

January 28, 2017

Dr. Jack Smith, Superintendent of Schools
Montgomery County Public Schools
850 Hungerford Drive
Rockville, MD 20850

Michael A. Durso, President
Montgomery County Board of Education
850 Hungerford Drive
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Dr. Smith and Mr. Durso,

I am writing on behalf of the Bradmoor Neighborhood Association (BNA) in regard to the Montgomery County Public Schools' (MCPS) proposed plan to transfer at least three Preschool Education Program (PEP) classes from Ashburton Elementary School to Bradley Hills Elementary School (BHES). The Bradmoor neighborhood surrounds BHES; Bradmoor lies between Greentree Road (on the north) and Bradley Boulevard (on the south).

The BNA shares the concerns of the BHES PTA and the Walt Whitman High School cluster representatives that the proposed PEP transfer, if approved, will result in overcrowding, the placement of students in portables, and expensive facility changes at BHES. In addition, the BNA is deeply concerned that the proposed PEP transfer will exacerbate the already increasing traffic volume in the Bradmoor neighborhood, as well as have an adverse effect on pedestrian and traffic safety.


In this regard, Bradmoor has long suffered as a "cut-through" neighborhood with traffic utilizing Bradmoor Drive and other neighborhood roads to move between the major east-west arterial routes of Fernwood Road-Greentree Road and Bradley Boulevard. Please note that the proposed PEP transfer would occur in the context of the current expansion of the nearby Johns Hopkins/Suburban Hospital complex on Old Georgetown Road, the recent consolidation of various military medical activities at the Bethesda Naval Hospital, and the proposed residential development of the WMAL property on the northern spur of Greentree Road.

MCPS buses and individual parents transporting PEP students will most likely experience significant delays given the increasing traffic in both Bradmoor and the surrounding neighborhoods. My understanding is that many of the PEP families live throughout the County and moving the program to BHES, a point farther south of Ashburton Elementary and thus closer to Suburban Hospital, the

National Institutes of Health campus, and downtown Bethesda, will extend an already lengthy trip.

If MCPS intends to move forward with the PEP proposal, I respectfully request that MCPS analyze the potential traffic impacts on the Bradmoor neighborhood and the surrounding communities prior to making a decision. If a traffic study has already been completed, the BNA requests that it be provided with a copy. Finally, I encourage you to have an open and transparent process, including one that allows for consultation of the various stakeholders prior to any decision. Please add the BNA to the list of stakeholders.

Thank you for your immediate attention. If a traffic study or analysis has been prepared, my contact information is below.



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