

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

October 2, 2019

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education
From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools
Subject: Promethean Boards in Media Centers (08-29-19-04)

Question

During the Opening of Schools Presentation, Mrs. Smondrowski requested information regarding the media centers in schools: Do all media centers in schools have promethean boards? And, if not, please identify which schools have them.

Response

Based on information currently available to the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO), Promethean board availability in media centers follows.

- Elementary Schools: All elementary school media centers with sufficient space to hold a Promethean board have been equipped with boards. Promethean boards were not able to be installed in a handful of media centers due to space, shelving, or at the principal's discretion. Currently, the following seven elementary schools do not have Promethean boards in their media centers: Arcola, Belmont, Laytonsville, Montgomery Knolls, Oak View, Wheaton Woods, and Wyngate elementary schools.
- Middle Schools: Records indicate that all middle schools have Promethean boards in their media centers.
- High Schools: Records indicate that James Hubert Blake and Richard Montgomery high schools do not have Promethean boards in their media centers. Northwest and Thomas S. Wootton high schools have portable Promethean boards.

In the last several years, OCTO has been able to provision Promethean boards from older schools that have undergone renovation projects to further equip schools with boards. In addition, with the introduction of interactive flat screens that are smaller and more mobile than Promethean boards, smaller classrooms, labs, and media centers that previously could not accommodate a Promethean board can be equipped with these smaller boards.

OCTO staff actively has been gathering information from all schools to determine additional needs for boards. Elementary schools are 98 to 99 percent equipped with boards for all core learning spaces and all middle schools are fully equipped in classrooms, portable classrooms, labs, and media centers. Most high schools have indicated the need for 15 to 25 additional boards. Pending available funding, OCTO plans to purchase additional boards to accommodate the needs of all schools.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Andrew M. Zuckerman, chief operating officer, at 240-740-3050 or Mr. Peter Cevenini, chief technology officer, at 240-740-2900.

JRS:AMZ:PC:sjk

Copy to:

- Dr. McKnight
- Dr. Navarro
- Dr. Statham
- Dr. Zuckerman
- Mr. Civin
- Dr. Johnson
- Ms. Diamond
- Mr. Turner
- Mr. Cevenini
- Ms. Webb