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

November 17, 2011

MEMORANDUM

To:

Members of the Board of Education

From:

Joshua P. Starr, Superintendent of Schools

Subject:

Boundary Recommendations for Bethesda, Chevy Chase, North Chevy Chase,

and Rosemary Hills Elementary Schools and Related Classrooms

At the November 18, 2010, meeting of the Board of Education, the Board authorized a boundary study to review the school assignments of Bethesda, Chevy Chase, North Chevy Chase, and Rosemary Hills elementary schools. The boundary review was needed to address overutilization at the four schools and to determine the school locations and size of classroom additions. In authorizing the boundary study, the Board of Education stipulated the following:

- The partial pairing of Bethesda and Rosemary Hills elementary schools should be addressed and school assignments for Bethesda Elementary School should be simplified.
- The pairings of Rosemary Hills Elementary School with Chevy Chase and North Chevy Chase elementary schools should be maintained.
- The boundary study should incorporate the future reorganization of Chevy Chase and North Chevy Chase elementary schools from the current Grades 3-6 to Grades 3-5.

WHEREAS, In March 2011, the superintendent of schools convened a boundary advisory committee comprising representatives from Bethesda, Chevy Chase, North Chevy Chase, and Rosemary Hills elementary schools, as well as one Bethesda-Chevy Chase cluster coordinator; and

WHEREAS, The Boundary Advisory Committee met from March through May 2011 and submitted a report to the superintendent of schools on June 3, 2011, with committee member option evaluations and Parent Teacher Association position papers on five boundary options; and

WHEREAS. The superintendent of schools reviewed and carefully considered the report of the Boundary Advisory Committee, Parent Teacher Association position papers, and feedback from the community at-large, and on October 14, 2011, the superintendent of schools presented a recommendation for elementary school boundary changes and classroom additions for consideration by the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, On November 2, 2011, the Board of Education conducted a work session to consider the superintendent's recommendation for boundary changes and classroom additions; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted public hearings on November 10 and 14, 2011, 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's recommendation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the following reassignments be made (see attached map for zone references):

- Reassign the East Bethesda community (known as Zones B-5 and B-6) from Rosemary Hills Elementary School to Bethesda Elementary School for Grades K-2, with continuance at this school through Grade 5;
- Reassign the Paddington Square Apartments community (Zone BRH-8) and the area occupied by the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (Zone B-7) from Bethesda Elementary School to North Chevy Chase Elementary School for Grades 3–6 (and when reorganization occurs in August 2017, for Grades 3–5). Both of these areas remain assigned to Rosemary Hills Elementary School for Grades K–2;
- Reassign the portion of the Summit Hills Apartments community with addresses 1703 and 1705 East West Highway (Zone NRH-12) from North Chevy Chase Elementary School to Chevy Chase Elementary School for Grades 3–6 (and when reorganization occurs in August 2017, for Grades 3–5);

and be it further

Resolved, That the boundary changes be phased in according to the following schedule:

- Reassignments from Rosemary Hills Elementary School to Bethesda Elementary School (Zones B-5 and B-6), beginning in the 2013–2014 school year with Grades K-1 and ending in the 2014–2015 school year with Grades K-2;
- Reassignments from Bethesda Elementary School to North Chevy Chase Elementary School (Zones B-7 and BRH-8), beginning in the 2013–2014 school year with Grades 3–4, followed in the 2014–2015 school year by Grades 3–5 and ending in the 2015–2016 school year with Grades 3–6;

- Reassignments from North Chevy Chase Elementary School to Chevy Chase Elementary School (Zone NRH-12), beginning in the 2013–2014 school year with Grades 3–5 and ending in the 2014–2015 school year with Grades 3–6;
- Reassignments to Chevy Chase and North Chevy Chase elementary schools will shift from Grades 3–6 to Grades 3–5 in the 2017–2018 school year when Bethesda-Chevy Chase Middle School #2 is scheduled to open, and the Grade 6 students at these elementary schools are reassigned to a middle school;

and be it further

Resolved, That an eight-classroom addition be constructed at Bethesda Elementary School, a six-classroom addition be constructed at North Chevy Chase Elementary School, and a six-classroom addition be constructed at Rosemary Hills Elementary School, with all additions opening for the 2015–2016 school year.

JPS:LAB:JS:lmt

Attachment

