

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY

PRESENTATION ON ASSESSING FACILITY UTILIZATION AND BALANCING SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

FEBRUARY 22, 2021

Background Information:

Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) has recently seen an increase in enrollment after multiple years of relatively flat enrollment. Much of this growth has been seen in schools located in the Bel Air area; however, it is also expanding into other areas of the County's growth envelope. Harford County has an Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO); if a school is at or is projected to reach 110% of the state rated capacity in the next three years, preliminary plans for subdivisions with more than five lots cannot be approved. Presently, four elementary schools and one middle school are at, or above, the threshold to trigger APFO restrictions on new development.

The Board of Education (BOE) approved the contract with FLO Analytics at the board meeting held on August 10, 2020. FLO Analytics has completed a comprehensive review of our existing facility capacities and is in the process of developing efficient economical solutions to balance enrollment and meet the growing needs of HCPS. Throughout the process, the team will request input from parents/guardians, students, staff, community members, County and local municipal planning departments, and other stakeholders.

In January, the project started the community outreach with phone surveys conducted by FLO Analytics' subcontractor, Critical Data, with information and an online survey available on the HCPS' website. FLO Analytics and their subcontractor, Bloom Planning, conducted the Advisory Team kickoff meeting on January 13, 2021. The Advisory Team is made up of HCPS leadership, parents, and principals and is responsible for reviewing and configuring boundaries.

Discussion:

FLO Analytics is working on a regional approach to balance enrollment. This regional approach will allow HCPS to maintain community schools and ensure we are following the Guiding Principles approved by the BOE on December 21, 2020. FLO Analytics has developed potential options (Springboard Options) and will work with the Advisory Team review to fine-tune the options through a series of meetings and Community input forums to develop recommendations.

As part of this project, FLO Analytics has partnered with Banta Campbell Architects to update the Scope Study for the Homestead/Wakefield Elementary School Project. Homestead/Wakefield Elementary School is over capacity and forecasted to increase in enrollment over the next few years. This school is also located within the County's growth envelope. FLO Analytics evaluated three potential State Rated Capacities (SRC), 811, 988, and

1,129 for the Homestead/Wakefield Elementary School. The evaluation looked at the options along with the capacities and enrollments of the surrounding elementary schools. At the Board of Education's discretion, based on the forecasted growth in this area, increasing needs for special education and pre-kindergarten programs, the recommended SRC for the Homestead/Wakefield Elementary School project is 1,129 students. This is addressed in the updated scope study.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Schools recommends that the Board of Education accept the presentation and update of the Assessing Facility Utilization and Balancing School Enrollment project.

HARFORD COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS &
FLO ANALYTICS

Balancing Enrollment Process Update

Board of Education

Agenda

- Review General Seats Concept
- Springboard Framework
- Elementary School Considerations
- Middle School/High School Considerations



For Each School:

- ▶ Reserve classrooms for regional programs:
 - Pre-K
 - Special Education – Pre-K, STRIVE and CSP
 - Magnet

- ▶ Reviewed State Rated Capacity for remaining general education classrooms

- ▶ Total state rated capacity for those classrooms is what we call “General Seats” going forward

Example: Roye-Williams

- ▶ Classrooms for regional programs: Pre-K (**1**), STRIVE (**2**)
- ▶ Remaining general education classrooms: **4** Kindergarten, **25** 1-5
- ▶ Total state rated capacity for those classrooms: $(4*22) + (25*23) = 663$ General Seats

Schools:

School A, School B, School C, School D



Schools in the regional analysis.

Enrollment Balance Objective: 88%



The percent of general seats we are attempting to fill for each school. This balance will vary by region.

Enrollment Issues:

- ▶ School A is forecast to have 98.5% of general seats filled by 2026
- ▶ School B is currently overfilled at 101% of general seats, and is forecast to have 104% of general seats filled by 2026



Enrollment balancing issues to solve for within each region.

Considerations:

- ▶ Maintain neighborhood cohesion for School C



Additional considerations taken into account for proposed boundaries.

Elementary Schools – Regional Options Development

Regions:

ES = Elementary School

ESN = North

ESE = East

ESSE = Southeast

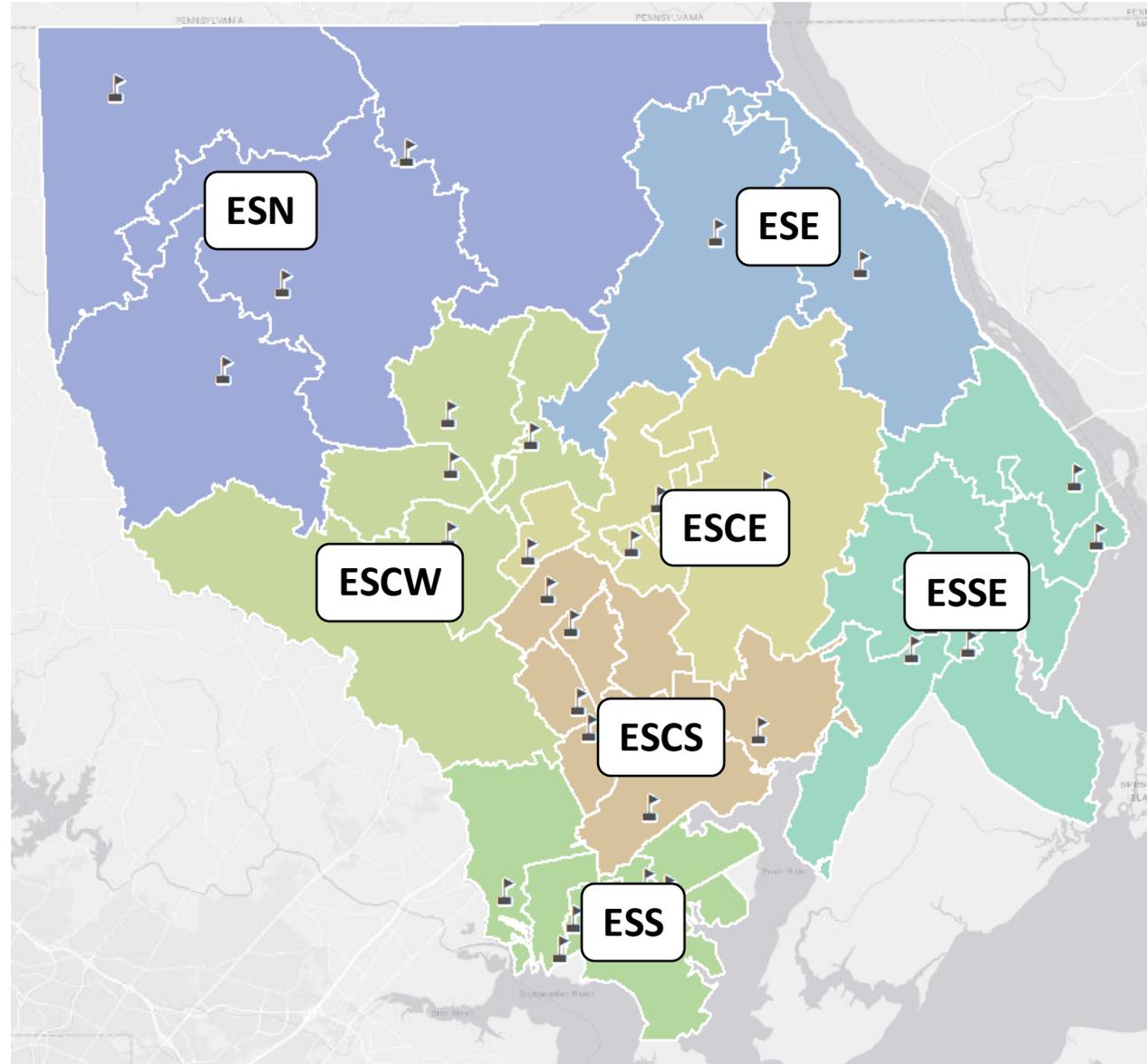
ESS = South

ESCS = Center South

ESCE = Center East

ESCW = Center West

- ▶ Balance enrollment within each region
- ▶ Keep transportation within each region



Elementary School – North Option

Schools:

Jarrettsville, Norrisville, North Bend, North Harford

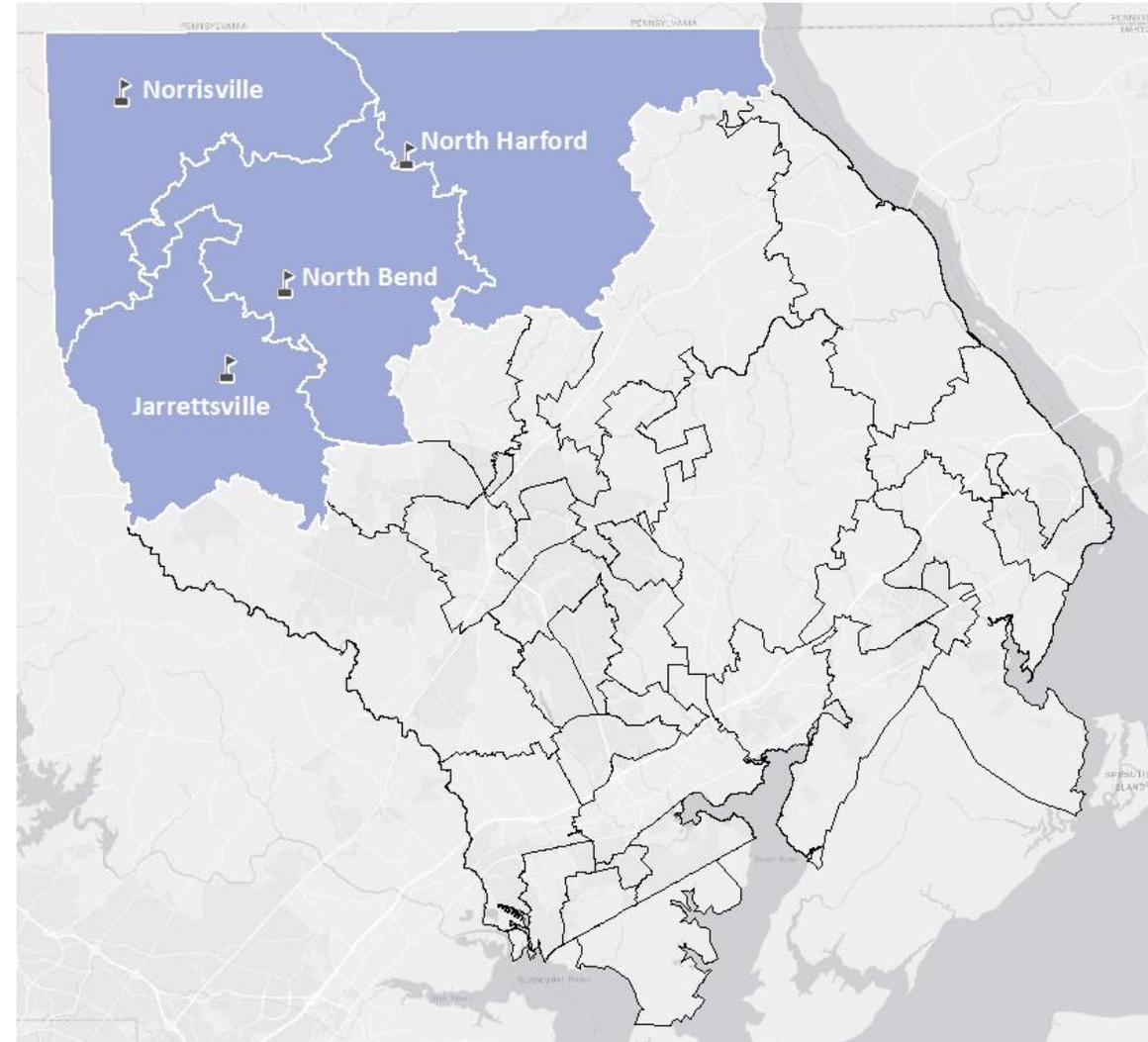
Enrollment Balance Objective: **85%**

Enrollment Issues:

- ▶ Norrisville is forecast to have **94.5%** of general seats filled by 2026
- ▶ Need to move students from Center West region to the North Region to address their current enrollment balance of **100%**

Considerations:

- ▶ Include more students near North Harford ES to reduce transportation time, increase neighborhood cohesion



Elementary School – Northeast Option

Schools:

Darlington & Dublin

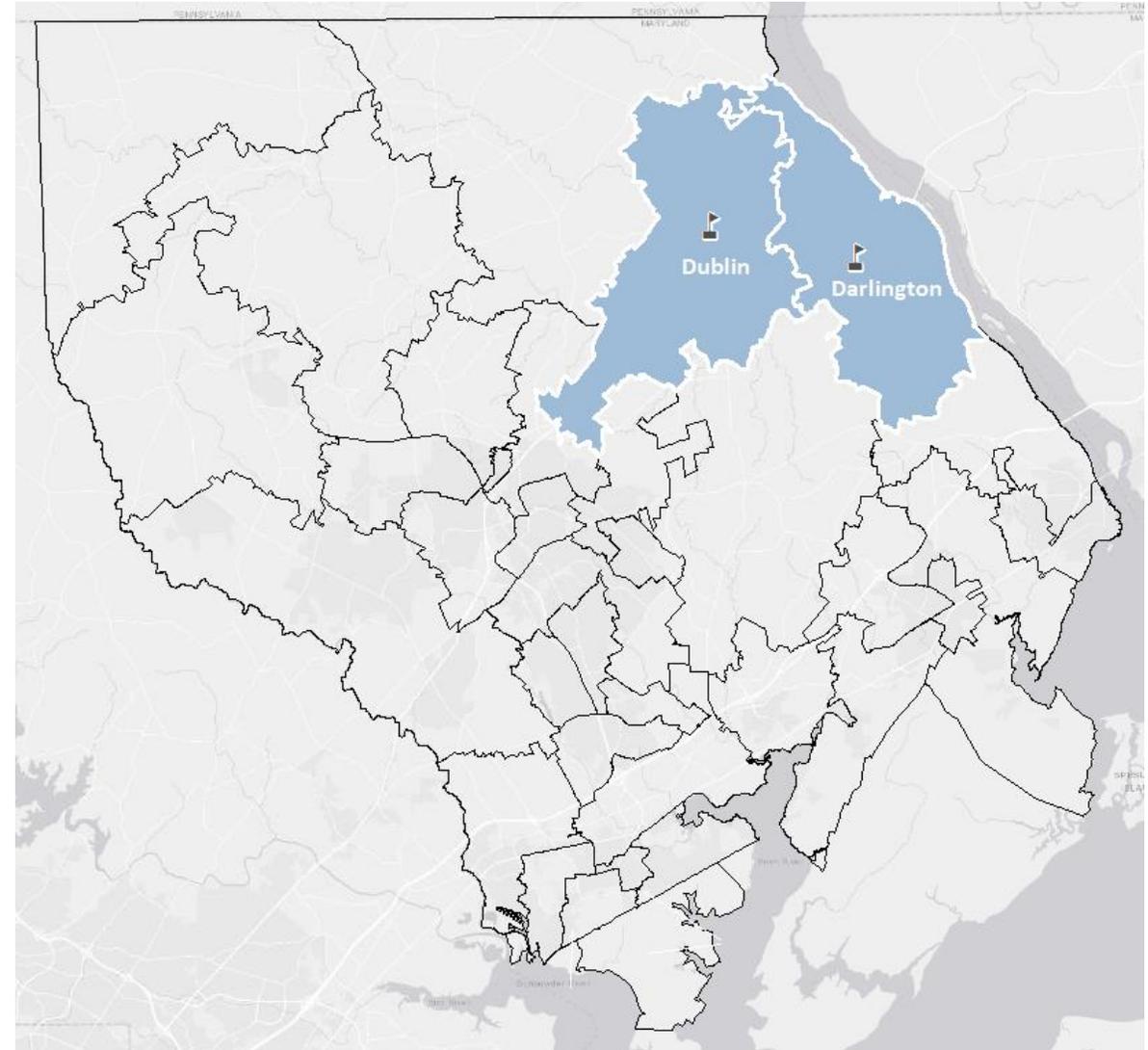
Enrollment Balance Objective: None

Enrollment Issues:

▶ Dublin has space (73% in 2019) to take some students from North Harford. This allows for more seats for the North option.

Considerations:

- ▶ Darlington has one classroom per grade
- ▶ Align with the current MS/HS boundary
- ▶ Retain current feeder pattern into Middle Schools (Dublin → North Harford; Darlington → Havre de Grace)



Elementary School – Southeast Option

Schools:

Meadowvale, Havre de Grace, Roye-Williams, Hall's Cross Roads, Bakerfield, George D. Lisby

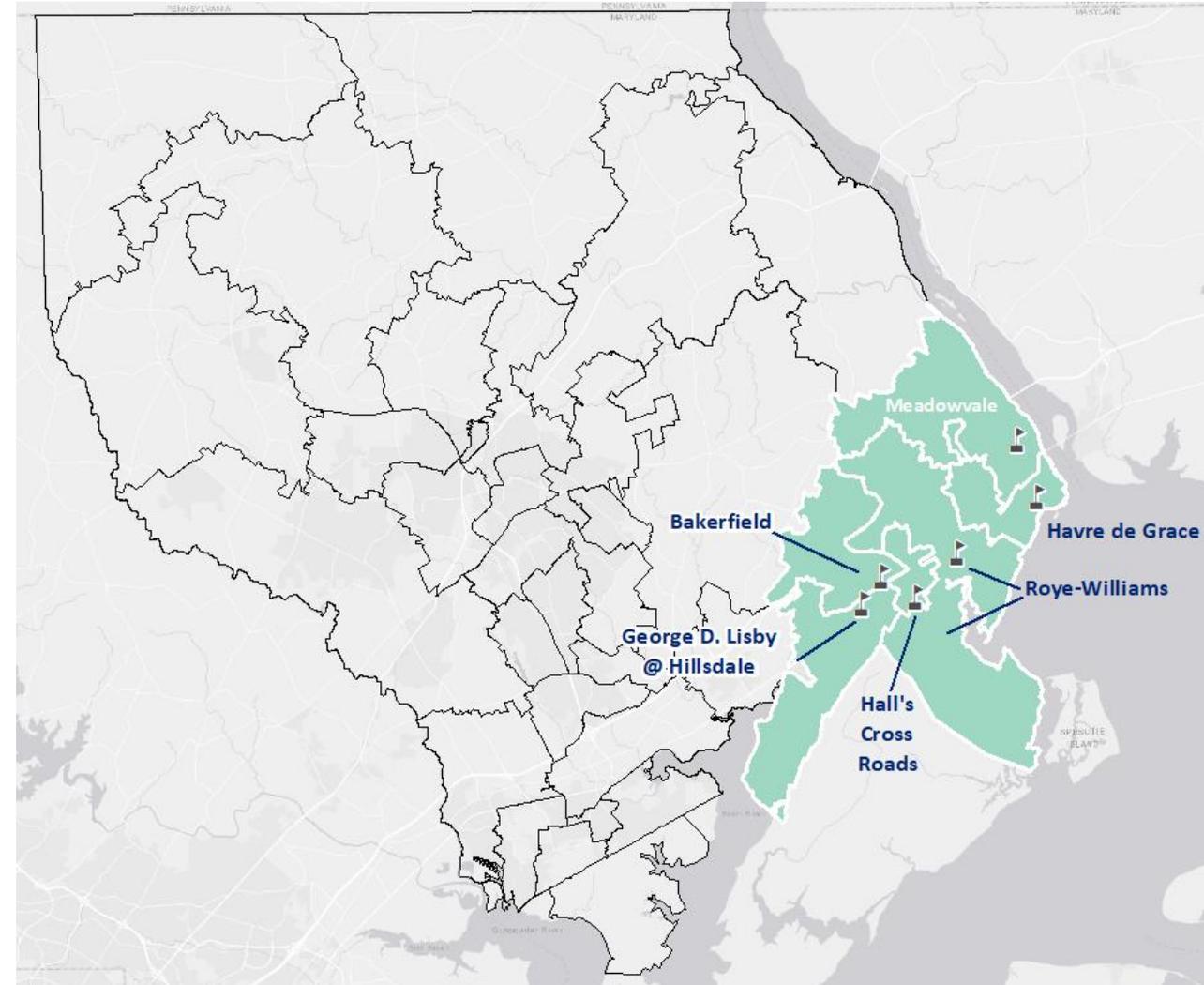
Enrollment Balance Objective: 87%

Enrollment Issues:

- ▶ Havre de Grace is currently over capacity (106%) and will be in the future (109%)
- ▶ Use more space at Roye-Williams (currently 67%)

Considerations:

- ▶ Keep Aberdeen Proving Grounds students together
- ▶ High levels of residential development in the area will affect student distribution in 2026



Elementary School – South Option

Schools:

Deerfield, Edgewood, Joppatowne, Magnolia, Riverside

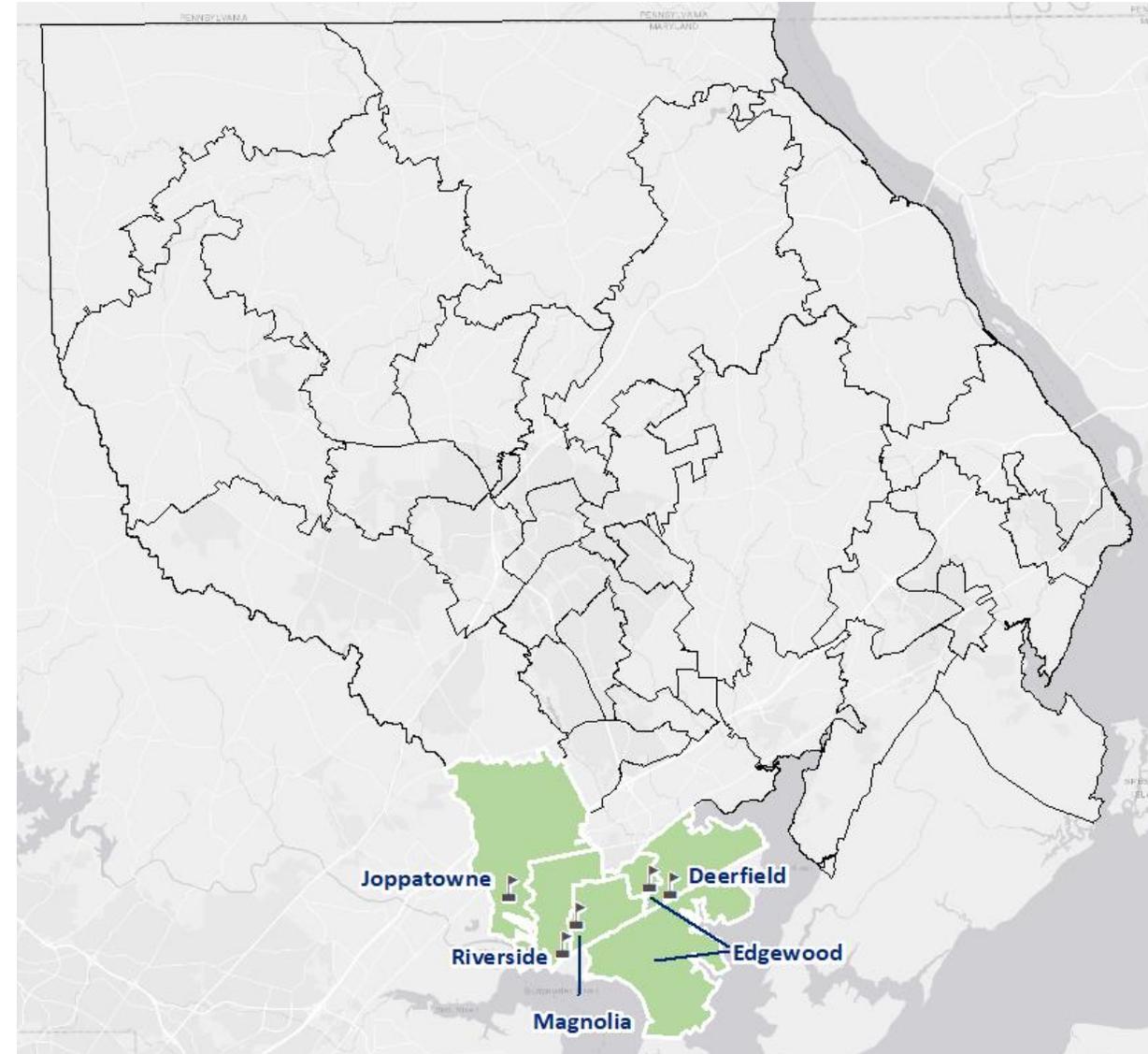
Enrollment Balance Objective: 90%

Enrollment Issues:

► Magnolia is forecast to have 117% of general education seats filled by 2026

Considerations:

► Edgewood as a contiguous attendance area.



Elementary School – Center East Option

Schools:

Bel Air, Churchville, Fountain Green, Prospect Mill

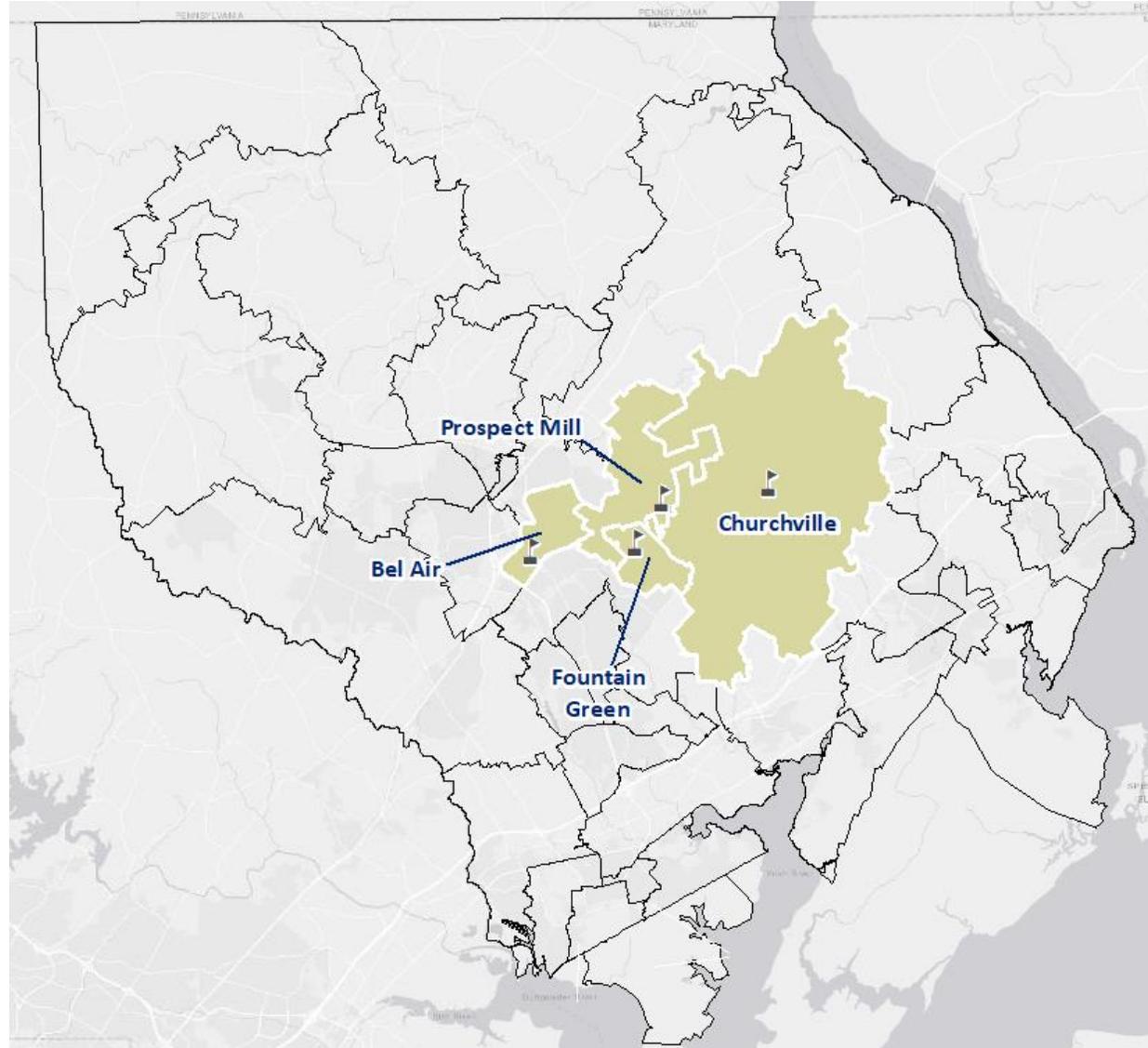
Enrollment Balance Objective: 95%

Enrollment Issues:

- ▶ Bel Air is currently at **108%** of general seats filled and is forecast to have **113%** of general seats filled by 2026
- ▶ Prospect Mill will have **100%** of general seats filled in 2026

Considerations:

- ▶ While Churchville has space, keep in mind the distance students would have to travel to balance enrollment.



Elementary School – Center West Option

Schools:

Forest Hill, Forest Lakes, Hickory, Red Pump, Youth's Benefit

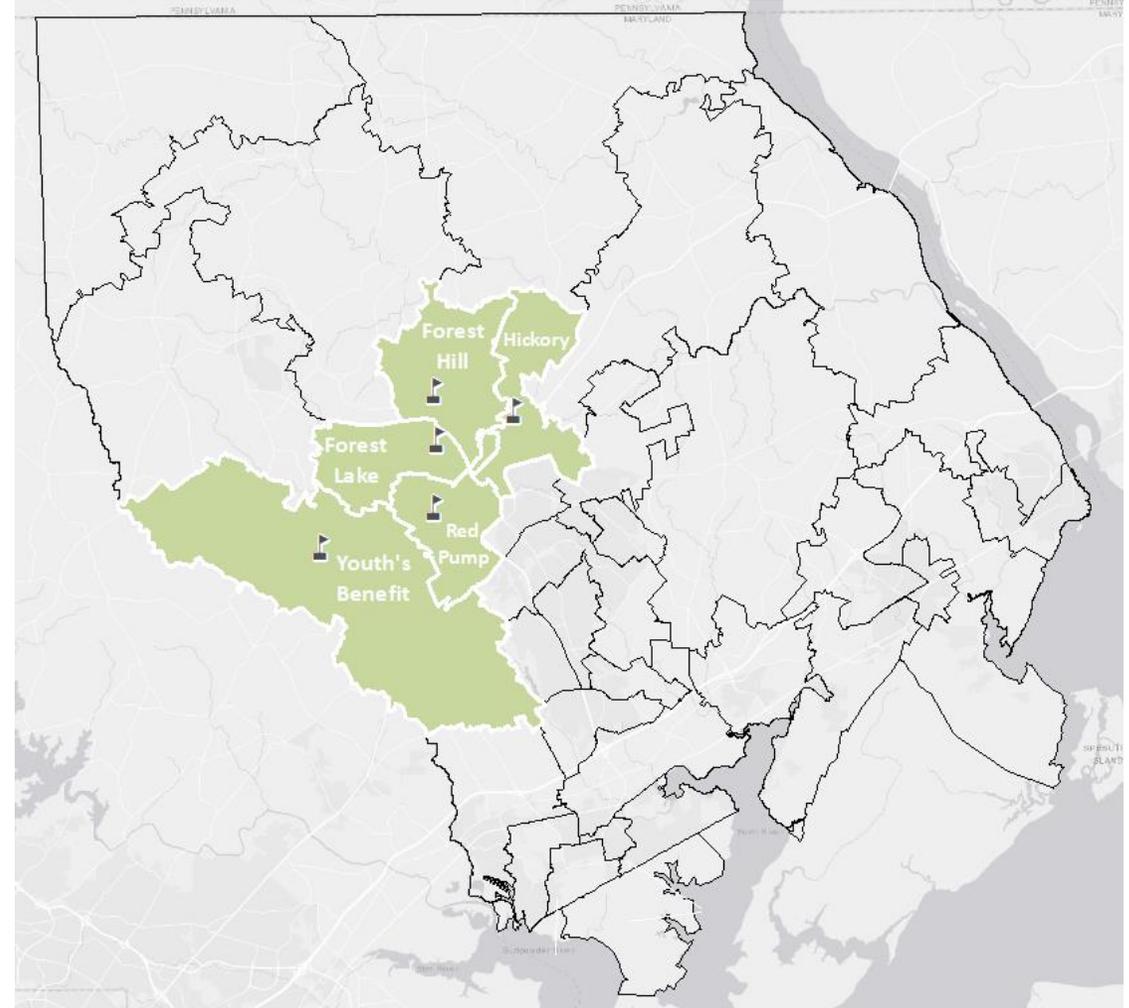
Enrollment Balance Objective: 95%

Enrollment Issues:

- ▶ Hickory currently has general seats overfilled at **102%** and will be in the future at **104%**
- ▶ Red Pump is currently over capacity at **106%** and will be in the future at **115%**

Considerations:

- ▶ Moved some students from Youth's Benefit to Jarrettsville and Joppatowne to free up more space. Otherwise, the regional balance in this area is 100%.



Elementary School – Center South Option

Schools:

Abingdon, Church Creek, Emmorton, Homestead/Wakefield, Ring Factory, William Paca/Old Post Rd, William S. James

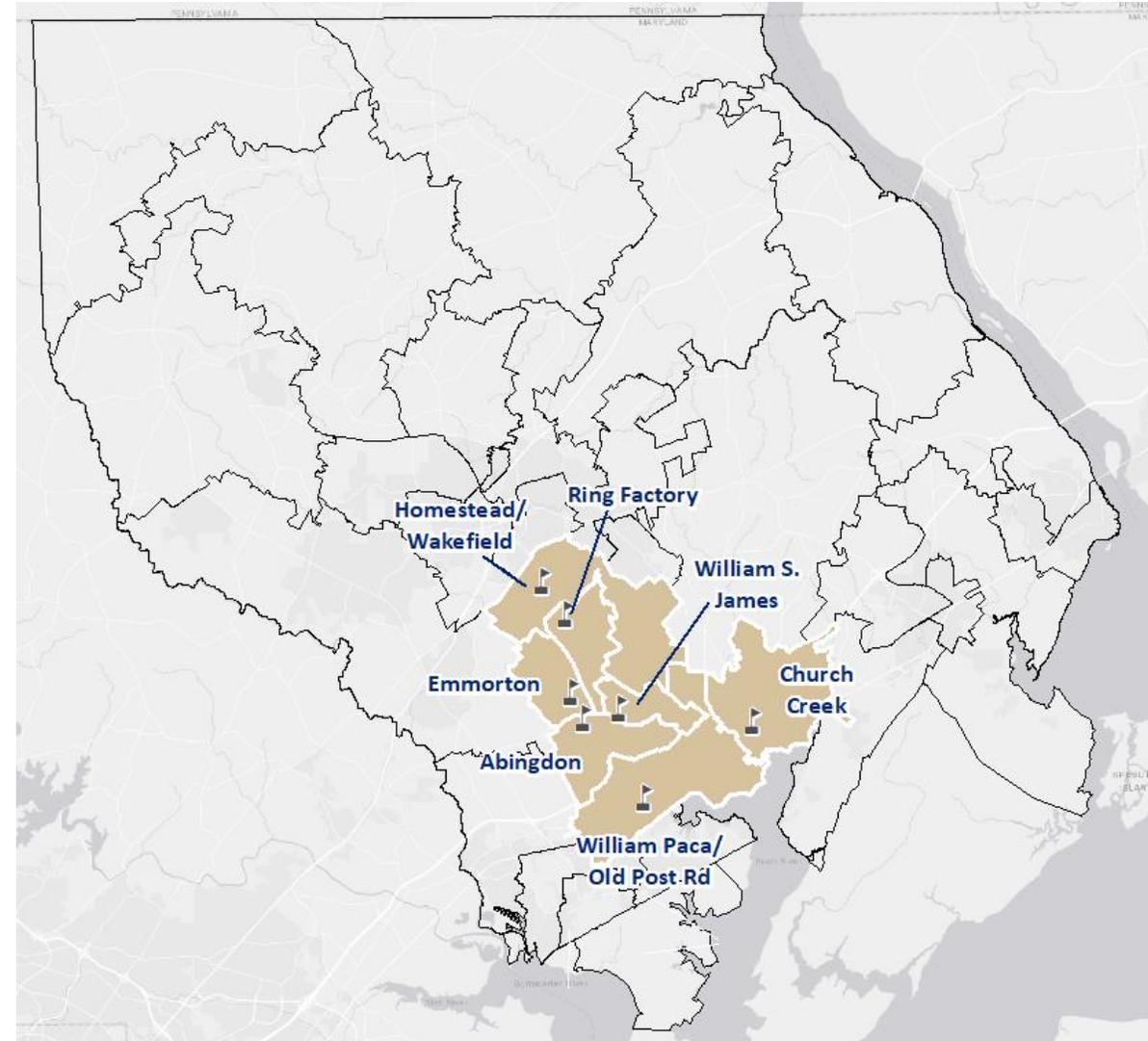
Enrollment Balance Objective: 95%

Enrollment Issues:

- ▶ Emmorton is currently at **104%** of general seats filled and is forecast to have **114%** of general seats filled by 2026
- ▶ Homestead/Wakefield is currently at **120%** of general seats filled and is forecast to have **126%** of general seats filled by 2026
- ▶ Ring Factory will have **100%** of general seats filled in 2026

Consideration:

New potential space for Homestead/Wakefield (+80 or +180 students)



Homestead/Wakefield with proposed Springboard Boundary Option:

Homestead/Wakefield Size	Percent of 2019 General Seats Used	Percent of 2026 General Seats Used	Center South Region Enrollment Balance
Current	96.5%	101.9%	95%
At 811	111.8%	118.0%	97%
At 988	88.9%	93.9%	94%
At 1129	76.5%	80.7%	92%

Secondary Schools Option

Schools:

All middle and high schools

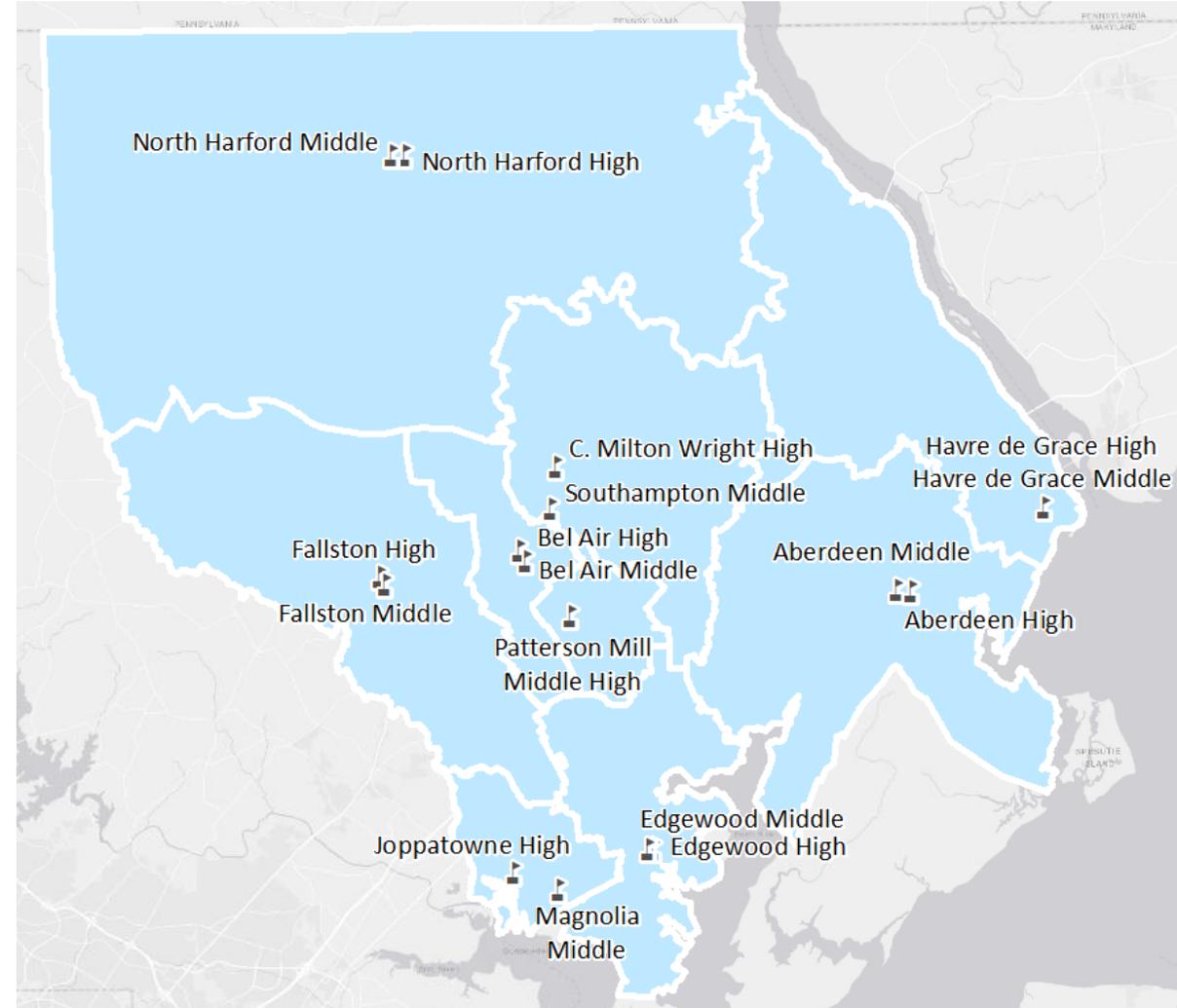
Enrollment Balance Objective: Under 100%

Enrollment Issues:

- ▶ Bel Air MS is currently at **121%** of general seats filled and is forecast to have **126%** of general seats filled by 2026
- ▶ Patterson Mill MS is currently at **115%** of general seats filled and is forecast to have **118%** of general seats filled by 2026

Considerations:

- ▶ Attempt to keep secondary boundaries along Elementary school boundaries where applicable.
- ▶ Keep transportation distances in mind.



- **Advisory Team Meetings**

- Meeting #2: February 10th
- Meeting #3: February 24th

- **Survey Results**

- Online survey
- Phone survey

- **Community Input forums**

- March
- April