

# Unity Area Boundary Study Boundary Advisory Committee Meeting #2



January 11, 2017

[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/unityarea.aspx](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/unityarea.aspx)



MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



# Schedule

Meeting	Date	Topic
✓ #1	December 22, 2016	Committee charge, overview of process, timeline, review of zones to build options, development of criteria to evaluate option. Review of community requested option and projected condition with no change.
--	<b>Due 1/24/2017</b>	<i>School PTA and other meetings to share options and gather feedback</i>
✓ #2	January 11, 2017	<b>Feedback on option. Committee members submit option evaluations and schools submit PTA position papers (if needed).</b>



January 18, 2017  
 January 24, 2017  
 February 1, 2017  
 February 15, 2017  
 February 27, 2017  
 March 9, 2017  
 March 30, 2017  
 September 5, 2017

Community-wide meeting to present option and get feedback.  
 Backup meeting date. **Deadline for position papers and evaluations.**  
 Boundary Report submitted to superintendent and BOE  
 Superintendent's recommendation to the Board of Education  
 Board of Education boundary work session  
 Board of Education public hearing  
 Board of Education Action (subject to change)  
 Plan implemented if approved by BOE



# Agenda

- Roll call
- Ground rules
- Review committee packet and background materials.
- Present information requested at the last meeting.
- Review committee criteria.
- Share feedback.
- Review draft report narrative.
- Hand in option evaluations and position papers. (Due 1/24)
- Discuss next steps and fill out feedback forms.
- Address questions and comments from observers.



# Ground Rules

1. Be true to the charge
2. Share openly
3. Participate enthusiastically
4. Give and receive constructive feedback
5. Appreciate everyone's ideas
6. Suspend judgment
7. Limit discussions to the topic
8. Do homework and be prepared
9. Abide by decisions made by the facilitator
10. Cell phones—turn off, vibrate, or answer on first ring
11. Start and end meetings on time



# Feedback from previous meeting

This session was most helpful at:

- Identifying criteria and addressing potential concerns with boundary change
- Discussing the expectations of the process
- Setting criteria



# This session was least helpful at:

- Presenting accurate data points
- Try to frame conversations to BOE policy and DLRP best practices (i.e. the board sees anything less than 5% as 5%)
- Talking equally- Unity community vs. Rosa/Sherwood area; seemed a bit less talking by Unity folks
- Keeping personal stories at bay



# Suggestions for future sessions

- Provide pertinent background/supporting information
- Talking circle- no main speakers
- Only committee members sit at the round table discussion. Others sit on outside table
- Ask visitors to “fish bowl”



---

# Information Requested

From December 22, 2016 meeting





# A.M. Bus Route Information for Unity Area

## Gaithersburg Cluster Schools

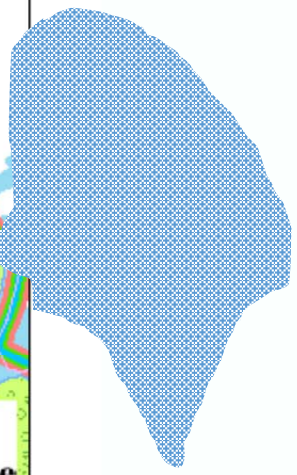
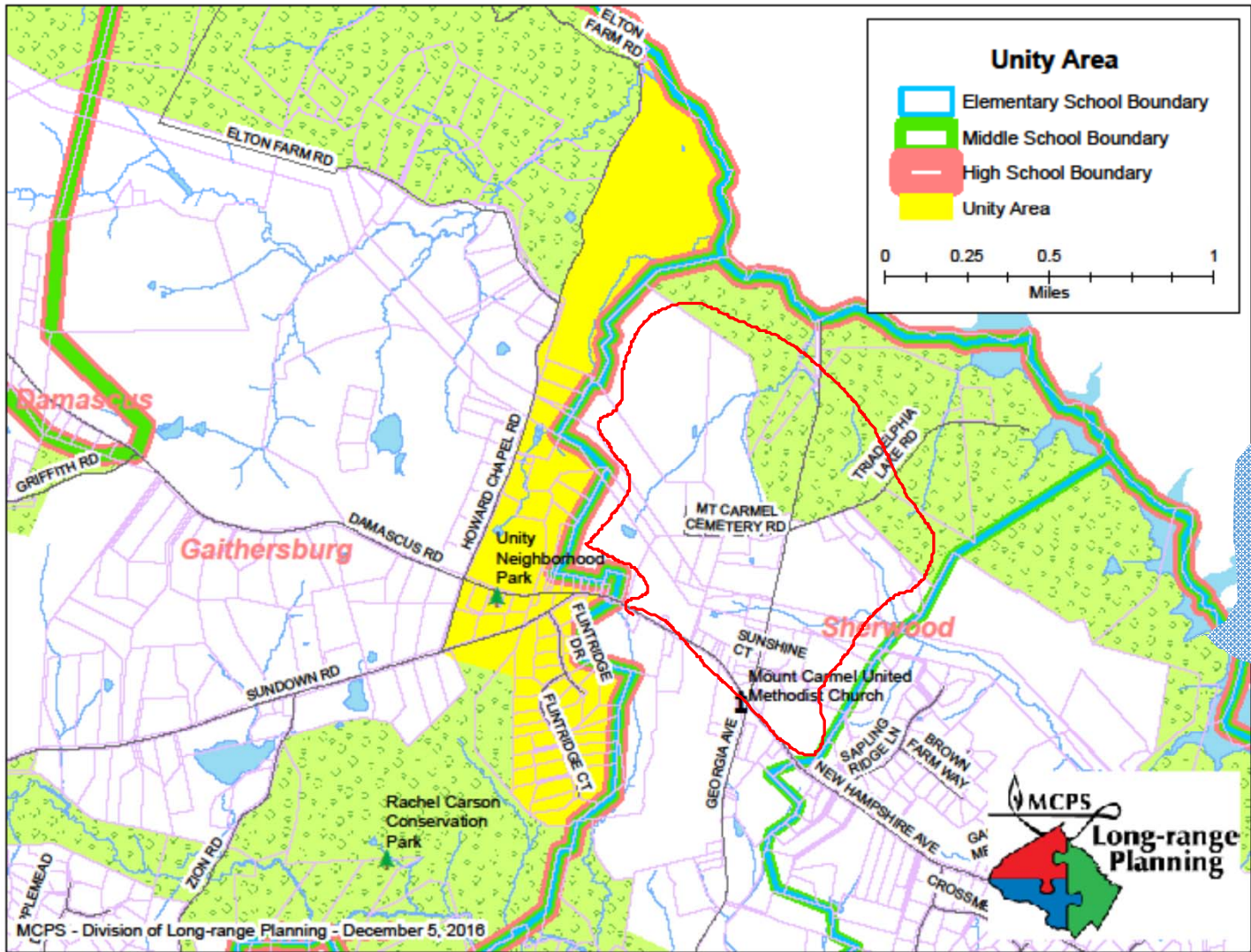
Laytonsville ES (Tier 2, 9:25 a.m. to 3:50 p.m.)	Route 4114 First stop 8:31 a.m.	49 minutes
Gaithersburg MS	Route 4109 First stop 7:02 a.m.	58 minutes
Gaithersburg HS	Route 4107 First stop: 6:21 a.m.	56 minutes

## Sherwood Cluster Schools

Greenwood ES (Tier 1, 9:00 a.m. to 3:25 p.m.)	Route 3315 First stop 8:40 a.m.	34 minutes
Rosa Parks MS	Route 3310 First stop 7:20 a.m.	40 minutes
Sherwood HS	Route 3310 First stop 6:35 a.m.	30 minutes

Routes currently serve Howard County Line area including Mt. Carmel Cemetery Rd., Sunshine Ct., Gregg Rd.





# Activity Bus information

- Activity busses serve Gaithersburg HS and Gaithersburg MS 3 days a week
- The stops vary due to the rural nature of the routes
- Buses drop off students along the following roads on both sides:
  - Sundown Road from Laytonsville Road to Damascus Road
  - Damascus Road from Sundown Road to Georgia Ave
  - Damascus Road from Georgia Ave to Griffith Road
  - Griffith Road from Damascus Road to Laytonsville Road



# Activity Bus information

- Activity busses serve Sherwood HS and Rosa Parks MS
- The activity busses go into the area of Sunshine and are mostly mailbox stops
- Rosa Parks bus 3304 has students on the bus for up to 1 ½ hours and takes about an hour on average
- Sherwood busses are about the same

---

# Enrollment and Capacity



# Laytonsville ES Enrollment and Capacity

(Maximum # of Seats=449)

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
<b>No Change</b>						
<b>Number of Students</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>390</b>
<i>% of Building Occupied</i>	82%	84%	70%	85%	83%	87%
Available Seats	79	73	136	67	75	59
<b>With Change</b>						
<b>Number of Students</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>380</b>
<i>% of Building Occupied</i>	80%	82%	67%	83%	81%	85%
Available Seats	89	83	146	77	85	69



# Greenwood ES Enrollment and Capacity

(Maximum # of Seats=584)

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
<b>No Change</b>						
<b>Number of Students</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>432</b>
<i>% of Building Occupied</i>	79%	77%	76%	77%	77%	74%
Available Seats	122	134	141	134	137	152
<b>With Change</b>						
<b>Number of Students</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>442</b>
<i>% of Building Occupied</i>	81%	79%	79%	79%	78%	76%
Available Seats	112	124	131	124	127	142



# Effect on Demographics

School	% Afr. Amer.	% Asian	% Hispanic	% White	% 2 or More	% FARMS	% ESOL
<b>No Change</b>							
Laytonsville ES	15.7%	7.1%	20.9%	47.9%	8.4%	20.8%	5.2%
<b>With Change</b>							
Laytonsville ES	16.0%	7.2%	21.1%	47.5%	8.3%	21.4%	5.6%
<b>No Change</b>							
Greenwood ES	10.4%	7.8%	7.8%	66.7%	7.4%	9.1%	<5.0%
<b>With Change</b>							
Greenwood ES	10.3%	7.7%	7.9%	66.7%	7.5%	8.9%	<5.0%



# Gaithersburg MS Enrollment and Capacity (Maximum # of Seats=962)

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
<b>No Change</b>						
<b>Number of Students</b>	<b>816</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>901</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>957</b>
<i>% of Building Occupied</i>	85%	89%	90%	94%	100%	99%
Available Seats	146	105	97	61	3	5
<b>With Change</b>						
<b>Number of Students</b>	806	847	855	891	949	947
<i>% of Building Occupied</i>	84%	88%	89%	93%	99%	98%
Available Seats	156	115	107	71	13	15



# Rosa Parks MS Enrollment and Capacity

(Maximum # of Seats=978)

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
<b>No Change</b>						
<b>Number of Students</b>	<b>862</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>824</b>	<b>812</b>
<i>% of Building Occupied</i>	88%	85%	87%	85%	84%	83%
Available Seats	116	142	127	148	154	166
<b>With Change</b>						
<b>Number of Students</b>	872	846	861	840	834	822
<i>% of Building Occupied</i>	89%	87%	88%	86%	85%	84%
Available Seats	106	132	117	138	144	156



# Effect on Demographics

School	% Afr. Amer.	% Asian	% Hispanic	% White	% 2 or More	% FARMS	% ESOL
<b>No Change</b>							
Gaithersburg MS	23.3%	7.5%	46.3%	21.0%	<5%	44.4%	13.0%
<b>With Change</b>							
Gaithersburg MS	21.5%	7.6%	46.6%	20.4%	<5%	44.9%	13.1%
<b>No Change</b>							
Rosa Parks MS	12.0%	10.2%	11.5%	61.7%	<5%	10.9%	<5.0%
<b>With Change</b>							
Rosa Parks MS	11.8%	10.1%	11.6%	61.8%	<5%	10.0%	<5.0%



# Gaithersburg HS Enrollment and Capacity

(Maximum # of Seats=2407)

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
<b>No Change</b>						
<b>Number of Students</b>	<b>2480</b>	<b>2496</b>	<b>2524</b>	<b>2539</b>	<b>2590</b>	<b>2736</b>
<i>% of Building Occupied</i>	103%	104%	105%	105%	108%	114%
Available Seats	-73	-89	-117	-132	-183	-329
<b>With Change</b>						
<b>Number of Students</b>	2475	2491	2519	2534	2585	2731
<i>% of Building Occupied</i>	103%	103%	105%	105%	107%	113%
Available Seats	-68	-84	-112	-127	-178	-324



# Sherwood HS Enrollment and Capacity

(Maximum # of Seats=2183)

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
<b>No Change</b>						
<b>Number of Students</b>	<b>1933</b>	<b>1989</b>	<b>1981</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>1984</b>	<b>1959</b>
<i>% of Building Occupied</i>	89%	91%	91%	92%	91%	90%
Available Seats	250	194	202	171	199	224
<b>With Change</b>						
<b>Number of Students</b>	1938	1994	1986	2017	1989	1964
<i>% of Building Occupied</i>	89%	91%	91%	92%	91%	90%
Available Seats	245	189	197	166	194	219



# Effect on Demographics

School	% Afr. Amer.	% Asian	% Hispanic	% White	% 2 or More	% FARMS	% ESOL
<b>No Change</b>							
Gaithersburg HS	24.8%	7.6%	49.1%	15.4%	<5.0%	41.3%	19.9%
<b>With Change</b>							
Gaithersburg HS	24.8%	7.6%	49.1%	15.2%	<5.0%	41.3%	19.9%
<b>No Change</b>							
Sherwood HS	17.1%	11.5%	18.2%	49.2%	<5.0%	5.2%	<5.0%
<b>With Change</b>							
Sherwood HS	17.1%	11.5%	18.1%	49.3%	<5.0%	5.2%	<5.0%

# High School Career and Technology Education Programs (CTE)

Program	Gaithersburg	Sherwood
Academy of Finance	X	
Accounting	X	X
Marketing	X	X
Cosmetology	X	*
Hospitality Management	X	X
Academy of Health Professions and Biosciences	*	X
Project Lead the Way (PLTW): Biomedical Sciences	X	

\*Available at Thomas Edison High School of Technology



# High School Career and Technology Education Programs (CTE)

Program	Gaithersburg	Sherwood
Early Childhood Development	X	X
Academy of Information Technology (AOIT)	X	
Cisco Networking Academy	X	
Computer Science/Code.org	X	X
Project Lead the Way (PLTW): Advanced Engineering		X
Automotive Programs	X	*
College/Career Research and Development	X	X

\*Available at Thomas Edison High School of Technology



# Middle School Program availability

- Gaithersburg Middle School offers a partial language immersion program in French
- Maryvale Elementary School in the Rockville Cluster currently serves as the French Immersion program site for both the Gaithersburg and Sherwood Clusters.
- Rosa Parks Middle School does not currently offer any special programs



# History of boundary over time

- Staff researched past boundary studies in vicinity for past 30 years
- Laytonsville ES did have a boundary change but the Unity community was not impacted
- The opening of Brooke Grove ES in 1990 (adjacent to Greenwood ES) had no impact on Unity area

# Committee Criteria

- Promote community identification and involvement
- Promote proximity to schools, distance of families to schools and parent involvement
- Reduce commute time on bus
- Consider access to after school activities
- Consider whether the action would be precedent-setting
- Promote diversity with respect to racial and ethnic composition of existing and proposed populations

# Committee Criteria

- Address socioeconomic composition and variance
- Ensure desired levels of school utilization
- Promote interpersonal relationships and friendships for students
- Maintain stability of school assignment over time
- Maintain class size ratios



# Discussion

- Report-out feedback



# Evaluation Form

**Unity Area Boundary Advisory Committee**  
**Evaluation of Boundary Options**  
**January 2017**

<i>Representative Name:</i>	Meets Criterion	Does not Meet Criterion	<i>School Name:</i>
<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>			<b>Narrative Evaluation Statement</b>
	YES		



# Committee Report

## Background

On November 21, 2016, the Board of Education authorized a boundary study to review the school assignments for the Unity area and consider a cluster reassignment from the Gaithersburg Cluster to the Sherwood Cluster.

## Scope of the Boundary Study

The specific school service area evaluated includes areas east of, but not including, Howard Chapel Road from the county border in the north to Hawlings River Regional Park (also known as Rachel Carson Conservation Park) in the south, and east to the boundary line between the Gaithersburg and Sherwood clusters.

- **Meetings**

- Meetings of the committee were co-facilitated by Mr. Joel Gallihue, director of the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Division of Long-range Planning, Department of Facilities Management, and Ms. Julie Morris, DLRP facilities planner.
- The Boundary Advisory Committee met on the following dates: December 22, 2016, January 11, 2017, and a communitywide meeting was held on January 18, 2017. Committee meetings were held in the media center at Rosa Parks Middle School. All committee meetings were open to the public and time was set aside to address questions and comments from observers attending the meetings.
- Representatives of the committee gathered input from their respective Parent Teacher Associations.
- All boundary options and related materials were posted on the MCPS website at:

**[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/unityarea.aspx](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/unityarea.aspx)**





- The committee asked for more information on the bus routes, which was provided by staff.
- The committee members mentioned the following implementation issues:  
phasing,
- Staff reviewed the history of boundary changes and there have been no changes impacting the Unity area since the opening of Brooke Grove Elementary School in September 1990.
- Of note, Gaithersburg High School will also be impacted by the spring 2017 boundary study to reassign a portion of the Shady Grove Sector Plan that is located east of Interstate 370 to Magruder Cluster schools. Staff note that this study is likely to make more of an impact in reducing overutilization at Gaithersburg High School. None of the elementary or middle schools in this study are impacted by the Shady Grove Sector Plan.



# Website

- All materials will be posted on the following website:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/unityarea.aspx>



# Next steps



January 18, 2017

January 24, 2017

February 1, 2017

February 15, 2017

February 27, 2017

March 9, 2017

March 30, 2017

September 5, 2017

Community-wide meeting to present option and get feedback.

- **Deadline for position papers and evaluations**

- Backup meeting date

Boundary Report submitted to superintendent of schools and BOE

Superintendent's recommendation to the Board of Education

Board of Education boundary work session

Board of Education public hearing

Board of Education Action (subject to change)

Plan implemented if approved by BOE

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/unityarea.aspx>



# Current Bus Route Information from Unity to Gaithersburg schools

- Route 4114 1<sup>st</sup> stop 8:31 a.m.
- Arrives at Laytonsville ES at 9:20 a.m. (49 min)
  
- Route 4109 1<sup>st</sup> stop 7:02 a.m.
- Arrives at Gaithersburg MS at 8:00 a.m. (58 min)
  
- Route 4107 1<sup>st</sup> stop 6:21 a.m.
- Arrives at Gaithersburg HS at 7:25 a.m. (56 min)

# Nearby Bus Route Information to Sherwood cluster schools

- Route 3315 1<sup>st</sup> stop 8:06 a.m.  
Arrives at Greenwood ES at 8:40 a.m. (34min)
- Route 3310 1<sup>st</sup> stop 7:20 a.m.  
Arrives at Rosa Parks MS at 8:00 a.m. (40min)
- Route 3310 1<sup>st</sup> stop 6:35 a.m.  
Arrives at Sherwood HS at 7:05 a.m. (30 min)

Routes currently serve Howard County Line area including Mt. Carmel Cemetery Rd., Sunshine Ct., Gregg Rd.

