

From: [Clemens Crossing Elementary School](#)
To: [Jennifer Mallo](#)
Subject: CCES Arrival and Dismissal Reminders
Date: Monday, December 2, 2019 9:37:47 AM

CCES - Attention Parents of Car Riders

Arrival and Dismissal Reminders

Now that the weather is turning colder and wetter, the car loop is being used more. Whether you are using the car loop for the first time or are a regular car loop user, it is important to review our arrival and dismissal instructions. As adults, we have to create safe and predictable routines for our children. The way we have designed our arrival and dismissal helps to create safe routines for children. Please do not be the cause of an accident. Thank you for your help.

Right-Hand Turns PLEASE!

Please make right-hand turns in and out of our car loop, especially when there is a long line entering the car loop. The view becomes obstructed leaving oncoming traffic hard to see. Additionally, people who make left-hand turns into the carloop create traffic back-ups on Quarterstaff Road.

Please do not be that person! We have done our best to ask people to follow the "rule." We witness near misses a lot, and it won't be a problem until there is an accident or someone gets hurt. **Please plan your route so you enter the car loop from Martin Road to Quarterstaff Road when entering the car loop and exit the car loop by making a right on Quarterstaff Road.**

REMINDER

Quarterstaff Road and the crosswalk are not drop off locations. If you park past the crosswalk on Quarterstaff Road, it is expected that you walk your child to the front of the building in the morning and meet your child at the front doors for afternoon pick-up.

Please pass this message on to day care providers who pick-up or drop off your child.

[Please visit the main page of our website for full arrival and dismissal instructions.](#)

Clemens Crossing Elementary School | 10320 Quarterstaff Road Columbia, MD 21044 |
410-313-6866 | cces.hcpss.org

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From: [Carrie A. Slaysman](#)
To: [Board Member's Email](#)
Cc: [Anissa Dennis](#); [David K. Larner](#); [Jahantab Siddiqui](#); [James R. LeMon](#); [Jason J. McCoy](#); [Jennifer R. Peduzzi](#); [Karalee Turner-Little](#); [Kathleen V. Hanks](#); [Kendra Johnson](#); [Kevin Gilbert](#); [Mark Blom](#); [Michael Martirano](#); [Patrick J. Saunderson](#); [Ron K. Morris](#); [Scott Washington](#); [Theo Cramer](#); [Thomas McNeal](#); [William J. Barnes](#)
Subject: Bus Accident - Howard High School
Date: Monday, December 2, 2019 4:09:11 PM
Attachments: [Board Memo - December 2 2019 Howard High School.pdf](#)
[image003.png](#)

Good afternoon,

The attached memorandum is submitted on behalf of Dr. Michael J. Martirano.

Thank you.

Carrie

Carrie A. Slaysman
Executive Assistant



Howard County Public School System
10910 Clarksville Pike
Ellicott City, MD 21042
410-313-6814
carrie_slaysman@hcpss.org



December 2, 2019

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Michael J. Martirano, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Subject: Bus Accident – Howard High School

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you that at approximately 7:00 a.m. on December 2, 2019, a school bus carrying 35 students from Howard High School rear-ended a car at 6620 Washington Blvd.

Howard County Police, a school administrator, and a transportation manager responded to the scene. There were no reported injuries.

If you have any questions, please contact David Ramsay, Director, Pupil Transportation Office.

Copy to: Executive Staff
Board of Education Office

From: [Amy Grutzik](#)
To: [David W. Ramsay](#)
Cc: [BoE Email](#); [Superintendent](#); [Mary Klyap](#)
Subject: [External] MVMS and MRHS
Date: Wednesday, December 4, 2019 8:34:22 AM
Attachments: [20190423_MVMS_PTA_start_time_analysis_letter.docx](#)
[FY 2020 Proposed Operating Budget - Request from MVMS PTA.docx](#)

! CAUTION: This email originated from outside of HCPSS. Do not click links or open attachments, unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Mr. Ramsay,

I hope you had a nice restful Thanksgiving break. I know your team has been very busy with the redistricting process and now your ramping up for the school budget season.

As you know, the MVMS PTA has worked with you over the past year with the traffic issues at our school. I have attached some of the communication that has been sent and discussed.

Since, MVMS starts only 15 minutes later than MRHS, the MVMS PTA had requested the start time for the school to be later due to traffic issues.

You will see in one of the attached documents that all other shared campuses have at least 30 minutes difference in start times, with some as much as an hour.

You stated in May 2019 that he did not want to make any changes to bus routes and school opening times for 2019/20 school year since redistricting was occurring for 2020/21.

Now that the redistricting has been finalized, the MVMS PTA is continuing to advocate for the MVMS start time to be moved by at a minimum of 15 minutes later.

Here are some additional factors that will affect traffic :

1. 245 students from Centennial High School will be redistricted to MRHS beginning 2020/21
2. There will be an increase in staff at the high school due to the redistricting
3. The BOE exempted rising 5th, 8th, 11th, and 12th graders. This means there will be "double bussing".
4. Turf Valley development will continue to build an additional 1,000 housing units - Turf Valley feeds into Mount View and Marriotts Ridge

When you have a chance, could you please call me at [REDACTED] to discuss?

Also, I am curious about the status of the new routing system.

Thanks!
Amy Grutzik

April 23, 2019

To: Mr. David Ramsay, Director, Transportation

Cc: HCPSS Board of Education
Dr. Michael J. Martirano, Superintendent
Mr. Pat Saunderson, Community Superintendent, School Management and Instructional Leadership
MVMS Principal Allen Cosentino
MVMS PTA Board

Re: MVMS PTA analysis of changing the MVMS start time 10 minutes later for 2019/20

Mr. Ramsay,

As stated in the letter from the MVMS PTA on January 31, 2019, MVMS and MRHS start times are only 15 minutes apart which causes many issues for both schools and the community.

The MVMS PTA has completed an analysis comparing the current situation with MVMS buses and what the outcome would be if MVMS started at 7:50 am instead of 7:40 am. A 10 minute increase doesn't sound like a lot of time, but going from a 15 minute to a 25 minute differential would be a substantial positive impact for the shared campus staff and students and surrounding community. This would almost double the differential time and still be less than any other HCPSS shared campus opening time differential.

Our analysis is based on current 2018/19 bus routes for HCPSS schools, parochial school bus routes using HCPSS buses, and Google Maps. We understand that there are variances that occur with the day to day operations and actual bus times may vary.

With adding 10 minutes to the MVMS start time, our analysis in Exhibit A shows that all morning buses would still continue to have adequate time to get to their second and third tier schools.

The afternoon bus rounds are more challenging because elementary schools have a shorter school day than the middle schools and high schools. This challenge can be lessened by adding 5 minutes to the Manor Woods ES start time and 10 minutes to the Waverly ES start time. Additionally, adding 10 minutes to the Waverly ES start time would help many of the current bus routes that, based on the Exhibit B analysis, are barely making it to their third tier school in time for the dismissal bell.

Attached are two exhibits:

Exhibit A outlines the morning bus route times and how much "excess time" the bus would have to get to their next school. As shown, changing the MVMS, MWES, and WES start times would work for the morning routes.

Exhibit B outlines the afternoon bus route times and how much “excess time” the bus would have to get to their next stop. The main challenge would be bus numbers 167 and 742. Analyzing the current 2018/19 bus schedule suggests that bus 742 currently does not have enough time to get to their second tier school.

We understand that there are many pieces to the 2019/20 puzzle that we are not privy to. For example, changes to bus stops, additions of new developments needing buses, etc. We recognize the complexity of this request and appreciate your team’s diligence to serving the HCPSS community.

The HCPSS BOE has listed on their agenda for May 21st at 7pm that you will be presenting the transportation department recommended school start times for 2019/20.

Our hope is that your team would review our analysis and incorporate our suggestions into the transportation department’s recommended 2019/20 school start times report to the HCPSS BOE on May 21st.

Sincerely,

Mount View Middle School PTA
mvmshepta@gmail.com

Attachments:
Exhibits A & B

Exhibit A: MVMS Morning Bus Route Analysis

MVMS Bus Number	Current Schedule Excess Time to get to Second Tier School	Excess Time if Change MVMS Bell time by 10 minutes	Excess Time if Change MVMS Bell time by 10 min and WES by 10 min and MWES by 5 min	Second Tier School	Current Schedule Excess time to get to Third Tier School	Excess Time if Change MVMS Bell time by 10 min and WES by 10 min and MWES by 5 min	Third Tier School
7	0:42	0:32	0:32	Triadelphia Ridge ES			
15	0:42	0:32	0:37	Manor Woods ES			
27	0:25	0:15	0:15	St Louis Parochial			
55	0:35	0:25	0:30	Manor Woods ES	0:11	0:16	Waverly ES
123	0:42	0:32	0:37	Manor Woods ES			
167	0:26	0:16	0:16	Dayton Oaks ES			
300	0:29	0:19	0:19	Centennial ES			
320	0:39	0:29	0:34	Manor Woods ES	0:09	0:14	Waverly ES
487	0:26	0:16	0:21	Manor Woods ES	0:11	0:16	Waverly ES
499	0:32	0:22	0:22	Northfield ES	0:28	0:28	Thunder Hill ES
516	0:36	0:26	0:26	Hollifield ES			
537	0:34	0:24	0:24	Centennial ES	0:13	0:23	Waverly ES
608	0:33	0:23	0:28	Manor Woods ES	-0:03	0:02	Waverly ES
738	0:41	0:31	0:36	Manor Woods ES	0:11	0:16	Waverly ES
741	1:09	0:59	0:59	Worthington ES			
742	0:32	0:22	0:22	Northfield ES	0:08	0:18	Waverly ES
790	0:19	0:09	0:09	Centennial ES	0:09	0:19	Waverly ES
800	0:49	0:39	0:39	Dayton Oaks ES			
824	0:27	0:17	0:17	Centennial ES	0:13	0:23	Waverly ES
881	1:08	0:58	1:08	Waverly ES			
983	0:40	0:30	0:30	St. Johns Lane ES			

Exhibit B: MVMS Afternoon Bus Route Analysis

MVMS Bus Number	Current Schedule Excess Time to get to Second Tier School	Excess Time if Change MVMS Bell time by 10 minutes	Excess Time if Change MVMS Bell time by 10 min and WES by 10 min and MWES by 5 min	Second Tier School	Current Schedule Excess time to get to Third Tier School	Excess Time if Change MVMS Bell time by 10 min and WES by 10 min and MWES by 5 min	Third Tier School
7	0:29	0:19	0:19	Triadelphia Ridge ES			
15	0:28	0:18	0:23	Manor Woods ES			
27	0:32	0:22	0:22	St Louis Parochial			
55	0:00	-0:10	-0:05	Manor Woods ES	0:00	0:05	Waverly ES
123	0:27	0:17	0:22	Manor Woods ES			
167	0:01	-0:09	-0:09	Dayton Oaks ES			
300	0:23	0:13	0:13	Centennial ES			
320	0:30	0:20	0:25	Manor Woods ES	-0:06	-0:01	Waverly ES
487	0:04	-0:06	-0:01	Manor Woods ES	-0:01	0:04	Waverly ES
499	0:06	-0:04	-0:04	Northfield ES	0:21	0:21	Thunder Hill ES
516	0:09	-0:01	-0:01	Hollifield ES			
537	0:26	0:16	0:16	Centennial ES	0:09	0:19	Waverly ES
608	0:14	0:04	0:09	Manor Woods ES	0:01	0:06	Waverly ES
738	0:28	0:18	0:23	Manor Woods ES	0:07	0:12	Waverly ES
741	0:55	0:45	0:45	Worthington ES			
742	-0:08	-0:18	-0:18	Northfield ES	0:10	0:20	Waverly ES
790	0:26	0:16	0:16	Centennial ES	-0:05	0:05	Waverly ES
800	0:09	-0:01	-0:01	Dayton Oaks ES			
824	0:22	0:12	0:12	Centennial ES	-0:01	0:09	Waverly ES
881	0:40	0:30	0:40	Waverly ES			
983	0:19	0:09	0:09	St. Johns Lane ES			

January 31, 2019

To: HCPSS Board of Education
Dr. Michael J. Martirano, Superintendent
Mr. David Ramsay, Director, Transportation
Dr. Monifa McKnight, Executive Director, School Management and Instructional Leadership
Mr. Pat Saunderson, Community Superintendent, School Management and Instructional Leadership

Cc: County Executive Calvin Ball
MVMS Principal Allen Cosentino
MRHS Principal Tammy Goldeisen

Re: FY 2020 Proposed Operating Budget – Request from Mount View Middle School PTA

At the Jan 17, 2019 Board of Education - Public Work Session I on Superintendent's Proposed FY20 Operating Budget page 406, category 14 allocates \$797,054 for HCPSS transportation to provide service to over 25 non-public schools located in Baltimore County, Howard County, Montgomery County and Baltimore City. As mentioned in the meeting, Mr. Ramsay stated that the bus services could be reallocated to growth areas (i.e. Turf Valley).

Mount View MS and Marriotts Ridge HS have a shared campus and their start times are only **15** minutes apart (MRHS – 7:25am and MVMS – 7:40am). Woodford Drive is a single point of ingress/egress to both schools from Route 99 (Old Frederick Road). **See Exhibit A.**

Due to the proximity of the schools, this leads to traffic and safety issues. Note that other HCPSS shared campuses have a minimum of 30 minutes difference in opening times with many having 1 hour time difference. **See Exhibit B.**

On January 24, 2018 a letter concerning the above mentioned issue was sent to 2018 HCPSS BOE, HCPSS Superintendent Martirano, County Executive Allan Kittleman and the Director of Transportation David Ramsay.

In response, Mr. Ramsay attended the MVMS PTA meeting on February 1, 2018 to discuss the traffic issues and possible solutions. In attendance were PTA members concerned with the morning traffic and both principals from MVMS and MRHS. It was discussed that one factor in the traffic backup is that the student drop off entrance for MVMS is only 375 feet from Route 99. A new drop off pattern for MVMS parents was outlined by the MVMS principal. It was agreed upon to implement the new drop off procedure and continue to look at other options to help alleviate the traffic problems. **See Exhibits C & D.**

In addition, the PTA discussed that this is a “band aid” solution and we needed to continue to look for more permanent solutions. With the continual growth of both schools, this issue will only be exacerbated. **See Exhibit E.**

We have had several productive conversations with Mr. Ramsay. As a result of our conversations, we were told that HCPSS would be collecting traffic data to determine the issues

related to volume, bus lateness, etc. over a two-week period. The original date to roll out the new traffic pattern was postponed until April to allow the Howard County Traffic Engineering Division an opportunity to study the traffic conditions. Mr. Chris Fritz from the Office of Transportation came to the school many times to check on the morning traffic. MVMS PTA was not provided with an official report on the traffic conditions. **See Exhibit F.**

Mr. Ramsay requested the purchase of a ticker to be used on the roadway to record the traffic. We were told that the purchase was approved, but to our knowledge it was never used. In addition, access roads to the schools from Route 99 were discussed. An access road from Route 99 that wrapped around the back of Marriotts Ridge HS would allow all cars heading west to the high school on Route 99 to bypass the traffic light at Woodford Drive. We were told that the State Highway Administration determined the slope of the land would prohibit them from creating such a road.

The MVMS PTA also requested the transportation department to look at changing the MVMS start time to be later (at least 30 minutes later than MRHS start time) and if needed, look at changing the start times of the adjacent elementary schools to help in the scenarios.

Mr. Ramsay stated that he talked with his Chief and when they looked at the budget impact to change the start time, they determined that it was cost prohibitive. Mr. Ramsay estimated to change the MVMS start time by more than 5 minutes would result in a cost of \$500,000 annually. This cost would be for adding busses and not changing elementary school times or reconfiguring current routes.

We were disappointed to hear that HCPSS transportation software does not give the capability to run scenarios starting from ground zero (like zero based budgeting). Mr. Ramsay stated that they would need to hire University of MD to do the scenarios (even if just looking at the Northern region). Without those scenarios, we don't know truly what the costs and efficiency of changing the MVMS start time would be.

The community behind the school on Woodford Drive also voiced their concern over the morning traffic on Woodford Drive and Route 99. On April 12, 2018 a meeting with the Woodford Drive community took place at MVMS. The meeting was facilitated by the Transportation Office and a County Engineer was there to discuss the impact on potential changes to help alleviate some of the traffic issues the community was experiencing with school traffic. The MVMS principal Mr. Cosentino was also present at the meeting. Note that the only way out of their community is Woodford Drive to Route 99. In addition, this neighborhood does not have sidewalks and their children are walkers/bike riders.

During the BOE budget work session on January 17th, Mr. Ramsay stated the mission of the HCPSS Transportation is to provide Safe, Reliable and Efficient transportation to HCPSS students. We feel that the current traffic situation at MVMS and MRHS does not support that mission.

SAFETY:

This testimony from a parent living in the Woodford Drive neighborhood behind the schools:

“The new traffic pattern is more hazardous for our neighborhood children that walk and ride their bikes to school. Since there isn't a sidewalk past the entrance to the baseball field lot into our neighborhood, the children have to be very careful with vehicles both entering into and exiting the lot. I have witnessed cars continuing to just turn around at the entrance of the lot without actually entering it. I think the new pattern has helped somewhat, but I have also witnessed a couple of near misses with a bike rider from out of our neighborhood almost being hit by a parent turning around randomly and having to back up on Woodford. In addition, the teacher guard at the drop off loop isn't able to effectively stop traffic- at least what I have witnessed and experienced. I tried dropping my daughter off at the regular drop off site one morning when it was raining. There was a teacher at the end of the loop with a safety vest on monitoring traffic. I asked him if he could stop traffic so that I could turn left back into my neighborhood from the loop. He stepped out to try and the oncoming car didn't even acknowledge him and kept going. On inclement weather days, it has often been very congested and has taken me 15-20 minutes to get back into the neighborhood. I believe that creating this turn-around spot has not helped to alleviate the heavy congestion on Woodford heading to the light to proceed to Route 99.”

Traffic in the morning is very congested at the middle school with many vehicles exiting the high school and the heavy flow of vehicles entering for middle school drop off, staff arrivals, and the bus loop.

Here is another parent testimony:

“This school year my 6th and 7th graders usually take the bus, but on the occasion that I have had to drive them (1-3x/month) I have experienced a range of concerning occurrences. With the new traffic pattern, I have also experienced very long wait times to drop off my children as the cars following the correct pattern and turning around in the top parking lot and coming back down Woodford to either turn R into the drop off area or to drop the kids off in the other 2 approved spots along Woodford are typically blocked by the buses leaving campus and sitting in the middle of the road to wait to turn R onto Woodford or by cars still attempting to turn left into the staff lot entrance. This long wait has caused many parents to start getting upset, honk angrily and turn abruptly into traffic to go around cars that are dropping off on Woodford instead of going down to turn right into the drop off area/staff parking lot. More concerning, I have also witnessed children getting out of their cars in the middle of the road on Woodford due to their parent attempting to turn left into the lot and getting stuck in the traffic perpendicular to traffic on Woodford and the children running across Woodford onto the grass and then through the drop off line of traffic to get to the school entrance.”

We have also seen some high school parents dropping their children off on Route 99, when all cars are stopped, at the bottom of the Marriotts Ridge hill to walk up to school. These students would then cut through the bus loop and staff parking lot to get to the front of the building.

With this type of activity and high level of congestion, we are very concerned that there will be either a vehicle accident or a pedestrian accident.

Another concern for the MVMS community is emergency vehicle access. If in the event of a medical or other emergency, would the vehicles be able to respond quickly during the school opening times when the congestion is at its worst?

Reliability:

With the chronic traffic congestion school busses are consistently late. Many times the morning attendance is held until the end of homeroom so the students won't be marked late or absent. In fact, MRHS sent out a message to families and students today, highlighting the increased tardiness at school, and recognizing that a large part of it is due to the traffic congestion between MRHS and MVMS. **See Exhibit G.** The message highlights the impact the traffic has had on classroom instruction at MHRHS, which is representative of the situation occurring at MVMS. The MRHS message is also suggesting that the high school students leave earlier so they can arrive at school earlier. While this seems reasonable, and would help alleviate some of the later traffic with the arrival of the MVMS staff and students, it would require the high school students to wake up earlier. This will have an additional impact on the students as they will be arriving at school and attending classes more tired. Furthermore, teachers often stress the importance of arriving into each class on time (**see Exhibit G, for example**), and not wasting time in the hallways. How can we teach our kids the importance of punctuality when the school buses that are supposed to be getting our kids to school on time are arriving at school behind schedule?

Efficiency:

Mr. Ramsay stated that when they worked with The University of Maryland on optimization models in 2015, it was determined that the HCPSS transportation system was 98.8% efficient. This efficiency only shows there is good use of the busses. In our opinion, just because the efficiency of the system was at 98.8% does not mean that it is the best configuration for the community. In addition, if the school opening times were changed for some middle schools and some adjacent elementary schools, higher efficiency may be achieved. We would not know what that number is unless it is tested. Do we know the current efficiency percentage of the transportation system? **Also, is the non public school usage of the busses included in the 98.8% efficiency rate?**

Mount View Middle School and Marriotts Ridge High School student enrollment is increasing. MRHS has the fastest enrollment growth in the county. MVMS is the second largest student population for HCPSS middle schools. There are several new developments that will continue to feed new students to these schools: Enclave at Westmount - 350 SFH; Waverly Grove- 35TH; The Preserve at Marriotts Ridge -30 SFH that have just broke ground or are not complete, including the Turf Valley development which APFO does not apply. The increase in enrollment doesn't just mean more bus traffic. Additional traffic due to more staff, parent drop offs and student drivers will also occur.

County Executive Calvin Ball is currently undertaking an investigation into the transportation challenges facing residents in the MD 99 corridor (between Marriottsville Road and Rogers Avenue). Howard County Office of Transportation has put together a Route 99 Corridor Investigation Survey 2018. **See Exhibit H.**

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/County-Administration/Transportation/Transportation-Projects/Maryland-Route-99-Investigation>

Note this study does not include the MD 99 corridor between Marriottsville Road and MD 32, which is the stretch encompassing MVMS and MRHS.

Exhibit H discusses carpool incentives, staggering arrival and departure times to help alleviate the traffic issues on the east end of Route 99. This is the exact situation that we are heading toward with all the expected growth in our school's attendance area. Has anyone investigated changing the start times for the schools on the east side of Route 99 to help alleviate their traffic issues?

We as a PTA appreciate the time that Mr. Ramsay spent with us in the spring. He made several trips out to the school and answered many phone calls to discuss ideas. Mr. Ramsay did a great job educating us on the challenges of the transportation system. However, we feel that the BOE should be involved in helping with solutions.

Many of the new BOE members ran this year on the idea that they would look at new ways to solve problems. The Mount View Middle School PTA respectfully asks that you look at all of the benefits to the students and the community for changing the MVMS start time later by 20 – 30 minutes. We understand that this is not a “push button” process and that to get the information will take effort and money. The expected outcome of a later start time will help support transportation's mission of safe and reliable transportation for HCPSS students while keeping or improving the current efficiency rate.

The department of transportation stated last spring that the money was not in the budget to have additional busses to change the start time of MVMS to help with the traffic issues. We ask that some of the busses allocated for the non public schools in Baltimore County, Montgomery County and Baltimore City be used to help HCPSS transportation issues such as the one stated above. Mr. Ramsay stated in the January 17th budget meeting in reference to growth areas of HCPSS “we would have to dedicate our school busses to provide our services.”

With the close proximity of the two schools, Route 99 being a scenic two lane road, the continual growth of the student population, and start times only 15 minutes apart, the MVMS PTA asks the HCPSS BOE to be proactive to our situation and consider changing the start time of MVMS. We look forward to a conversation or meeting with the Board and can be contacted at mvmshcpta@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Mount View Middle School PTA
Scarlett Goon, MVMS PTA Board Member
Amy Grutzik, MVMS PTA Board Member

Attachments: Exhibits A, B, C, D, E, F, G

Exhibit A



Exhibit B

Schools with Shared Campus or Close in Vicinity			
School Name	School Level	Start Time	Start time Delta
Marriotts Ridge	High	7:25 AM	-
Mount View	Middle	7:40 AM	0:15
Oakland Mills	High	7:25 AM	-
Oakland Mills	Middle	7:55 AM	0:30
Centennial	High	7:25 AM	-
Burleigh Manor	Middle	8:00 AM	0:35
Patapsco	Middle	8:05 AM	-
Hollifield Station	Elementary	8:45 AM	0:40
Reservoir	High	7:25 AM	-
Lime Kiln	Middle	8:25 AM	1:00
Fulton	Elementary	9:25 AM	1:00
Clarksville	Middle	8:25 AM	-
Pointers Run	Elementary	9:25 AM	1:00
Murray Hill	Middle	8:25 AM	-
Gorman Crossing	Elementary	9:25 AM	1:00
Folly Quarter	Middle	7:40 AM	-
Triadelphia Ridge	Elementary	8:55 AM	1:15
Thomas Viaduct	Middle	8:10 AM	
Hanover Hills	Elementary	8:50 AM	0:40

Exhibit C

Change in Morning Traffic Pattern (Revised Directions)

On Tuesday, February 20, there will be a new traffic flow for dropping off students to Mount View. Please review the following map and directions carefully.

- Only MVMS Staff will turn left into the first parking lot.
- Parents and guardians will proceed straight on Woodford Drive and
 - Pass the softball field and turn left into the parking lot.
 - Turn right out of the parking lot and choose one of three drop off locations. (see map)
 - Only a right turn will be allowed into the car loop for Student Drop Off #3.

These changes are being in the name of safety and timeliness.

We appreciate your complete cooperation in implementing this new traffic pattern.

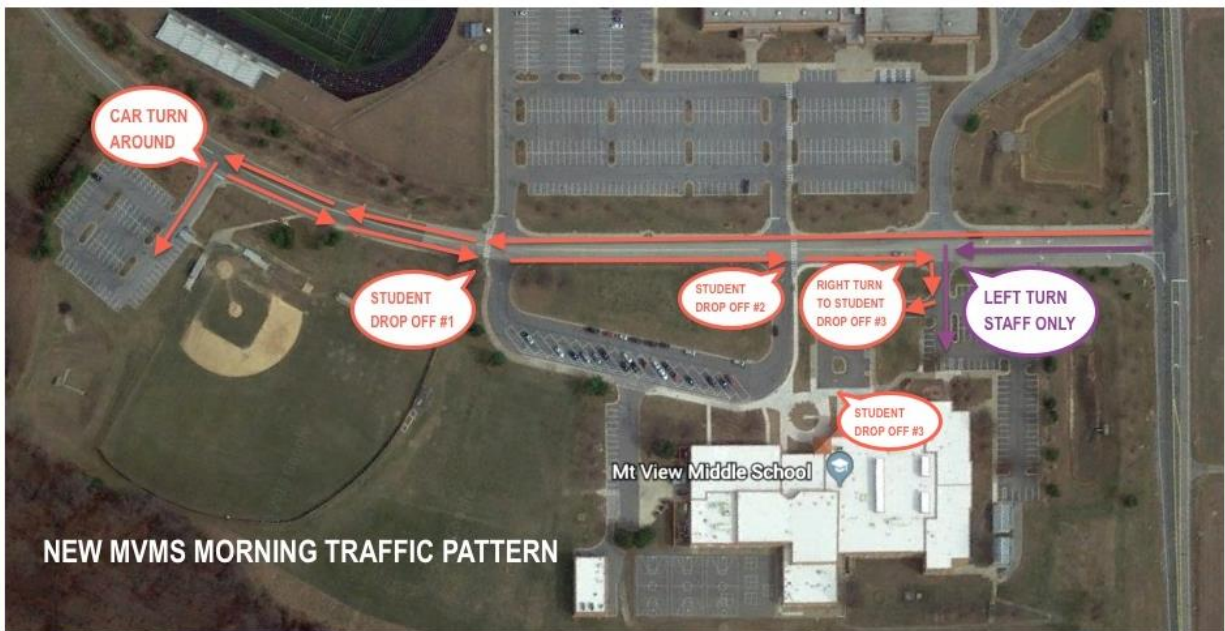


Exhibit D

Mount View Middle School

February 13, 2018

Dear Mount View Community,

We have been asked to hold off on implementing our AM traffic plan until the Howard County Traffic Engineering Division has the opportunity to study current traffic conditions. We will communicate the updated implementation date once the study is completed.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Allen Cosentino

Principal

Exhibit E

MVMS PTA agenda
February 1 – 6:30pm
 Ground Rules/Norms

Meetings will be...Inclusive, Efficient, Informative

Welcome to Mr. David Ramsey, HCPSS Director of Transportation

Topic	Summary
Introductions	All
Principal's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allen shared the PPT with the traffic concerns - The suggested plan involves having parents drive all the way down Woodford Drive (the school driveway), making a U-turn by the baseball fields, and then drop off. - Only staff will be able to take the Left into the parking lot off of Woodford. - Staff (principal) will be outside directing traffic to ensure safety. - This plan add an additional 1/2 mile to the drop off area, and reduce the amount of backup onto Rt. 99. <p>Other solutions were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access road behind school (environmental impact) • Start time (being discussed, a study is being conducted by Transportation Dept to determine if changing the start time of the MS is an option for next year) <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 375 feet from Rt 99 to drop off area, which is not a lot of room. This causes the back up onto 99. • Getting HC Govt involved since it's a public roadway • Reached out to Construction to see if getting another access point to the school is an option • School times – still analyzing this right now <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bus routes are tiered together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ HS, MS, ES, early-late ▪ Asset allocation-maximization model ▪ 327 vehicles ▪ 240 high school trips – and the remaining slots are for the early MSs ▪ 285 MS; 420 ES trips ▪ 99% efficient; but the success causes other problems, e.g., the busses are all assigned <p>Final decision: We will use this new plan for this year and then re-evaluate it before the end of the year. There was agreement/support for the plan.</p>

Exhibit E (continued)**MVMS PTA agenda****April 12 – 6:30pm**

Meetings will be...Inclusive, Efficient, Informative

Topic	Summary
Introductions	All
Principal's Report	<p>-██████████ is going to national Geo Bee – yay ██████████!</p> <p>-Anti-bullying week – announcements in the AM, invite your teacher to lunch day tomorrow; blue pinky;</p> <p>-AM Traffic – new traffic pattern; staff is getting to work earlier with the new pattern; the feedback is that it's better (from parents in the drop off loop); preference is that students are dropped off at the baseball parking lot (students get a “high five's” for walking from the baseball loop; busses get right-of-way;</p> <p>Question came up about start time</p> <p>-The drop off situation is working because there is an administrator out front</p> <p>-Admin thanks the community for their support and reminds that it is best if students ride the bus</p> <p>-Possible carpool initiative at MRHS</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p>-We want to be mindful of allowing the school system to collect their data, try this new approach, and we are mindful of the cost possibly associated, but we also want to make sure our voices are heard. We feel that this is a band aid.</p> <p>Summary: Mary will circle back with Transportation for follow up. We will advocate in front of the board in the form of a letter and oral testimony.</p>

Exhibit F

From: David W. Ramsay
Sent: Saturday, March 24, 2018 10:47 AM
To: Mary Klyap; Allen V. Cosentino; Amy Grutzik
Subject: Re: MVMS Traffic

Hi Mary,

Thank you for your assistance and support in our efforts to improve traffic. After we met I spoke with Chris and we will follow-up with the arrival of the bus we discussed. Chris also asked the driver to document their arrival time so that we have another data point to review.

We look forward to the new traffic pattern and I would like to offer a special thank you to Allen for his efforts toward this initiative.

David

David Ramsay, Director
Pupil Transportation Office
Howard County Public School System
(410) 313-6726 Office

From: Mary Klyap <mary.klyap@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 24, 2018 10:00 AM
To: David W. Ramsay; Allen V. Cosentino; Amy Grutzik
Subject: Re: MVMS Traffic

Hello, all!

I wanted to provide a quick update to the traffic at MVMS. I had a chance to talk with Dave earlier this week. Please reply back to all with anything that I've missed, etc.

- New drop off with begin on Weds, April 4.
- In discussing the bus situation, it has emerged that parents are reporting that students are late to homeroom, due to the traffic. NOTE: this has not been reported in the past, or in the initial PTA meeting with David. However, as PTA board and members have been talking about the traffic and asking their MVMS students about the bus arrivals, this has emerged. Initial idea was to survey to community to collect student self report on lateness to homeroom. NEW IDEA: David has GPS information/time stamp from all buses from the past month and will share that information with us, this will help determine the extent of the bus lateness concern.
- The system will be buying a traffic counter and use that at MVMS to collect additional data.
- I'm still asking that a check in on progress be conducted at our PTA April 12 meeting (6:30). Let me know if that is feasible.

Thank you all for your collaborative efforts in this matter!
Mary

Exhibit F (continued)

On Mon, Mar 19, 2018 at 9:44 AM, Mary Klyap <mary.klyap@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello, all.

My apologies for the delay getting out this email.

First, I wanted to acknowledge and thank each of you for your interest in this concern and your efforts toward collaboratively coming up with solutions that will benefit our students and MVMS staff. None of us can tackle this alone.... :)

- Last week, David and I had a chance to talk over the phone about the traffic situation and ideas generated from PTA.

Shared during our phone conversation:

- Updates on the traffic situation were shared at the March PTA meeting. Additional information that was discussed at PTA was that due to the traffic situation, MVMS buses were arriving to school late enough that students were arriving late to homeroom.

Action steps were suggested in the meeting, as follows:

1. PTA drafted a letter to go to the BOE regarding the AM traffic situation, context for this situation, and a potential solution regarding start time.
2. PTA drafted a short survey to be distributed to the community to get a baseline on student report of lateness to homeroom.

- These action steps were shared by Mary to David over the phone.

- David asked that instead of survey being distributed, that he'd like to suggest that traffic counters be used for a 2-week period (located outside of the school) to collect data on bus arrival times, number of cars entering staff lot, number of cars entering student drop off area, etc.

- Mary agreed that having the traffic counter was a good suggestion and would result in more concrete data.

- Mary reiterated that students arriving to homeroom late is a major concern for PTA. David shared that he had previously been unaware of the extent of this concern regarding students arriving late, and feels confident that we can fix this problem via transportation-related solutions.

- Mary agreed to share the nature of the conversation with Allen, Amy, and as an update to PTA at our next meeting.

Next steps:

- David to arrange the traffic counter; inform school

- PTA will hold off on the letter/survey at this point, until more specific data are available via traffic counter/transportation office

- Question: Can we more clearly define roles? As PTA, I'm unclear of my role in looping in other stakeholders (MRHS, Woodford Drive community, others?). Is this my role? School system's role?

- Question: I'd like to set a date for a check in. Our next PTA meeting is April 12. Would having information to share by that meeting be a reasonable target?

I'd like to stress that I'd like this to be a collaborative process. If I've missed anything, please reply-all and fill in the blanks.

Thank you!

Mary

Exhibit G**Marriotts Ridge High School****Message from MRHS Administration Team**

January 31, 2019

*Important Update***Student Late Arrivals to School**

Attendance, daily and on-time, is an important part of making sure students thrive in the learning environment. Students are expected to arrive to school on-time and report to class by the 7:25 a.m. bell, which indicates the start of Period 1. As we end the first semester, we've been reviewing data regarding student attendance. More specifically, we've been looking at the on-time arrival data. We've noted an increase in the number of students reporting to school after the 7:25 a.m. start time.

As enrollment has increased over the last several years, the number of vehicles entering the parking lot has also increased, which in turn has led to a greater amount of morning traffic. The number of vehicles will likely increase as more students get their driver's licenses and student parking permits this Spring. During first semester, we have tried to be flexible by asking teachers to hold recording attendance on days with extremely heavy traffic. These instances have increased lately, which has impacted first period instruction, as well as, created uncertainty regarding student tardy consequences.

Beginning immediately, students who arrive to school after the 7:25 a.m. bell will report to the late table outside the front office for a pass to class. Students should have a written note from a parent with the date and reason for lateness. At that time, school staff will determine whether the lateness is excused or unexcused and issue the appropriate pass and consequence. Traffic, windshield scraping, oversleeping, car trouble, or slow sibling have all been given as reasons for arriving late and are counted as unexcused. The most common reasons that are accepted for an excused tardy, according to the HCPSS Attendance Policy, are illnesses and medical appointments.

While we are reinforcing the 7:25 a.m. start time, we are also going to reset the consequences for students with unexcused tardiness to school. This adjustment does not change the attendance record, however, does allow students to have a fresh start to consequences for second semester. In examining our consequences for tardiness, we've determined there is a need to amend the published consequences. Below is an updated list of consequences that will replace what was published on page 7 of the Student Agenda Book.

- First offense – Verbal warning
- Second offense – Verbal warning (Parent contact) -- *Amended*
- Third offense – Lunch detention
- Fourth offense – Lunch detention (Parent contact) -- *Amended*
- Fifth offense – After school detention (Parent contact)
- Sixth offense – Morning detention (Parent contact)
- Seventh offense – Extended school day 3-hour detention (Parent contact)
- Eighth offense - Extended school day 3-hour detention (Parent conference)
- Ninth offense – In-school intervention (Parent conference), Referral to the Pupil Personnel Worker
- Subsequent offenses –Administrative discretion

On a related topic of morning traffic, for parents who choose to transport students, please remember to use the second entrance and drop off students by the auditorium. The first entrance is designated only for buses or staff vehicles prior to 7:25 a.m. After 7:25, cars can enter the bus loop where students and visitors can use the door by the front office with the buzzer. It should also be noted that, for building security purposes, doors located by the auditorium and athletic entrances are locked and secured at 7:25 a.m.

Please talk to your student about arriving early and safely to school every day. Encourage them not to stop for food/beverage along the way. We recommend either riding the bus or planning to arrive between 7:00 and 7:15 a.m. (by 7:10 a.m. on rainy days!). Students arriving early may enter the building as early as 7:00 a.m.

Sincerely,
MRHS Administration Team

Exhibit H**Howard County Office of Transportation Route 99 Corridor Investigation Survey 2018**

MD 99 Corridor Investigation Comment and Feedback Form

Transportation Demand Management Options for Schools

Strategies to reduce the number of single occupancy vehicles accessing the school during peak hours

Schools of Interest

☐ Waverly Elementary Shool
☐ Mt. Hebron High School
☒ Patapsco Valley Middle School
☐ Hollifield Station Elementary School

How likely are you to participate in the following strategies?

Please rank how likely you are to participate in the following transportation demand strategies from very likely to not likely, with 1 as not likely and 5 as very likely

How likely are you to participate in the following strategies?

	1-Not Likely	2	3	4	5-Very Likely
Carpool incentives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Staggered arrival and departure times (for pedestrians, bus riders, carpoolers, single drivers)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Limited parking permits (via payment or lottery)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT COMMENTS:

Your answer

Page 3 of 3

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From: [National Connection Daily](#)
To: [Kirsten Coombs](#)
Subject: [External] Study: Many Charters That Received Federal Grants Never Opened Or Were Shut Down
Date: Tuesday, December 10, 2019 7:39:46 AM

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Good morning Kirsten Coombs

December 10, 2019

LEADING THE NEWS

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POLITICS & POLICY

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No New Charter Schools Apply To Open In Chicago

[Chalkbeat](#) (12/9) reports no new charter schools "are applying this year to expand or open in Chicago, a sign of the shifting environment for the independently run, publicly funded schools in Chicago and at the state level."

Michael Bloomberg's Track Record On Education Examined

Alina Adams writes at [Seventy Four](#) (12/9, Adams) reports less than a month after Michael Bloomberg announced he was running for president, the Programme for International Student Assessment "released the results of its 2018 exams. PISA 'measures 15-year-olds' ability to use their reading, mathematics and science knowledge and skills to meet real-life challenges,' according to the exam's website." America's 15-year-olds did "about average for the developed world. Slightly above average in reading, slightly below average in math." If elected, Bloomberg "would inherit these scores – and responsibility for raising them." As mayor, Bloomberg "attempted some sweeping reforms of NYC's troubled educational system, which included an unprecedented level of mayoral control (something his successor, Bill de Blasio is taking advantage of even as he dismantles many of the programs this control first brought)."

TEACHING & LEARNING

New Jersey Lawmaker Wants To Make Cursive Mandatory In All Elementary Schools

[USA Today](#) (12/9, McLoone) reports that between "mandatory lessons being dropped from the Common Core in 2010 and the continued advancement of technology making even a vague scrawl for credit cards rarer and rarer, cursive in our day-to-day lives is dying." But "a bill proposed by Assemblywoman Angela McKnight, D-Hudson, is hoping to guarantee students still learn how to write and read in cursive by requiring that schools add cursive (back) to the elementary school curriculum. And she has now received an influential vote of confidence: State Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, D-Middlesex."

South Dakota Schools, Business Revive Skilled Labor Career

The [AP](#) (12/9) reports when local business owner Jeff Rhone "signed on to teach shop at O'Gorman High School more than a year ago, he hoped to revitalize a class that had been dwindling in numbers." When the program "stopped a few years ago, only five to seven students were taking it each semester." But "thanks to a grant from the Sioux Empire Home Builders Care Foundation, the class is receiving new life. While planning for its first year, Rhone estimated he would have between eight and 12 students a semester."

Maryland Area's Highest-Paid Teachers Are Athletic Directors

The [AP](#) (12/9) reports the "four highest-paid teachers in one Maryland county are high school athletic directors, each earning more than \$114,000 per year." But "most of the biggest salaries in Anne Arundel County Public Schools go to people in the central office, topped by Superintendent George Arlotto, who is set to make nearly \$280,000 in fiscal year 2020."

OPERATIONS

Gaddis: Universal Free School Meals Only Way To Prevent "Lunch-Shaming" Crisis

In a [Washington Post](#) (12/9, Gaddis) op-ed, University of Wisconsin-Madison Assistant Professor Jennifer Gaddis argues that although the Trump Administration's proposed SNAP changes will cause

"nearly 1 million children stand to lose their automatic free-lunch eligibility at a time when families across the country are struggling to afford school lunches," it is not a new problem in America. "Lunch shaming" is a prevalent tactic used to pressure parents and guardians to pay and supplement federal funding for school lunches. "Nothing short of federal legislation guaranteeing all children's right to free school meals will address the root cause of the lunch-shaming crisis and ensure cafeterias are inclusive, nourishing, educational spaces."

SCHOOL FINANCE

Newark Gets \$4M In Emergency School Aid

[Chalkbeat](#) (12/9) reports New York state "has agreed to give Newark an extra \$4 million for its schools this year – a tiny fraction of the nearly \$37 million the district sought." In a letter to the district on Friday, the state "insisted that Newark could cover most of those costs itself by tapping unused funds from last school year and further raising local taxes. The only expense the state agreed to cover was \$3.9 million to remove asbestos from school buildings."

New York Policymakers Request \$2 Billion Increase In Education Funding

[Chalkbeat](#) (12/9) reports New York state education policymakers "proposed Monday to boost school spending by \$2 billion, for a total budget of \$29.9 billion next year, for districts across New York." After "last year's \$2.1 billion funding increase request, Gov. Andrew Cuomo proposed about half of that amount. In the end, dollars increased by \$1 billion, which was nearly the same increase as the prior year." The state Board of Regents "called for earmarking \$1.88 billion of their proposed funding boost for Foundation Aid, the state formula that sends extra state dollars to high-needs districts, such as New York City."

Opinion: Systemic Education Reform In Maryland Should Not Be Excuse For Inaction

Monique Davis and Matthew Gallagher, who were members of the Kirwan Commission's Blueprint for Maryland's Future Funding Formula workgroup, write for the [Baltimore Sun](#) (12/9) reports, "Throughout a three-year rigorous and transparent process, the expert and bipartisan members of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, or the Kirwan Commission as most people know it, laid bare how Maryland's one-time competitive advantage in public education has been severely eroded." But systemic reform "will require significant new investment over time cannot be an excuse for inaction. We must act now to repair and reform a broken public education system that no longer meets Maryland's economic needs or serves the interests of students."

SAFETY & SECURITY

Colorado School District's Vaping Policy May Be A Model For Other US Schools, Research Firm Says

The [Denver Post](#) (12/9, Wingerter) reports the policy of Boulder Valley School District in Colorado "of trying to educate kids about vaping, rather than suspending them the first time they get caught, could be a model for schools around the country, according to an education research firm." Although "vaping has become ubiquitous, some school administrators think it's not a problem for their students or have the default response of suspending students – which doesn't work, said Michelle Berger, a research associate at consulting firm EAB." Boulder Valley Health Services Director Stephanie Faren "said the district is trying a public-health approach, which involves prevention programs for all students and efforts to help those who are addicted to quit."

Kansas School District Considering Lawsuit Against JUUL. The [AP](#) (12/9) reports the Lawrence school district in Kansas "is considering suing" JUUL. The district's school board aimed to "consider Monday whether to join legal action against" the e-cigarette maker. The possible "litigation would seek to recoup money the district says it has spent on education, enforcement and monitoring to minimize vaping."

Analysis Casts Doubt On Efficacy Of Arming Teachers To Prevent School Shootings

The [AP](#) (12/9, Bellisle) reports that while some, including President Trump, have argued that "more people should carry guns, including teachers," to prevent school shootings, "a close look at

unintentional shootings by law enforcement officers, including at schools, raises doubts about whether more guns would help keep students safe." The piece explores the number of accidental discharges of weapons by law enforcement personnel, citing "1,422 unintentional shootings by officers at 258 agencies since 2012. Twenty-two occurred at schools or college campuses." Meanwhile, at least nine states now allow school personnel to carry firearms. Nevertheless, "experts say anybody carrying guns, including teachers, needs ongoing, intensive training to be able to handle their firearms proficiently and respond appropriately in stressful settings – and many law enforcement officers don't even get that."

Wisconsin District Officials Examining Security Procedures In Wake Of Recent Police Shooting

The [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) (12/9) reports district officials in Waukesha, Wisconsin, say they are assessing "emergency systems and protocols following a police shooting at one of its high schools last week in response to concerns about the way it was handled. Deputy Superintendent Joe Koch confirmed that the district would be investigating assertions by some Waukesha South students that the lockdown was initially announced as a drill, rather than an actual emergency, and that some speakers in classrooms may have malfunctioned."

Graffiti Threatening "Mass Shooting" Found Near California Elementary School

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (12/9, Wigglesworth) reports, "Officials are investigating threatening graffiti that was found near Topanga Elementary Charter School on two occasions over the last three weeks." The Times adds, "Someone scrawled a message that included a swastika and the phrase, 'mass shoot everyone,' on a vinyl banner for a production of 'Matilda, the Musical,' which was posted near Topanga School Road and Highway 27 last month, according to a letter from the school's principal that was sent to families on Thursday." According to the Times, "Nearly two weeks later, on Tuesday, a student notified the school's office after finding more graffiti on the Topanga Elementary School sign at the bottom of the hill leading to the campus," and "the message read, 'Mass shooting' and 'all humans are evil,' which was written inside a drawing of a swastika. Parents linked part of the phrase to an online school shooting manifesto, the letter states." The school "immediately contacted law enforcement, prompting a response from Los Angeles School Police and the L.A. County Sheriff's Department, according to a statement issued to students and their families shortly after the incident was reported."

Family Of Boy Who Died, School District Reach Settlement

The [AP](#) (12/9) reports the family of a 14-year-old boy "who died after being found unresponsive in a northwestern Indiana high school's swimming pool has reached a legal settlement with the school's district, the family's attorney said Monday." The settlement "between the family of Curtis Walton Jr. and the Lake Ridge School Corp. is a good deal for both sides, attorney Chester Cameron told The (Northwest Indiana) Times, but he didn't release any terms of the deal."

North Dakota Teens Drinking And Smoking Less, But More Feel Hopeless

The [AP](#) (12/9) reports North Dakota's high school students "are drinking less and using less tobacco, but more young people are having extended periods of feeling sad or hopeless, according to results of a survey about their health behavior released Monday." State Superintendent Kirsten Baesler "said the survey showed fewer high school students reported being bullied at school, either electronically or personally."

Idaho Youth Survey Finds 22% Of Teens Consider Suicide

The [AP](#) (12/9) reports a biennial state survey of Idaho youth "shows fewer teens say they are being bullied, smoking cigarettes or having sex, but the number of kids who have seriously considered suicide remains at a 10-year high." The State Department of Education "released the 2019 Idaho Youth Risk Behavior Survey last week. The survey included more than 1,200 high school students in 45 schools across the state."

Girl Attacked In High School Bathroom Because She's Muslim, Officials Say

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (12/9, Shalby) reports a Muslim high school student "said she was assaulted last week in a targeted attack at her campus in Elk Grove, Calif." According to "the Sacramento Bee, Sabah Elias, 17, was attending a tutoring lesson on Wednesday when she said she was followed into a

bathroom by a masked person." Sabah, "who was wearing a black T-shirt representing Pleasant Grove High School's Muslim Student Assn., said the attacker verbally accosted her for being Muslim, then threw a bucket of water at her."

SPECIAL NEEDS

Memphis Educator Profiled For Work In Special Education Classroom

[Chalkbeat](#) (12/9) reports Jamilyn Cole's "own experiences as a young student with disabilities put her on a long, winding path to becoming a special education teacher herself." Cole – "who was diagnosed with dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia – first spent more than a decade after college working for museums and in youth development." At age 37, "she joined Teach for America to become a teacher in Memphis, finding herself in a special education classroom once again." She "now teaches third-through fifth-grade special education at Libertas School of Memphis, a Montessori school in the Frayser neighborhood. It's a part of the Achievement School District, a district of charter schools that took over historically low-performing schools."

MONDAY'S LEAD STORIES

- [Buttigieg Plan Entails Increasing Educational Funding For "Underserved Children"](#)
- [Commentary: DC Schools Should Learn From Charter Sector To Educate Poor Students](#)
- [Dozens Of Teams Compete In New Mexico Governor's STEM Challenge](#)
- [Boston Public School Bathrooms In "Appalling Condition"](#)
- [Baltimore Sun Calls On Gov. Hogan To Make Education A Top Priority](#)

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From: [National Connection Daily](#)
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Subject: [External] Study: Many Charters That Received Federal Grants Never Opened Or Were Shut Down
Date: Tuesday, December 10, 2019 7:39:46 AM

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Good morning Mavis Ellis

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[Education Week](#) (12/9, Blad) reports President Trump promoted school choice at a White House event Monday. Joined by Education Secretary DeVos, Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX), and Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R), Trump urged Congress to consider his Education Freedom Scholarships program, which "would use federal tax credits to help pay for a variety of educational services, including private school tuition." This article quotes Trump saying, "As president, I am fighting every day for the forgotten American."

[Deseret \(UT\) News](#) (12/9, Romboy) reports Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT) was also in attendance, saying that after the event, he "made the case of 'educational pluralism,' which he described as the federal government's one-size-fits-all education policy." The article quotes Lee saying in a statement, "It is opposed to the monopoly provision of K-12 education through public schools assigned by neighborhood residence. It favors getting civil society more involved in schooling decisions, even within public schools, so that community preferences and values may be better reflected in the education children receive." Near the end of the article, the paper reports DeVos, in Arizona last week, "pushed the plan to create 'Education Freedom Scholarships' allowing businesses and individuals to get 100% federal tax credits for donations to scholarship-granting groups. Arizona has a program that uses tax credits to fund private school tuition scholarships." [Politico Morning Education](#) (12/9,

Gaudiano) previewed the event.

New Indianapolis Education PAC Wants To Bypass School Choice Debates

[Chalkbeat](#) (12/9) reports, "Jasmin Shaheed-Young has a vision for a political organization that focuses on education – while avoiding deeply contested, emotionally fraught debates over school choice." Shaheed-Young "says she wants the new political action committee she founded, known as RISE Indy, to be driven by community priorities and focus on unifying issues, such as improving student achievement, rather than the debate between charter and traditional public schools."

No New Charter Schools Apply To Open In Chicago

[Chalkbeat](#) (12/9) reports no new charter schools "are applying this year to expand or open in Chicago, a sign of the shifting environment for the independently run, publicly funded schools in Chicago and at the state level."

Michael Bloomberg's Track Record On Education Examined

Alina Adams writes at [Seventy Four](#) (12/9, Adams) reports less than a month after Michael Bloomberg announced he was running for president, the Programme for International Student Assessment "released the results of its 2018 exams. PISA 'measures 15-year-olds' ability to use their reading, mathematics and science knowledge and skills to meet real-life challenges,' according to the exam's website." America's 15-year-olds did "about average for the developed world. Slightly above average in reading, slightly below average in math." If elected, Bloomberg "would inherit these scores – and responsibility for raising them." As mayor, Bloomberg "attempted some sweeping reforms of NYC's troubled educational system, which included an unprecedented level of mayoral control (something his successor, Bill de Blasio is taking advantage of even as he dismantles many of the programs this control first brought)."

TEACHING & LEARNING

New Jersey Lawmaker Wants To Make Cursive Mandatory In All Elementary Schools

[USA Today](#) (12/9, McLoone) reports that between "mandatory lessons being dropped from the Common Core in 2010 and the continued advancement of technology making even a vague scrawl for credit cards rarer and rarer, cursive in our day-to-day lives is dying." But "a bill proposed by Assemblywoman Angela McKnight, D-Hudson, is hoping to guarantee students still learn how to write and read in cursive by requiring that schools add cursive (back) to the elementary school curriculum. And she has now received an influential vote of confidence: State Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, D-Middlesex."

South Dakota Schools, Business Revive Skilled Labor Career

The [AP](#) (12/9) reports when local business owner Jeff Rhone "signed on to teach shop at O'Gorman High School more than a year ago, he hoped to revitalize a class that had been dwindling in numbers." When the program "stopped a few years ago, only five to seven students were taking it each semester." But "thanks to a grant from the Sioux Empire Home Builders Care Foundation, the class is receiving new life. While planning for its first year, Rhone estimated he would have between eight and 12 students a semester."

Maryland Area's Highest-Paid Teachers Are Athletic Directors

The [AP](#) (12/9) reports the "four highest-paid teachers in one Maryland county are high school athletic directors, each earning more than \$114,000 per year." But "most of the biggest salaries in Anne Arundel County Public Schools go to people in the central office, topped by Superintendent George Arlotto, who is set to make nearly \$280,000 in fiscal year 2020."

OPERATIONS

Gaddis: Universal Free School Meals Only Way To Prevent "Lunch-Shaming" Crisis

In a [Washington Post](#) (12/9, Gaddis) op-ed, University of Wisconsin-Madison Assistant Professor Jennifer Gaddis argues that although the Trump Administration's proposed SNAP changes will cause

"nearly 1 million children stand to lose their automatic free-lunch eligibility at a time when families across the country are struggling to afford school lunches," it is not a new problem in America. "Lunch shaming" is a prevalent tactic used to pressure parents and guardians to pay and supplement federal funding for school lunches. "Nothing short of federal legislation guaranteeing all children's right to free school meals will address the root cause of the lunch-shaming crisis and ensure cafeterias are inclusive, nourishing, educational spaces."

SCHOOL FINANCE

Newark Gets \$4M In Emergency School Aid

[Chalkbeat](#) (12/9) reports New York state "has agreed to give Newark an extra \$4 million for its schools this year – a tiny fraction of the nearly \$37 million the district sought." In a letter to the district on Friday, the state "insisted that Newark could cover most of those costs itself by tapping unused funds from last school year and further raising local taxes. The only expense the state agreed to cover was \$3.9 million to remove asbestos from school buildings."

New York Policymakers Request \$2 Billion Increase In Education Funding

[Chalkbeat](#) (12/9) reports New York state education policymakers "proposed Monday to boost school spending by \$2 billion, for a total budget of \$29.9 billion next year, for districts across New York." After "last year's \$2.1 billion funding increase request, Gov. Andrew Cuomo proposed about half of that amount. In the end, dollars increased by \$1 billion, which was nearly the same increase as the prior year." The state Board of Regents "called for earmarking \$1.88 billion of their proposed funding boost for Foundation Aid, the state formula that sends extra state dollars to high-needs districts, such as New York City."

Opinion: Systemic Education Reform In Maryland Should Not Be Excuse For Inaction

Monique Davis and Matthew Gallagher, who were members of the Kirwan Commission's Blueprint for Maryland's Future Funding Formula workgroup, write for the [Baltimore Sun](#) (12/9) reports, "Throughout a three-year rigorous and transparent process, the expert and bipartisan members of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, or the Kirwan Commission as most people know it, laid bare how Maryland's one-time competitive advantage in public education has been severely eroded." But systemic reform "will require significant new investment over time cannot be an excuse for inaction. We must act now to repair and reform a broken public education system that no longer meets Maryland's economic needs or serves the interests of students."

SAFETY & SECURITY

Colorado School District's Vaping Policy May Be A Model For Other US Schools, Research Firm Says

The [Denver Post](#) (12/9, Wingerter) reports the policy of Boulder Valley School District in Colorado "of trying to educate kids about vaping, rather than suspending them the first time they get caught, could be a model for schools around the country, according to an education research firm." Although "vaping has become ubiquitous, some school administrators think it's not a problem for their students or have the default response of suspending students – which doesn't work, said Michelle Berger, a research associate at consulting firm EAB." Boulder Valley Health Services Director Stephanie Faren "said the district is trying a public-health approach, which involves prevention programs for all students and efforts to help those who are addicted to quit."

Kansas School District Considering Lawsuit Against JUUL. The [AP](#) (12/9) reports the Lawrence school district in Kansas "is considering suing" JUUL. The district's school board aimed to "consider Monday whether to join legal action against" the e-cigarette maker. The possible "litigation would seek to recoup money the district says it has spent on education, enforcement and monitoring to minimize vaping."

Analysis Casts Doubt On Efficacy Of Arming Teachers To Prevent School Shootings

The [AP](#) (12/9, Bellisle) reports that while some, including President Trump, have argued that "more people should carry guns, including teachers," to prevent school shootings, "a close look at

unintentional shootings by law enforcement officers, including at schools, raises doubts about whether more guns would help keep students safe." The piece explores the number of accidental discharges of weapons by law enforcement personnel, citing "1,422 unintentional shootings by officers at 258 agencies since 2012. Twenty-two occurred at schools or college campuses." Meanwhile, at least nine states now allow school personnel to carry firearms. Nevertheless, "experts say anybody carrying guns, including teachers, needs ongoing, intensive training to be able to handle their firearms proficiently and respond appropriately in stressful settings – and many law enforcement officers don't even get that."

Wisconsin District Officials Examining Security Procedures In Wake Of Recent Police Shooting

The [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) (12/9) reports district officials in Waukesha, Wisconsin, say they are assessing "emergency systems and protocols following a police shooting at one of its high schools last week in response to concerns about the way it was handled. Deputy Superintendent Joe Koch confirmed that the district would be investigating assertions by some Waukesha South students that the lockdown was initially announced as a drill, rather than an actual emergency, and that some speakers in classrooms may have malfunctioned."

Graffiti Threatening "Mass Shooting" Found Near California Elementary School

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (12/9, Wigglesworth) reports, "Officials are investigating threatening graffiti that was found near Topanga Elementary Charter School on two occasions over the last three weeks." The Times adds, "Someone scrawled a message that included a swastika and the phrase, 'mass shoot everyone,' on a vinyl banner for a production of 'Matilda, the Musical,' which was posted near Topanga School Road and Highway 27 last month, according to a letter from the school's principal that was sent to families on Thursday." According to the Times, "Nearly two weeks later, on Tuesday, a student notified the school's office after finding more graffiti on the Topanga Elementary School sign at the bottom of the hill leading to the campus," and "the message read, 'Mass shooting' and 'all humans are evil,' which was written inside a drawing of a swastika. Parents linked part of the phrase to an online school shooting manifesto, the letter states." The school "immediately contacted law enforcement, prompting a response from Los Angeles School Police and the L.A. County Sheriff's Department, according to a statement issued to students and their families shortly after the incident was reported."

Family Of Boy Who Died, School District Reach Settlement

The [AP](#) (12/9) reports the family of a 14-year-old boy "who died after being found unresponsive in a northwestern Indiana high school's swimming pool has reached a legal settlement with the school's district, the family's attorney said Monday." The settlement "between the family of Curtis Walton Jr. and the Lake Ridge School Corp. is a good deal for both sides, attorney Chester Cameron told The (Northwest Indiana) Times, but he didn't release any terms of the deal."

North Dakota Teens Drinking And Smoking Less, But More Feel Hopeless

The [AP](#) (12/9) reports North Dakota's high school students "are drinking less and using less tobacco, but more young people are having extended periods of feeling sad or hopeless, according to results of a survey about their health behavior released Monday." State Superintendent Kirsten Baesler "said the survey showed fewer high school students reported being bullied at school, either electronically or personally."

Idaho Youth Survey Finds 22% Of Teens Consider Suicide

The [AP](#) (12/9) reports a biennial state survey of Idaho youth "shows fewer teens say they are being bullied, smoking cigarettes or having sex, but the number of kids who have seriously considered suicide remains at a 10-year high." The State Department of Education "released the 2019 Idaho Youth Risk Behavior Survey last week. The survey included more than 1,200 high school students in 45 schools across the state."

Girl Attacked In High School Bathroom Because She's Muslim, Officials Say

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (12/9, Shalby) reports a Muslim high school student "said she was assaulted last week in a targeted attack at her campus in Elk Grove, Calif." According to "the Sacramento Bee, Sabah Elias, 17, was attending a tutoring lesson on Wednesday when she said she was followed into a

bathroom by a masked person." Sabah, "who was wearing a black T-shirt representing Pleasant Grove High School's Muslim Student Assn., said the attacker verbally accosted her for being Muslim, then threw a bucket of water at her."

SPECIAL NEEDS

Memphis Educator Profiled For Work In Special Education Classroom

[Chalkbeat](#) (12/9) reports Jamilyn Cole's "own experiences as a young student with disabilities put her on a long, winding path to becoming a special education teacher herself." Cole – "who was diagnosed with dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia – first spent more than a decade after college working for museums and in youth development." At age 37, "she joined Teach for America to become a teacher in Memphis, finding herself in a special education classroom once again." She "now teaches third-through fifth-grade special education at Libertas School of Memphis, a Montessori school in the Frayser neighborhood. It's a part of the Achievement School District, a district of charter schools that took over historically low-performing schools."

MONDAY'S LEAD STORIES

- [Buttigieg Plan Entails Increasing Educational Funding For "Underserved Children"](#)
- [Commentary: DC Schools Should Learn From Charter Sector To Educate Poor Students](#)
- [Dozens Of Teams Compete In New Mexico Governor's STEM Challenge](#)
- [Boston Public School Bathrooms In "Appalling Condition"](#)
- [Baltimore Sun Calls On Gov. Hogan To Make Education A Top Priority](#)

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From: [EdWeek Update](#)
To: [Kirsten Coombs](#)
Subject: [External] Are GreatSchools Ratings Making Segregation Worse?
Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 3:21:30 AM

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Are GreatSchools Ratings Making Segregation Worse?

With more than 40 million unique visitors a year, GreatSchools.org is a wildly popular source of information on K-12 schools. But researchers argue that it's exacerbating already existing patterns of segregation. [Read more.](#)



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New Teacher Center (NTC) has become a leader in professional learning. Today, our evidence-based mentoring and coaching program models support leadership to design sustainable school- and district-based systems of support for teachers at all stages of their careers. [Download Whitepaper](#)

Teaching in 2020 vs. 2010: A Look Back at the Decade

As the 2010s draw to a close, teachers are left reeling from massive shifts in policy and practice that have affected their everyday work. [Read more.](#)



Timeline: How Teaching Has Changed Over the Decade

Here's a look at how national policy on teachers and teaching has changed over the past 10 years. [Read more.](#)

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OPINION

The Dangerous Narrative That Lurks Under the 'Achievement Gap'

Black students are not to blame for their lack of educational opportunities, argues assistant principal Eric Higgins. [Read more.](#)



How Teachers Talk About Educational Disparities (Data)

In a national survey, we dug into how teachers use language to make sense of disparities in student outcomes by race and income level. [Read more.](#)



Now Hiring Teachers & Administrators

Oakland Unified School District is hiring teachers and administrators for the upcoming school year 2019-2020. Check out their [open positions](#) and [sign up for custom job alerts](#) on EdWeek's Job Board, TopSchoolJobs. [View Jobs Now.](#)

K-12 MARKETPLACE INTEL

The Fastest Growing Ed-Tech Companies in North America

Deloitte named its 500 fastest-growing tech companies in North America. Thirty-nine of them touch the world of education in ways big or small. [Preview this article on EdWeek Market Brief.](#)



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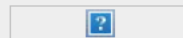
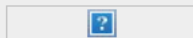
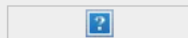
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From: [Baltimore Sun](#)
To: [Kirsten Coombs](#)
Subject: [External] Maryland weather: Light snow could snarl morning commute | Call 311 for a dirty alley? City's response depends on where you live | New candidate enters 7th Congressional District race
Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 7:45:46 AM

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THE MORNING SUN



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Maryland weather: Light snow could snarl morning commute; winter weather advisory in effect through 8 a.m.



Mild and rainy conditions Tuesday gave way to snow and cold by early Wednesday morning as a front moves through the Baltimore region. One to two inches of snowfall are possible along the Interstate 95 corridor.



[READ MORE](#)

Call 311 for a dirty alley in Baltimore? City's response depends on where you live



A Baltimore Sun analysis of the city's 311 data shows a stark disparity in how quickly public works crews resolve complaints about dirty alleys, based on where the people who call with complaints live.



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Baltimore law professor running for the late Rep. Elijah Cummings' seat to lend his campaign \$500,000



University of Baltimore law professor F. Michael Higginbotham says he will lend \$500,000 to his campaign in the race to succeed the late U.S. Rep. Elijah Cummings.



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Baltimore gave \$75K to assistant AG who alleged Mosby 'tantrum' over perjury claim cost her top police job



An assistant attorney general won a settlement after claiming Marilyn J. Mosby — who she had previously accused of perjury — threw a “tantrum” to get her fired.



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Martin Scorsese dedicates ‘The Irishman’ to a

friend from Towson



Martin Scorsese's 'The Irishman' is dedicated to the late John "Bernie" Martin of Towson, the director's longtime personal assistant.



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No. 4 Maryland basketball's 10-game winning streak to start season ends with 76-69 loss to Penn State



Doomed by a season-high 20 turnovers in Tuesday night's loss, Maryland fell one victory shy of tying the school record for most wins to open a season.



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Jury to decide: Was Anne Arundel teen's overdose an accident or manslaughter?



Prosecutors and defense attorneys concluded their arguments Tuesday and handed off the case of the Millersville man charged in the fatal overdose of 16-year-old Josiah Klaes to the jury, who will determine whether 46-year-old Jason Baker is guilty of manslaughter and fentanyl distribution charges.

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University of Maryland researchers testing potential vaccine for E. coli, Shigella



Researchers at the University of Maryland are testing a potential vaccine for E. coli and other diarrheal diseases.



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Former Orioles star Adam Jones announces move to Japan: 'It's now time to move on to my

next chapter in life'



Adam Jones announced on his Instagram that he signed a two-year guaranteed contract with the Orix Buffaloes of Nippon Professional Baseball in Japan.



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Jury finalized in trial of slain Bowie State student



Jury selection in the trial of a slain Bowie student wrapped up Tuesday. The jury will hear opening arguments on Wednesday.



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ABOUT THIS EMAIL You received this email because you are following the The Morning Sun newsletter.

From: [Dong Chen](#)
To: [Jennifer Mallo](#)
Subject: [External] Please do NOT ratify the redistricting plan [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, December 13, 2019 2:59:37 PM

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Dear Ms. Mallo,

As a resident of [REDACTED], I would strongly urge you NOT to ratify the redistricting plan as was passed on Nov 21 by the BOE.

My rationales are the following:

1. The current redistricting plan was based on inconsistent data on enrollments and FARMS rates.
2. Running Brook and especially Wilde Lake is a much father away school than our currently assigned Northfield and Dunloggin. In addition to increasing the (unnecessary) busing budget for the county significantly, a longer bus trip across two major intersections (MD 108 and MD 175) will put our kids in harm's way by increasing the risk of traffic accident and injury dramatically (**20-fold and 58-fold** respectively based on analysis of the official traffic data).
3. One Dorsey Hall is an integral and harmonious community. Our kids attend the same school and join the same soccer teams. Besides, Northfield did not have a capacity issue by itself. Separating the community because of the over-capacity issue at Northfield from a ripple effect from other polygon moves really hurts so many families unnecessarily. You can feel the unity of our One Dorsey Hall community from the photos taken during the "One Dorsey Hall Walk" that I sent you before. During this Walk, residents from the **One Dorsey Hall** communities (polygon 2148, 1148, 148, 276, and 302) walk together from the Dorsey Village Center to Northfield Elementary School. You can also feel the unity of our One Dorsey Hall community from the attached PTA statement from Northfield, in which it urged the BOE to be very cautious in the redistricting.

I thank you for listening and understanding our concerns. Happy holidays!

Sincerely,
Dong Chen

[REDACTED]

From: [Dong Chen](#)
To: [Mavis Ellis](#)
Subject: [External] Please do NOT ratify the redistricting plan [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, December 13, 2019 3:05:54 PM
Attachments: [Northfield PTA Statement.pdf](#)

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Dear Ms. Ellis,

As a resident of [REDACTED], I would strongly urge you NOT to ratify the redistricting plan as was passed on Nov 21 by the BOE.

My rationales are the following:

1. The current redistricting plan was based on inconsistent data on enrollments and FARMS rates.
2. Running Brook and especially Wilde Lake is a much father away school than our currently assigned Northfield and Dunloggin. In addition to increasing the (unnecessary) busing budget for the county significantly, a longer bus trip across two major intersections (MD 108 and MD 175) will put our kids in harm's way by increasing the risk of traffic accident and injury dramatically (**20-fold and 58-fold** respectively based on analysis of the official traffic data).
3. One Dorsey Hall is an integral and harmonious community. Our kids attend the same school and join the same soccer teams. Besides, Northfield did not have a capacity issue by itself. Separating the community because of the over-capacity issue at Northfield from a ripple effect from other polygon moves really hurts so many families unnecessarily. You can feel the unity of our One Dorsey Hall community from the photos taken during the "One Dorsey Hall Walk" that I sent you before. During this Walk, residents from the **One Dorsey Hall** communities (polygon 2148, 1148, 148, 276, and 302) walk together from the Dorsey Village Center to Northfield Elementary School. You can also feel the unity of our One Dorsey Hall community from the attached PTA statement from Northfield, in which it urged the BOE to be very cautious in the redistricting.

I thank you for listening and understanding our concerns. Happy holidays!

Sincerely,
Dong Chen

[REDACTED]



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Northfield Elementary School Parent Teacher Association statement on the current HCPSS Redistricting Plan (2019)

The NES-PTA understands that, at times, the HCPSS must address overcrowding in existing school buildings through attendance area adjustments. With respect to the current, November 2019, adjustment process, the NES-PTA holds the following positions:

1. The Northfield Elementary community should not be divided without further consideration of community aspects.

- a. This community is composed of several tight-knit neighborhoods. Redistricting without a full community in-person review to include current aspects and historic ones can negatively impact community stability.
- c. As an example, if the current proposals go through which use the main conduit (Columbia Road) as the divide, the Dorsey Hall community pool and community center would literally be redistricted into two school districts.
- e. This community was previously split along similar lines until about six years ago and it has taken many years for the community to heal from that rift to become the strong, close knit community that exists today.
- g. Proximity to NES encourages community activity and extracurricular activities and there will be profound impacts on student opportunities for those who are moved to a school much farther away.

4. The Northfield Elementary community should not be divided without further consideration of the safe walk-to and bike-to school options which foster community spirit and healthy habits.

- a. For example, the recently built traffic circle at Kingscup Court and Columbia Road does not appear to have been fully considered for the latest proposals. The significant amount of capital resources expended in the project to slow traffic and improve sight distances and the benefit of a safe crossing of Columbia Road by walkers to NES would be wasted.
- c. It may not be cost effective to spend funds transporting students who are currently walkers, and substantially increasing transportation costs for others.



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- 6. The Northfield Elementary community should not be divided without further consideration of shorter and safer transportation routes.**
 - a. The current proposals would increase the number of required transportation options and the distance traveled and would appreciably increase the amount of traffic on Columbia Road.
 - c. The current proposals would also compound traffic issues as it would require that virtually all buses make left turns or turnarounds within the Northfield community further compounding traffic issues.
 - e. The current proposals would transport students through multiple heavily trafficked intersections with lights along Columbia Road at Dorsey Hall, Old Annapolis Road, Clarksville Pike and Little Patuxent Parkway.
 - f. It is much less safe for children to travel for longer on much busier roads and through major intersections.
- 8. The Northfield Elementary community should not be divided without further consideration of the requirement to provide ample and equal opportunity for public and community input by all.**
 - a. The NES community has been thrust into situation very late in the process without an opportunity for public comment or even an understanding of what criteria were considered that may result in the upheaving of the entire community. This lacks the same due process that other proposals and communities have been afforded, many of whom have had months to prepare response and organize.
- 10. The Northfield Elementary community should not be divided without further consideration of the negative impact of the removal of the majority of affordable housing upon the richness, vibrancy and diversity of the community.**
- 7. The Northfield Elementary community should not be divided without further consideration of the importance of consistency and disruptive impacts upon young children's lives.**
 - a. As an example, the current proposals have NES children moving to Running Brook, which starts 45 minutes later. Parents would need to change their schedules or jobs, resulting in hours in the traffic rather than in family time. Alternatively, parents would need to place children in childcare leading to



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extended days making them more tired, less able to partake in afterschool activities, and less productive with respect to homework. Consistency in educational environment is instrumental to success in academics and extracurricular activities for children and being forced to change schools may introduce unnecessary change and stress.

- c. Lives and work schedules are partially designed around children and their schools. Therefore, some parents would need to radically change many aspects of their lives in order to foster school involvement for children who live much farther away from their school, including many children who currently walk and bike to activities at NES.

12. The Northfield Elementary Community should not be divided without full consideration of the HCPSS Board of Education Guidelines of Policy 6010, School Attendance Areas.

- a. Point 1 & 5 deviates from Policy 6010, IV, B, 2, b which promotes a sense of the community by consideration of “areas that are made up of contiguous communities or neighborhoods.”
- c. Point 2 deviates from Policy 6010, IV, B, 1, d which encourages walking.
- e. Point 3 deviates from Policy 6010, IV, B, 1, c & d and the additional transportation would likely increase capital and operating costs while increasing the time and distance traveled by students while also jeopardizing student safety.
- g. Point 4 deviates from Policy 6010, IV, D. has the intent of engaging the public and receiving Community Input.

From: [Dong Chen](#)
To: [Kirsten Coombs](#)
Subject: [External] Please do NOT ratify the redistricting plan [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, December 13, 2019 3:06:46 PM
Attachments: [Northfield PTA Statement.pdf](#)

! CAUTION: This email originated from outside of HCPSS. Do not click links or open attachments, unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Ms. Coombs,

As a resident of [REDACTED], I would strongly urge you NOT to ratify the redistricting plan as was passed on Nov 21 by the BOE.

My rationales are the following:

1. The current redistricting plan was based on inconsistent data on enrollments and FARMS rates.
2. Running Brook and especially Wilde Lake is a much father away school than our currently assigned Northfield and Dunloggin. In addition to increasing the (unnecessary) busing budget for the county significantly, a longer bus trip across two major intersections (MD 108 and MD 175) will put our kids in harm's way by increasing the risk of traffic accident and injury dramatically (**20-fold and 58-fold** respectively based on analysis of the official traffic data).
3. One Dorsey Hall is an integral and harmonious community. Our kids attend the same school and join the same soccer teams. Besides, Northfield did not have a capacity issue by itself. Separating the community because of the over-capacity issue at Northfield from a ripple effect from other polygon moves really hurts so many families unnecessarily. You can feel the unity of our One Dorsey Hall community from the photos taken during the "One Dorsey Hall Walk" that I sent you before. During this Walk, residents from the **One Dorsey Hall** communities (polygon 2148, 1148, 148, 276, and 302) walk together from the Dorsey Village Center to Northfield Elementary School. You can also feel the unity of our One Dorsey Hall community from the attached PTA statement from Northfield, in which it urged the BOE to be very cautious in the redistricting.

I thank you for listening and understanding our concerns. Happy holidays!

Sincerely,
Dong Chen

[REDACTED]

From: [Dong Chen](#)
To: [Sabina Taj](#)
Subject: [External] Please do NOT ratify the redistricting plan [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, December 13, 2019 3:08:29 PM
Attachments: [Northfield PTA Statement.pdf](#)

! CAUTION: This email originated from outside of HCPSS. Do not click links or open attachments, unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Ms. Taj,

As a resident of [REDACTED], I would strongly urge you NOT to ratify the redistricting plan as was passed on Nov 21 by the BOE.

My rationales are the following:

1. The current redistricting plan was based on inconsistent data on enrollments and FARMS rates.
2. Running Brook and especially Wilde Lake is a much father away school than our currently assigned Northfield and Dunloggin. In addition to increasing the (unnecessary) busing budget for the county significantly, a longer bus trip across two major intersections (MD 108 and MD 175) will put our kids in harm's way by increasing the risk of traffic accident and injury dramatically (**20-fold and 58-fold** respectively based on analysis of the official traffic data).
3. One Dorsey Hall is an integral and harmonious community. Our kids attend the same school and join the same soccer teams. Besides, Northfield did not have a capacity issue by itself. Separating the community because of the over-capacity issue at Northfield from a ripple effect from other polygon moves really hurts so many families unnecessarily. You can feel the unity of our One Dorsey Hall community from the photos taken during the "One Dorsey Hall Walk" that I sent you before. During this Walk, residents from the **One Dorsey Hall** communities (polygon 2148, 1148, 148, 276, and 302) walk together from the Dorsey Village Center to Northfield Elementary School. You can also feel the unity of our One Dorsey Hall community from the attached PTA statement from Northfield, in which it urged the BOE to be very cautious in the redistricting.

I thank you for listening and understanding our concerns. Happy holidays!

Sincerely,
Dong Chen

[REDACTED]

From: [Dong Chen](#)
To: [Jennifer Mallo](#)
Subject: [External] Re: Please do NOT ratify the redistricting plan [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, December 13, 2019 3:09:48 PM
Attachments: [Northfield PTA Statement.pdf](#)

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Sorry, forgot to attach the NES PTA statement. Here you go.

Thanks a lot.

Dong

From: Dong Chen
Sent: Friday, December 13, 2019 2:59 PM
To: jennifer_mallo@hcpss.org <jennifer_mallo@hcpss.org>
Subject: Please do NOT ratify the redistricting plan [REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Mallo,

As a resident of [REDACTED], I would strongly urge you NOT to ratify the redistricting plan as was passed on Nov 21 by the BOE.

My rationales are the following:

1. The current redistricting plan was based on inconsistent data on enrollments and FARMS rates.
2. Running Brook and especially Wilde Lake is a much father away school than our currently assigned Northfield and Dunloggin. In addition to increasing the (unnecessary) busing budget for the county significantly, a longer bus trip across two major intersections (MD 108 and MD 175) will put our kids in harm's way by increasing the risk of traffic accident and injury dramatically (**20-fold and 58-fold** respectively based on analysis of the official traffic data).
3. One Dorsey Hall is an integral and harmonious community. Our kids attend the same school and join the same soccer teams. Besides, Northfield did not have a capacity issue by itself. Separating the community because of the over-capacity issue at Northfield from a ripple effect from other polygon moves really hurts so many families unnecessarily. You can feel the unity of our One Dorsey Hall community from the photos taken during the "One Dorsey Hall Walk" that I sent you before. During this Walk, residents from the **One Dorsey Hall** communities (polygon 2148, 1148, 148, 276, and 302) walk together from the Dorsey Village Center to Northfield Elementary School. You can also feel the unity of our One Dorsey Hall community from the attached PTA

statement from Northfield, in which it urged the BOE to be very cautious in the redistricting.

I thank you for listening and understanding our concerns. Happy holidays!

Sincerely,
Dong Chen

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Dong Chen.