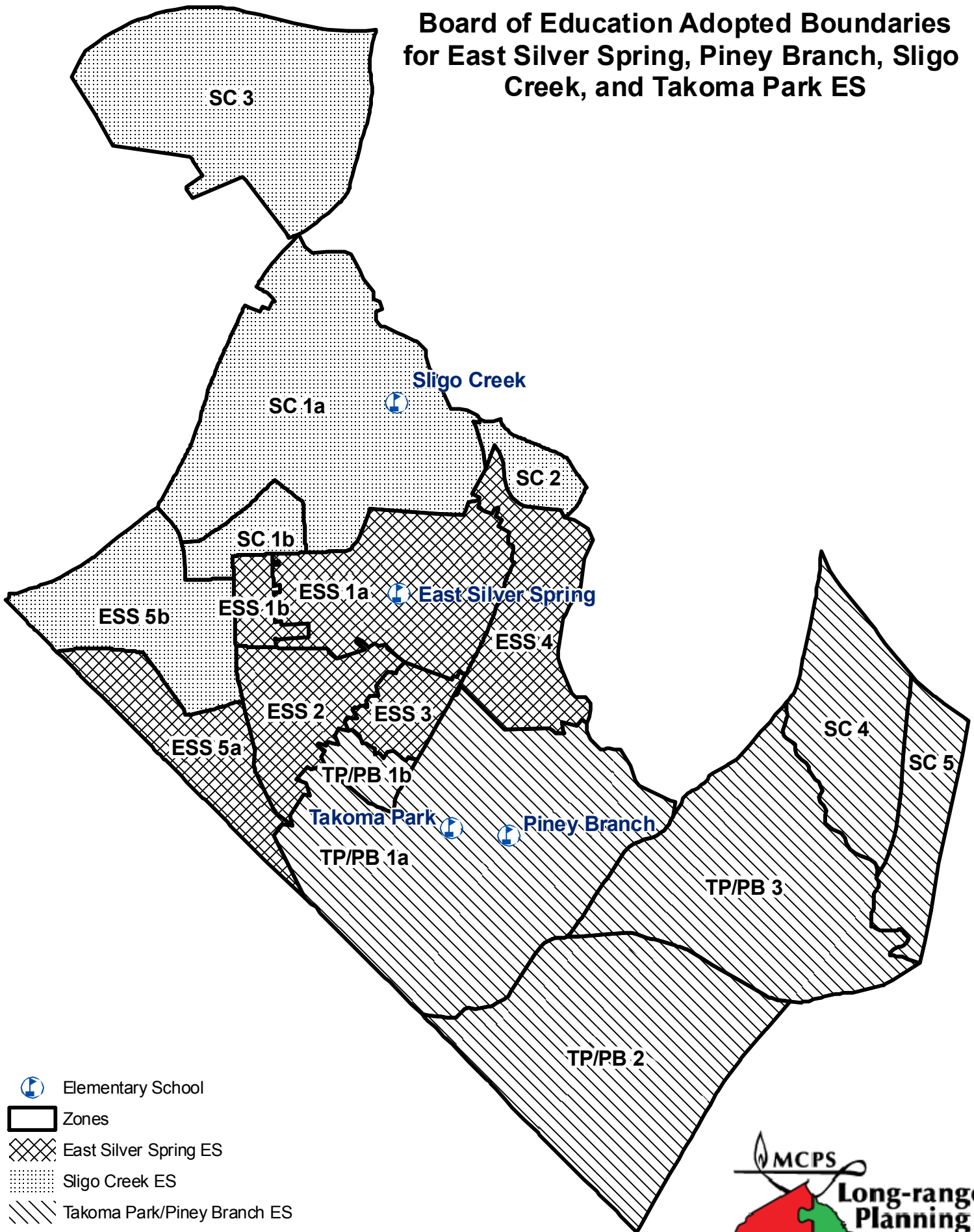
Reassign zone ESS5B from Takoma Park Middle School to Silver Spring International Middle School, beginning in August 2012 with Grade 6.

Grades 6–8 students at Takoma Park Middle School in the 2010–2011 school year will be grandfathered at Takoma Park Middle School and will not be impacted by the recommended boundary changes. The phased change will begin with Grade 6 students from zone ESS5B in the 2012–2013 school year. These students would have attended Sligo Creek Elementary School in Grade 5 during the 2011–2012 school year.

JDW:LAB:JLL:jlc

Attachment

Board of Education Adopted Boundaries for East Silver Spring, Piney Branch, Sligo Creek, and Takoma Park ES



 Elementary School

 Zones

 East Silver Spring ES

 Sligo Creek ES

 Takoma Park/Piney Branch ES

