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TO: Board of Education

FROM: Dale Ellis

DATE: August 3, 2015

SUBJ: INFORMATION ITEM (Redistricting Update)

We have explored the concept of redistricting as it relates to the growth on the eastern side of Montgomery County.

Given the current initiatives to move forward with plans to pursue an Early College for the district and the plan to add a much needed wing at East Middle School, we feel any problems or issues that we face at the secondary level will be alleviated within the next 3 years.

However, we will continue to face an issue with the current size and growth potential of Green Ridge Elementary. While it is late in the process to do anything for the 2015-2016 school year, I feel it is prudent to let our public know that there will be an administrative recommendation to redraw the attendance boundaries for Green Ridge Elementary for the 2016-2017 school year.

I present below our findings and a timeline for your review.

Expected Average Daily Membership (ADM) for eastern MCS elementary schools in 2015:

Star Elementary – 240 Students
Green Ridge Elementary – 528 Students
Candor Elementary – 359 Students

In reviewing the capacities of the schools, it would be most prudent to consider a move of up to 100 students to Star Elementary and up to 40 students to Candor. That would create a much more balanced load of students as both Candor and Green Ridge would cap at 400 students and Star would hover around 350. This scenario could be accomplished by moving 4-5 classes to Star and 1-2 to Candor. The utilization of these numbers will form our starting point and is by no means set in stone, but we have to start somewhere.

I present a timeline for this ultimate recommendation below:

August 2015 to November 2015 – Work with transportation staff to adjust boundary lines in the Transportation Information Management System (TIMS) to develop what the administration will refer to as the Optimal Fit for the redistricting of students.

November 2015 to January 2016 – Continue to work with transportation staff and with the TIMS software to develop up to 2 Alternative fits for the Board to consider.

February 2016 – Present the Optimal Fit and Alternatives to the Board of Education for approval.

March 2016 – Communicate boundary changes to parents and students who are affected by any changes.

March 2016 to July 2016 – Work through any issues or problems that arise due to change in lines and resolve disputes that traditionally lie near new and/or redrawn boundary lines.

August 2016 – Open school utilizing new boundary lines.

I am available to answer any questions you might have.