



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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PUBLIC INPUT SOUGHT ON SCHOOL BOUNDARIES

Prince George's County Public Schools has scheduled a series of public discussion meetings to gain parental feedback on realigning school boundaries in order to better utilize school system resources.

Letters are being mailed to every parent/guardian whose registered pupil would be affected, notifying them that boundary proposals will be available online and giving the web address. Each school affected will send home flyers reminding families of the meeting to discuss boundaries in the planning zone that specifically affects them. Where an address is being recommended for reassignment, those families will also be notified.

"The public's input, particularly from parents with children in the system, continues to be of paramount importance as we work together to craft mutually agreeable changes to address school boundary challenges," said Dr. André J. Hornsby, Chief Executive Officer for Prince George's County Public Schools. "So far, we have included the input of two Peer Examination, Evaluation and Redesign (PEER) Committees. Now, we are taking boundary proposals directly to the parents of students who would be affected for their examination and feedback. We invite every parent to attend the meeting for their specific zone of the county."

The administration's recommendations for school boundary changes are based upon the following criteria:

- Adhering to contiguous boundaries and eliminating cross-bussing areas where feasible;
- Correcting imbalances due to Contextual Learning Environment (formerly Magnet) program adjustments;
- Implementing adjustments toward middle school configuration of grades 6-8;
- Expanding Pre-K sites;
- Maintaining safe walking distances of 1-1/2 miles for elementary students and 2 miles for secondary students;
- Assigning students to the site closest to their home;

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- Enhancing inclusion for special education and English Language Learner (ELL) students;
- Maintaining before and after programs;
- Implementing approved Capital Improvement Program construction projects; and
- Opening of new schools to limit/reduce overcrowding of facilities.

All public meetings are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. All persons interested in speaking must register in advance by calling the appropriate Regional Assistant Superintendent. The following is a list of the meeting dates, locations and contacts:

- **March 14** - Suitland High School (Ms. Yvonne Crawford, 301-636-8020) & Eugene Burroughs Middle School (Ms. Kathy Kurtz, 301-372-3431)
- **March 15** - Nicholas Orem Middle School (Mr. William Ritter, 301-572-6495) & Francis Scott Key Elementary School (Ms. Yvonne Crawford, 301-636-8020)
- **March 16** - Bowie High School (Ms. Kathy Kurtz, 301-372-3431) & DuVal High School (Dr. Bruce Katz, 240-684-6235)
- **March 21** - Panorama Elementary School (Ms. Joan Brown, 301-749-5238) & Skyline Elementary School (Ms. Kathy Kurtz, 301-372-3431)

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