### Edgewood Pupil Services 410-612-1521

Abingdon Elementary Deerfield Elementary Edgewood Elementary Edgewood High Edgewood Middle Old Post Road Elementary Bakerfield Elementary School Harford Technical High George D. Lisby Elementary School Fallston Pupil Services 41

410-638-4124

Fallston High Fallston Middle Forest Lakes Elementary Harford Academy School Red Pump Elementary Youth's Benefit Elementary

### Havre de Grace Pupil Services 410-939-6612

Darlington Elementary Havre de Grace Elementary Havre de Grace Middle/High Meadowvale Elementary

#### Magnolia Pupil Services

Joppatowne Elementary Joppatowne High Magnolia Elementary Magnolia Middle Riverside Elementary

### North Harford Pupil Services 410-638-3662

410-612-1531

410-638-4153

Dublin Elementary Jarrettsville Elementary Norrisville Elementary North Bend Elementary North Harford Elementary North Harford High North Harford Middle

### Patterson Mill Pupil Services 410-638-4215

William S. James Elementary School Forest Hill Elementary Ring Factory Elementary Patterson Mill Middle/High

### Southampton Pupil Services

C. Milton Wright High Churchville Elementary Fountain Green Elementary Hickory Elementary Prospect Mill Elementary Southampton Middle HARFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

> 102 S. Hickory Avenue Bel Air, Maryland 21014 410-838-7300 Toll Free 866-588-4963 FAX 410-893-2478 *www.hcps.org*

> > Maryland Relay TTY 1-800-201-7165 In Maryland 7-1-1

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Rev. 9/8/23

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding

## Boundary Exceptions



Department of Student Services

## What is a boundary exception?

The Board of Education policy stipulates that students will attend the schools that serve the area in which they reside with their parent(s) or legal guardian. A boundary exception is special approval for a student to enroll at a school outside of the student's designated attendance area.

# For what reasons can a boundary exception be requested?

Each boundary exception request is investigated and evaluated for approval on an individual basis. The following are the most common reasons for approval:

- Childcare for an elementary student in an attendance area outside of the home school area.
- Curriculum pursuit of a high school program unavailable at the student's home school.
- Continuity after a student moves to allow completion of 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grades.

Supporting documentation will be required in all cases.

## When can a boundary exception be submitted?

The application must be submitted between March 1st and June 1st of the school year prior to the year for which the boundary exception is requested. Kindergarten applications will not be reviewed until the first day of July preceding the requested school year.

## What is the review process for a boundary exception request?

The Pupil Services Office will review the application and reason for the request and consider the following factors, including but not limited to:

- The request is based on an approved, documented reason.
- School or grade level capacity.
- Student behavior, attendance, and grades.
- School staffing and resources
- Program eligibility

Boundary exceptions assign considerable weight to school capacity and student behavior, attendance, and grades. A decision is usually communicated within 10 school days.

### Are there special conditions when a boundary exception is approved?

Yes. The following conditions apply when a student attends a school on a boundary exception:

- Parents are responsible for transportation to school.
- Students must maintain satisfactory behavior, attendance, and grades.
- Principals may develop contracts that specify individualized conditions.
- Other special conditions may be determined by the Pupil Personnel Worker in unique cases.

# Can a boundary exception be revoked?

Yes. The reasons include, but are not limited to:

- The reason for the boundary exception no longer applies.
- Unsatisfactory behavior, attendance, or grades.
- Violation of an administrative contract.
- False information was given at the time of the boundary exception request.
- A school or grade level is at or over capacity.

## **Can I appeal a boundary** exception decision?

Yes. The appeal should include documentation that a school official made an error applying procedural rules. Refer to the procedure on the HCPS website under the Board of Education tab titled, "Administrative Guidelines for Evaluating Boundary Exception Requests." Appeals should be addressed in writing to the Executive Director of Student Support Services within 10 school days following notification of denial or termination of a boundary exception.

If you have questions or would like to apply for a boundary exception, contact the PPW assigned to your area.

### Aberdeen Pupil Services 410-273-5514

Aberdeen Middle Aberdeen High Roye-Williams Elementary School Hall's Cross Roads Elementary Church Creek Elementary School

### Bel Air Pupil Services

410-638-4143

Bel Air Elementary Bel Air High Bel Air Middle Emmorton Elementary Homestead/Wakefield Elementary