

December 7 Community Boundary Study Feedback

What else do you want FCPS to know?

MHS will LOSE teachers with a boundary change - no one is talking about that -- tell us how many teachers and classes MHS will lose.

It isn't right for it to be ignored.

Each option does not address long term capacity issues.

If you do a new boundary, start with rising 7th graders

These options will not affect overcrowding long term

Start with rising 7th graders in 2021

What about a reno??

Why reassign kids who will be replaced? Do a new boundary in 2021 to end split feeders but you can't move kids from their current trajectory, i.e. LMS students continue to MHS so you don't make them go through ANOTHER split from their cohort

Longfellow kids can deft be moved to Langley next year as that is where most of their friends from elementary school are going and McLean needs lower school numbers next year

None of the options presented seem to move enough students to balance capacity between MHS and Langley. The board needs to pursue the option that shifts the most students to get close to the capacity relief MHS needs and utilize the excess capacity at Langley

Pupil placement policy should be updated

Update pupil placement policy to allow students to transfer from an overcrowded school to one with space. This allows immediate choice.

This should happen for next school year so 8th graders from Longfellow would go to Langley

The capacity issues discussed here it will continue to grow as Tysons continues to grow and housing units are added in many communities

FCPS needs to come up with a better forecasting method for all of its neighborhoods. Their growth calculations have been off for over 10 years.

McLean needs new quality learning space. Students leaving the building is an extreme safety risk and is not fair to students. An expansion is the only logical approach to support.

Wolf Trap Woods is in a terribly gerrymandered school district. We currently attend Spring Hill Elementary, Longfellow, and McLean. BUT about 90% of our children's classmates go to Cooper and Langley. This is awful for our kids. We support moving Wolf Trap Woods neighborhood to Cooper and Langley.

Over capacity is an issue of equity for all students and for the teachers working in these buildings

RENO in 2021

Obtain a bond in 2021 for MHS, that the BoS reprogram \$50m from the FFC facilities budget in 2021, and for the SB to redirect \$10m in proffer money to a MHS renovation in 2021

Current 7th and 8th graders at LMS should not go through another split feeder

I also support the bond a suggestion as there are no current plans to build additional high schools to serve the growing population

Remain super concerned about transportation safety and times from Route 7 to Langley. Will more than double travel time each way for our kids and have new drivers taking dangerous roads.

Waiting for a renovation is not acceptable because overcrowding needs to be addressed NOW. Options A and B lower numbers at McLean without overwhelming Cooper or Langley

MHS needs a boundary change + RENOVATION. The Tysons area will not stop to grow and MHS will be overcrowded again in a few years. I have a junior student who is suffering the overcrowding at MHS, a middle schooler who will face the same problem. I want FCPS to at least avoid that my 3rd grade will face it again when he goes to MHS.

Why isn't Franklin Sherman showing up in the options yet again? they are physically RIGHT BY Langley High!

Colvin Run should definitely be moved to Cooper/Langley

FCPS Projections Do Not Reconcile with County and Other FCPS Documents

My concern is that the boundary change will not solve the overcrowding problem. The CIP projects that Langley will lose 117 students in 5 years. The Fairfax County Demographic Report says that 22102 will gain 3,700 households in 5 years, and that all zip codes that feed into Langley will add ~4,000 households in 5 years. How does Langley lose students? Also, the Student Yield Memos written to obtain proffer money from the developers say that 2,400 students will be added to the Tysons area schools (McLean and Langley, possibly Marshall and Madison). That would generate 600 new high school students. FCPS should reconcile these documents before moving too many students. If there are this many students headed towards our area then a boundary change won't solve the overcrowding problem.

It's hard to see where kids are going to middle school given the options. Keeping the kids together from ES to the same MS to the same HS would be ideal. Also grandfathering in existing students for all the options makes a lot of sense. As a parent of a child previously impacted by a split feeder, it seems like we should consider moving children from the same ES to the same MS and HS. Based on the split feeders along with the minimal impact of these options, I don't think any of these options are a good idea for our students long-term.

Expansion of McLean High School needs to be considered in lieu of a boundary adjustment. The modular classroom presents increased security risks for our children. Increased security needs to be put in place for the students that have classes in the modular classroom.

Instead of making a rushed boundary adjustment decision, FCPS needs to consider better long term options including expansion of area high schools as needed or building a new high school as warranted to balance the students at each school.

It's appalling that you can't and won't make a specific commitment to get McLean on the CIP for an addition similar to the additions being added to Justice, Madison and West Potomac outside the normal renovation cycle, even though at least two of those schools (Justice and Madison) are less crowded than McLean.

What impact will the proposed changes to the TJ admission process have on McLean High School? I assume this means even more kids going to McLean that would have gone to TJ. This could have a significant impact on overcrowding at MHS.

You are creating a dynamic where you get people into a virtual room and ask them to bid against each to jump off the sinking ship that FCPS is creating at McLean HS - of course you are going to get people who want to bail on the older school w/no commitment to a permanent addition and move over to a wealthier, renovated, under-enrolled school. Tholen, Frisch, Sizemore-Heizer all campaigned saying they would work for a permanent addition for MHS, and there is no sign they will keep those promises.

I'm not familiar with the boundaries of Westbriar. Are students there currently being pulled to Longfellow/McLean?

Social connections and mental health in high school are difficult enough without this additional burden.

Why isn't FCPS considering moving the "rotunda" in addition to Spring Hill over to Langley. You get the numbers you need and you increase diversity in race, ethnicity and socio-economic status??

Renovate MHS now. It is long overdue.

Yes - you need to clarify how more Cooper and Longfellow students ending up at Langley and McLean if they don't go to TJ might impact enrollments at both Langley and McLean.

What about renovating MHS to be at the correct capacity. Data shows that it will only become overcrowded.

What about talking about safe space for our children at MHS? What if there is a fire or natural disaster - there is no safe place for them to go. They just scatter at fire drills.

CONSIDER providing options to choose between Mclean & Langley HS

Yes. McLean needs a proper renovation to provide space for the ever increasing population of McLean and Tysons.

I do agree that many people moved into this area for the schools. I am concerned for the safety of my children in a very overcrowded school.

I wish pupil placement was an option; therefore, families could decide which schools they prefer.

I have many questions...

1) Why is a full renovation not a possibility for McLean High School? With the addition of residential properties in the Tysons/McLean area, moving certain neighborhoods is not a long term solution. McLean has the space to go up a level (most of the building is only one story) and the land where the modular is being placed could be used as well.

2) What has the county done to encourage families inside the Langley district to attend instead of sending them to private school?

3) What has the county done to address the lack of diversity at Langley? This is also a huge problem which could be solved by adding programs (Academy, IB, etc) that would also benefit the McLean over crowding issue as students from a much larger area could then choose to attend Langley via pupil placement instead of forced neighborhood redistricting.

By doing this before the renovations at Cooper are complete, won't we just be moving the problem from the High School to the Middle School? Since Mclean already has modules in place, it seems like it makes more sense to keep the middle schools as is until the Cooper renovation is complete.

Why not let people in the potentially affected areas choose where to send their children during a transition period at least, so that they can keep their children together or make plans to move?

Agreed!

Why is the rezoning being done now given that the additional capacity at Cooper which these proposals rely upon will not even be available for several years due to renovation timescale?

So many more residential high rises have been approved for Tysons. As a McLean HS parent my heart sinks each time I learn of a new high rise residential building that will feed into MHS.

Decision should be made ASAP. We have a 6th grader now so need to know ASAP where she will be going next year.

Do the move now

We need to move the lines to have the 400+ kids that are over capacity move to Langley. Both are great schools - nobody loses with this option.

I'm not sure why Westbriar would be rezoned. You're creating a split-feeder by doing this.

Absolutely give rising 8th graders the choice to go to Cooper. Since they are virtual in 7th grade, they haven't had a chance to make friends at Longfellow... let them reconnect with their ES friends in 8th grade. That way they have the option to move to the Cooper/Langley pyramid in 8th.

Neither option A, B or C address homes that are closer to Langley HS vs. McLean HS.

If a student is an 8th grader at Longfellow will they have the option to switch to Cooper? Please allow flexibility.

Will students who are currently enrolled at Longfellow be allowed to voluntarily switch schools?

None of the options presented address my immediate concerns. I am a parent of a current freshman at McLean HS. My home is located in the Dogwoods at Langley which is closer to Langley than McLean HS. Due to the overcrowding at McLean, I attempted to enroll my child at Langley HS since my home is closer to Langley. My application was denied. Please consider allowing a special approval to students who submit applications to Langley due to proximity of your home.

How does this process take into account development projections in Tysons Corner and downtown McLean? Will students who are currently enrolled at McLean be allowed to voluntarily switch schools?

How will the changes to Thomas Jefferson (lottery) change enrollment numbers at McLean?

Please make it easier for students to transfer into Langley. The people placement process is so rigid that it is nearly impossible to transfer in there. A lot of student would voluntarily attend at Langley (and drive there) but the transfer process is very rigid.

Please consider adding proximity to Langley HS as a consideration for admission to Langley despite boundary lines placing a student in McLean HS.

If a home is eventually going to be grandfathered into Cooper/Langley please allow them the flexibility to transfer earlier (using their own transportation if required)

Would students in 8th grade be allowed to continue through the pyramid where they currently are even if boundaries are changed?

Start the process with rising 7th graders as to not disrupt those students who have already settled into their current school. Especially with COVID this year, we need less disruption

Short term solution-with all of the building going on, all of these seem to be short term solutions. Time to look at locations for new schools in Tysons/Vienna area.

Claiming the MHS modular as permanent capacity is misleading. Upwards of 500 students will still be in detached classrooms 40 plus yards from the safety and protection of the school building. The area is booming -- we need an honest look at an expansion at MHS that gets the kids into a permanent, protected, quality learning space.

I agree. Modular units in McLean HS is a fake way to show that capacity is being increased.

Fund renovation at MHS

If a new boundary is going to happen, it should start in 2021 with rising 7th graders and grandfather current students at McLean High (MHS) and Longfellow Middle (LMS). This prevents MHS students from being kicked out of their school and allows LMS students to stay with their current cohort and continue to MHS vice going to Langley High. All rising 7th graders would go CRES, Cooper MS, Langley High.

McLean High School will benefit from a renovation, especially with an expansion to the existing structure, renovating plumbing/bathrooms, and providing up to date infrastructure (auditorium, facilities) on par with some of the other Fairfax County Public Schools.

Chesterbrook Elementary

What is being considered for Chesterbrook? Could it be part of the boundary adjustment as a whole or as a split-feeder school to Cooper and Langley?

Chesterbrook Elementary

Not in favor of any boundary adjustments to Chesterbrook.

Not Much Has Changed

I was at the December boundary meetings last year. It doesn't seem like these proposals have changed much. I still don't think they address the numbers and the upcoming growth at MHS.

MHS Extension and Renovation is critical Not sure why McLean High School has not been on the list of High schools for renovation. It is time to start the plans, CIP, public vote, and initiate the building implementation. The right thing to do for all of the McLean community students.

Renovate McLean

Where is the option to spend to renovate MHS to build capacity for the future?

Build an Addition for McLean

Invest in McLean High students

Provide our McLean High students the facilities they need, space they need, as we prepare them for the next chapter in their lives. Invest in renovating McLean High School

The Boundary Adjustments Seem Too Small

It doesn't seem like any of these scenarios will be enough to get capacity down at McLean over the long-term.

Do not spend taxpayer money on a renovation at McLean

McLean was last renovated in 2002 - there are plenty of other schools across the county that need renovations and they waited their turn. A boundary adjustment is the most fiscally responsible option and it also prevents students from getting split up from their peers. A modular, in the short-term, and a capacity enhancement, in the longer term, are sufficient but do not divert funds away from other schools which are in dire need of full renovations (not just new building space, but a proper update of facilities)

Boundary Adjustment options do not solve the overcrowding problem

McLean High School facilities are outdated, renovate please

Boundary Adjustment options do not solve the overcrowding problem

Don't

GRANDFATHERING/PHASING IS IMPERATIVE. No child at McLean should have to leave McLean and no child at Longfellow should have to switch. There should be an opt-in available for families that would like to opt-in before the phasing starts.

McLean High School needs at addition – the numbers of children coming from the Tysons area demand it.

Consider possibilities to enhance high school flexibility for certain students to do different educational programming, alleviate facility stress and build on virtual learning

Transition too Slow

McLean has an overcrowding problem, waiting multiple years to solve the issue is not the right thing for the community

Overcrowding Likely to become worse due to TJ Admission changing

Less students from Longfellow going to TJ will mean that McLean receives more students than normal if TJ Admission rules are changed

Would any of those options impact the Great Falls/Langley HS boundary? We don't want FCPS increase the capacity in Cooper/Langley and then later adjust the boundary for Great Falls area.

What is the status of other schools like Marshall, Herndon, South Lakes which are under capacity?. Can we get actual student enrollments number?

For transparency and how much under capacity these neighboring schools are

Can any student in areas within different option ask to move to the other school even if they are grandfathered to stay at their current school? Can any student/family at different feeder like Franklin Sherman ES ask to go to the pyramid not designated for their districting ex. ask to go to Cooper MS and then Langley?

Our neighborhood supports option A or B

Will current McLean freshmen be affected?

Timeline?

When would these changes take place?

Since my family is impacted by all four options, I will just comment here relative to all four. If I understand it correctly, the "attrition" model means that grades 10-12 will not move from McLean to Langley, and if there is going to be a boundary change I would support using the model that does not make kids leave their existing HS. My daughter is a junior now at MHS now and we would not support her having to move schools for her senior year. In general though, I feel that any of the options are short term and way too narrowly focused. The very first slide shown tonight indicated that FCPS has been aware of the overcapacity issues for (at least) ten years. What we actually need is an addition to MHS, an addition to Cooper HS, and/or a new high school and middle school in Tysons. Absent new space for Tysons/McLean, I don't see

how we don't wind up back in this unenviable position in just a handful of years, as growth is not just continuing but encouraged. The need for a new HS is super obvious. So is the fact that a boundary adjustment alone is never going to solve the capacity issues. FCPS would not even have to BUILD a new school – there suitable buildings available in Tysons that could be bought, bartered or leased. Why is that not even on the table? Also, these options are so similar to last year; why is there no consideration given to the boundary consultant's work? Why is a boundary proposal even back on the table absent the expert's recommendations, or any input from the new joint task force that Elaine mentioned just started this month? It doesn't make sense to move forward absent a holistic, informed, smart plan that acknowledges growth and the limited ability of a boundary change to help.

Are there any plans for a renovation at Mclean HS? Or is the feeling that the modular system is the only infrastructure update? That seems unacceptable given the poor physical condition of the school.

How long will Cooper renovation take?

explore other ideas like giving families options by 1) Add overcrowding as reason for Transfer Requests per Regulation 2230 2) explore program placement as ways to offer capacity relief.

Student forecasts?

Are boundary adjustment options based on no growth/negative growth FCPS forecasts or on Fairfax County's high growth forecasts for the McLean/Langley school pyramids?

Leave room for growth at Langley (Fairfax County demographics reports forecasts addition 4000 households in 2025 for zip codes 22102 and 22066 that feed Langley HS)

Do not overcrowd Cooper

Offer grandfathering at least for 8th graders but 6th graders

Option A is best

It leaves room for growth at Cooper and Langley, especially if FCPS forecasts are wrong and County forecasts are right on area growth

explore program placement as a tool

Expand McLean HS ASAP

Add McLean HS to expansion in CIP

Option D with MHS Expansion

Add overcrowding to Transfer reason

Add overcrowding to transfer reason, 2230 regulation

I understand why completely eliminating the split feeder at Franklin Sherman creates a problem at Cooper. But what about shifting some (but not all) of those students to Cooper / Langley.

Counting the capacity of the modular as MHS capacity is extremely misleading when presenting data to the public. The modular is not capacity.

Grandfathering is a good thing I hope my youngest - now in elementary school - can be in a school that has appropriate enrollment for the facility size

Parents should be involved in these decisions and encouraged to give feedback starting at the ES because it takes so long to do a study, offer options and come to a decision.

Grandfathering existing students at both high school and middle school levels is hugely important.

Pandemic may throw off numbers and changes

Backup plan

The key year is rising seventh graders. The split feeder rising 7th graders prefer to go to the same school together. So if there's no change, I think you could have the PTAs and principals of SHES and Colvin and the middle schools let the rising 7th families know they could move if they wanted. Most would, again so the kids would stay with their friends. Once you get past this point, however, kids make new friends.

I wish the number household the plans effects were listed, not just the projected students.

The presentation should address concerns of current Langley families that these plans will not affect these families, and that there are no plans which would effect these families.

Commute Distance

I think the commute change to the new high schools/middle schools should be included. It's currently very easy for us to get to McLean via the access road but getting to Cooper during rush hour is horrendous. Could severely impact ability to do extracurriculars

The presentation does not talk about projections regarding Tysons' growth and how these plans could be providing short lived results.

Time of Switch - I don't like that current 8th graders would be asked to switch

I agree about the impact of Tysons - I don't have any faith in the "minimal impact" projections. We may do all this work only to be back here in 2 years

How does route 7 widening effect commuting?

As long as during the grandfathering period (years 1-3) there is busing to both pyramids in any affected neighborhood, should be manageable. These neighborhoods are not near these schools in almost every case. MUST HAVE 2 SETS OF BUSES YEARS 1-3

I do not like the format of this meeting or the meeting one year ago. Both times I expected to be presented with detailed information & both times I was given very little information & then quizzed about my thoughts of that limited information. If you want my thoughts, please give me detailed information well in advance of when you want

my thoughts on that information so that I have an adequate opportunity to review the information & perhaps do my own research so that I can provide intelligent and thoughtful feedback to you. This feels like an ambush or like you do not really want my feedback.

I am advocating for expansion and renovation of MHS. In redistricting planning, does the Board consider the extensive new housing development in MHS? Will this redistricting address the overcrowding through the prism of the upcoming more dense and rejuvenated MHS population?