WCPS | Washington County Public Schools

COMMUNITY MEETING

APRIL 24, 2023



PROPOSAL TO:

- **Build/open a new "Downsville Pike" Elementary School**
  AUGUST 2027

- **Close Fountain Rock and Hickory Elementary Schools**
  JUNE OF 2027

MEETING AGENDA



- WELCOME
- PROCESS AND HISTORY
- CONSIDERATIONS AND BENEFITS
- OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
- CLOSING REMARKS

CLOSURE PROCESS

Maryland.gov
Code of Maryland Regulations

Any Proposed School Closing is Governed by State Law

COMAR Title 13A.02.09.01: *"Adoption of Procedures to Govern School Closings"*

8 Factors

"Superintendent's Report and Recommendations for the Closing of Hickory Elementary School and Fountain Rock Elementary School & the Construction of a Replacement Elementary School at Downsville Pike"



To be Presented to the Washington County Board of Education for Consideration

Washington County BOARD OF EDUCATION

CLOSURE TIMELINE

PREVIOUSLY HELD

Meetings with WCPS Staff

- Hickory Elementary
- Fountain Rock Elementary



Community Meeting Information Session

All correspondence will be provided to the Washington County Board of Education

TBD BY BOE

Public Hearing(s)

Additional opportunity for public comment

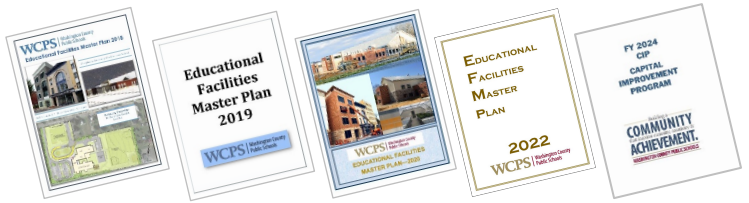
HISTORY

- **2018, 2019, 2021, 2022 –** EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES MASTER PLANS (EFMPS)
  - Approved by the Washington County Board of Education
  - “School 1” or Replacement Elementary
    - Pending funding
    - Hickory Elementary & Fountain Rock Elementary specifically identified as candidates for closure

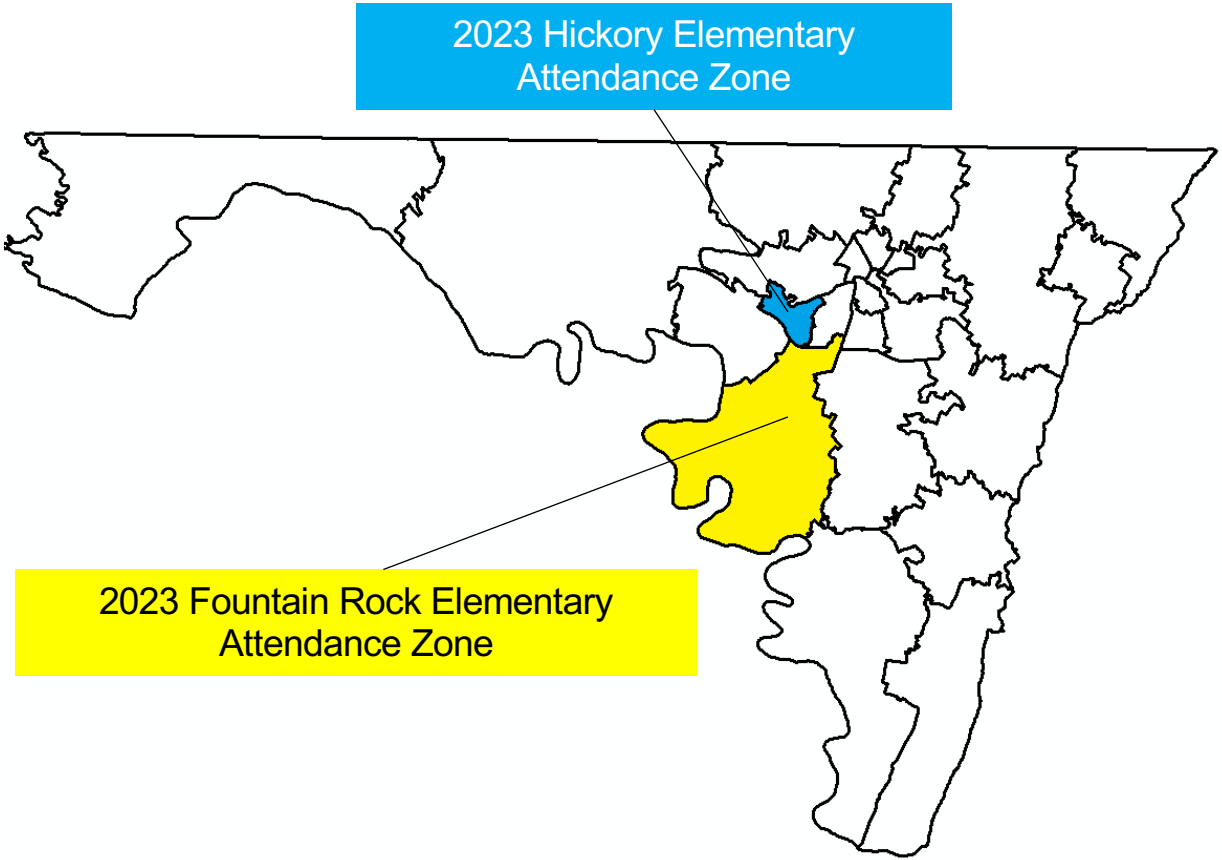
- **FY 2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**
  - Approved by the Washington County Board of Education
  - Approved by the Washington County Board of County Commissioners

- **FY 2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**
  - Approved by the Washington County Board of Education
  - In Washington County Board of County Commissioners DRAFT Plan

- **BUILT-TO-LEARN ACT**
  - One (1) time Capital Funds
  - $19+ million dollars

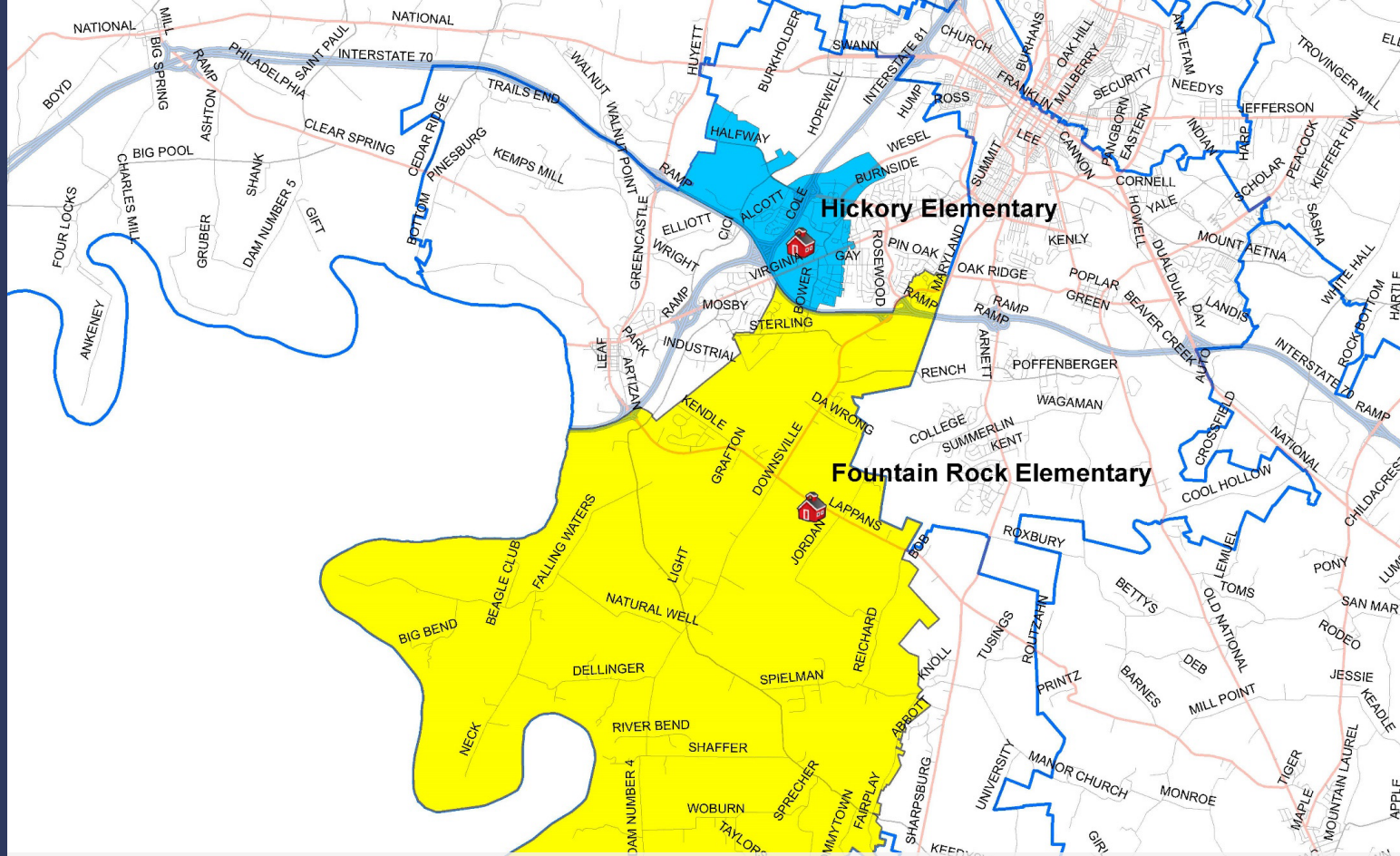


HISTORY



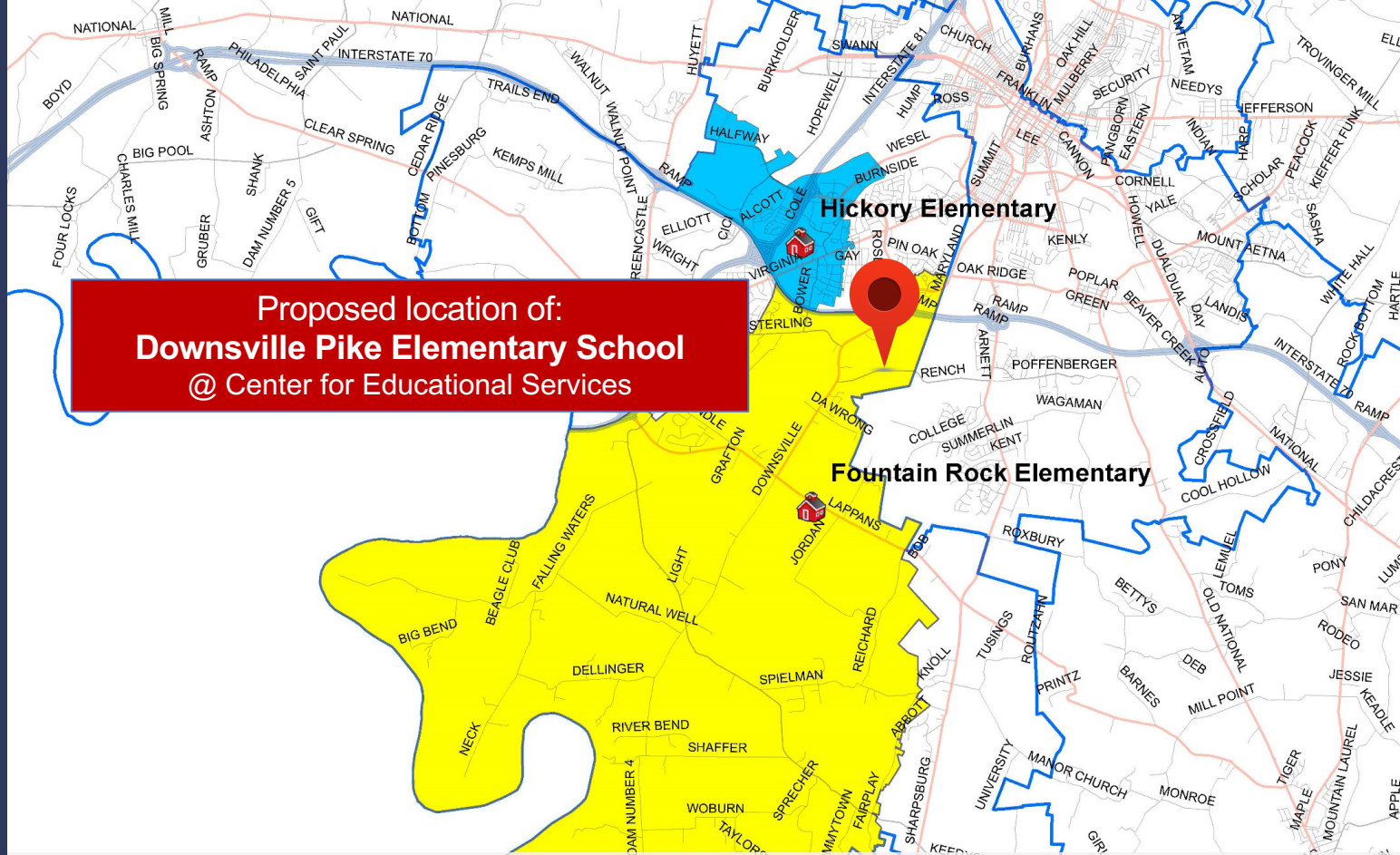
Hickory Elementary and Fountain Rock Elementary Attendance Zones

HISTORY



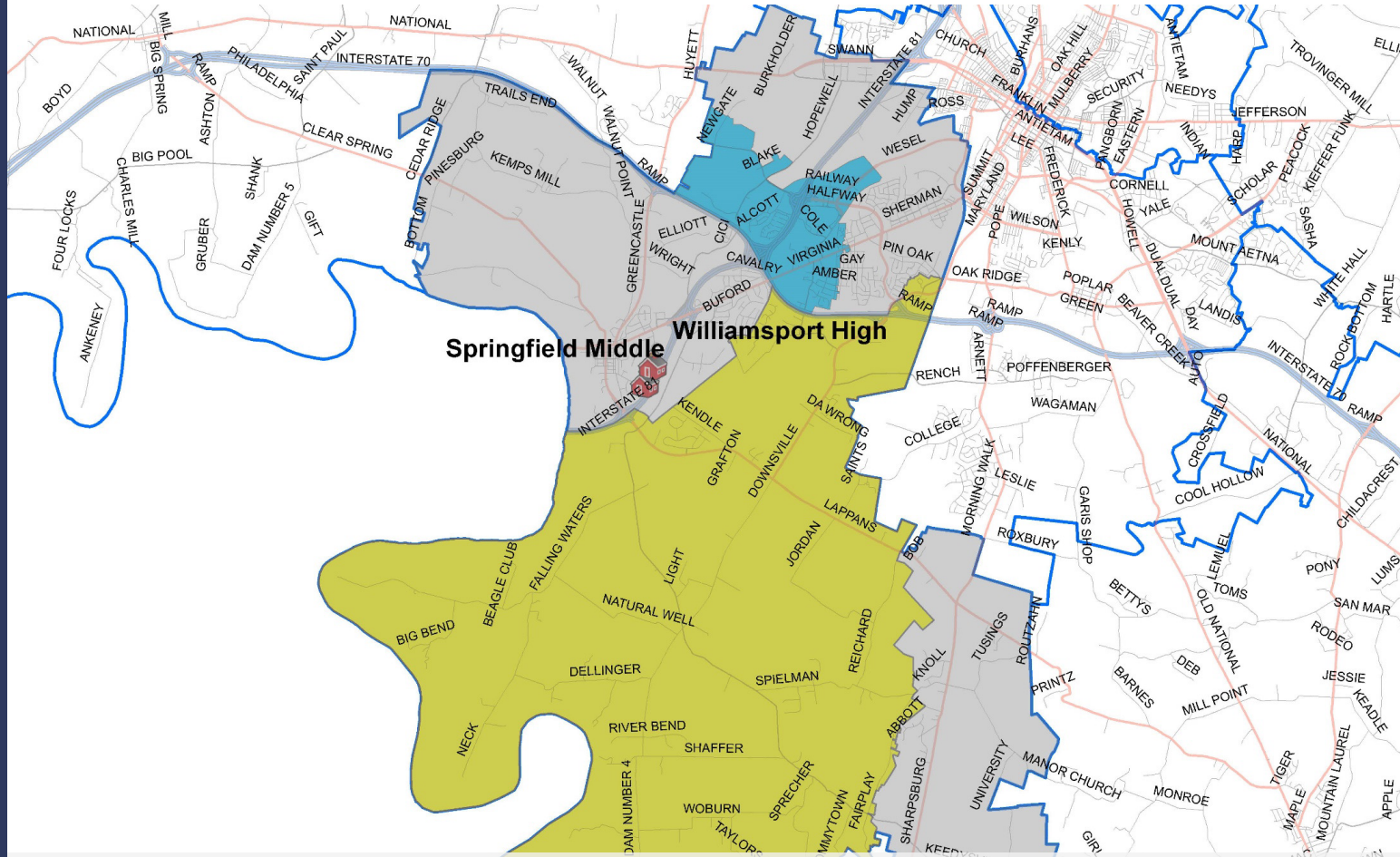
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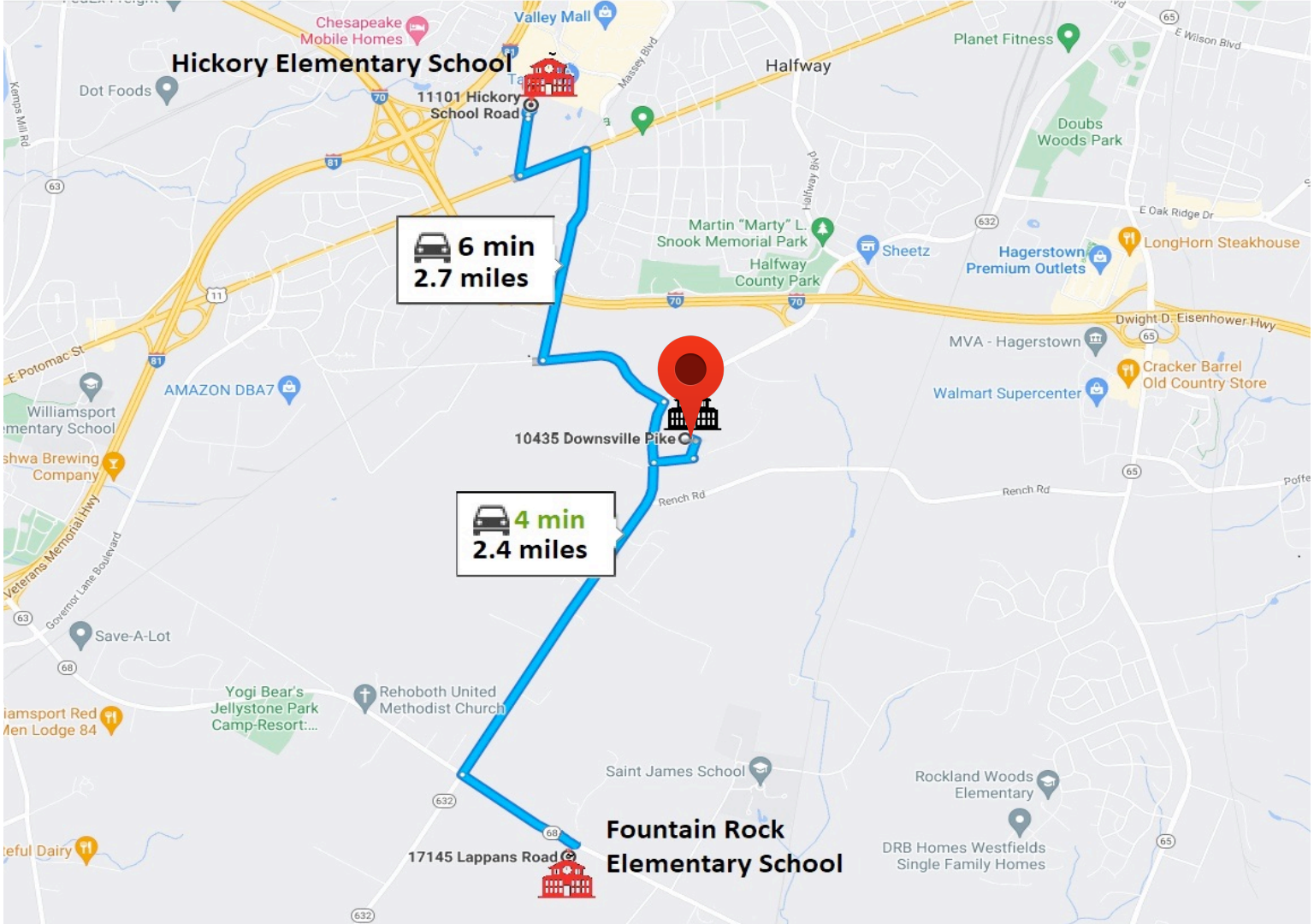
Hickory Elementary and Fountain Rock Elementary Attendance Zones

HISTORY



Springfield Middle and Williamsport High Attendance Zones

HISTORY


Hickory Elementary School
11101 Hickory School Road
6 min
2.7 miles
10435 Downsville Pike
4 min
2.4 miles
17145 Lappans Road
Fountain Rock Elementary School
Chesapeake Mobile Homes
Valley Mall
Dot Foods
Halfway
Planet Fitness
Doubs Woods Park
Martin "Marty" L. Snook Memorial Park
Halfway County Park
Sheetz
Hagerstown Premium Outlets
LongHorn Steakhouse
MVA - Hagerstown
Cracker Barrel Old Country Store
Walmart Supercenter
AMAZON DBA7
Williamsport Elementary School
Shwa Brewing Company
Veterans Memorial Hwy
Governor Lane Boulevard
Save-A-Lot
Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park Camp-Resort:...
Rehoboth United Methodist Church
Saint James School
Rockland Woods Elementary
DRB Homes Westfields Single Family Homes
Rench Rd
Dwight D. Eisenhower Hwy
E Wilson Blvd
E Oak Ridge Dr
E Potomac St
Massey Blvd
Halfway Blvd
Kemps Mill Rd

CONSIDERATIONS & BENEFITS

EDUCATIONAL FACILITY ENHANCEMENTS



- **SELF-CONTAINED CLASSROOMS**
  - More consistent class sizes
- **DEDICATED INSTRUCTIONAL SPACES**
  - Science, Art, Music, Small Groups, Special Education
- **LARGER AND IMPROVED CORE SPACES**
  - Gym, Cafeteria, Media Center
- **NEWEST TECHNOLOGY**

CONSIDERATIONS & BENEFITS

CURRENT WCPS ELEMENTARY FACILITY



FOUNTAIN ROCK ELEMENTARY – MEDIA CENTER

CONSIDERATIONS & BENEFITS

NEWEST WCPS ELEMENTARY FACILITIES



SHARPSBURG ELEMENTARY – OPENED AUGUST 2020

CONSIDERATIONS & BENEFITS

CURRENT WCPS ELEMENTARY FACILITY



FOUNTAIN ROCK ELEMENTARY – GYM

CONSIDERATIONS & BENEFITS

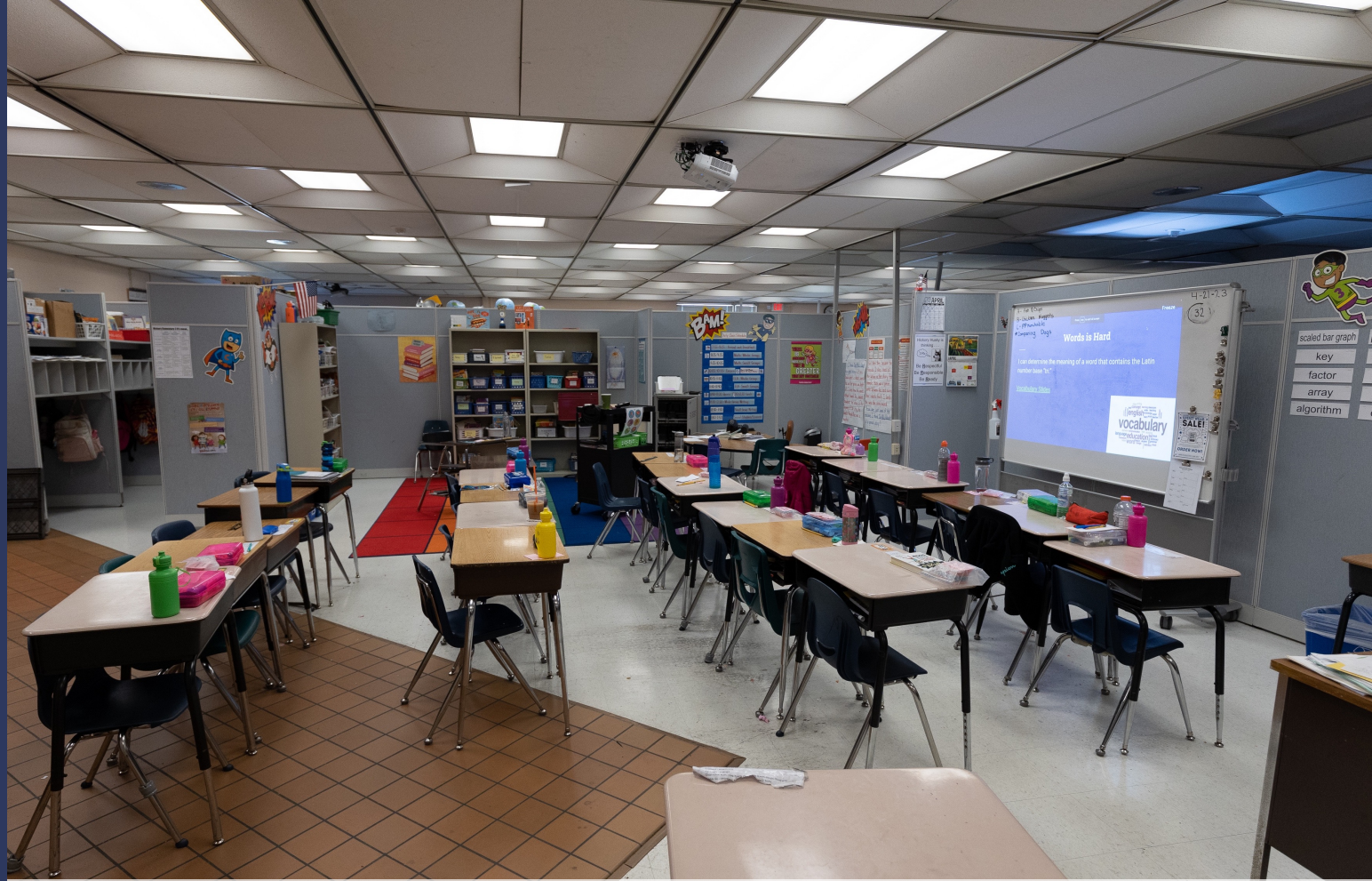
NEWEST WCPS ELEMENTARY FACILITIES



JONATHAN HAGER ELEMENTARY – OPENED AUGUST 2016

CONSIDERATIONS & BENEFITS

CURRENT WCPS ELEMENTARY FACILITY



HICKORY ELEMENTARY – CLASSROOM

CONSIDERATIONS & BENEFITS

NEWEST WCPS ELEMENTARY FACILITIES



SHARPSBURG ELEMENTARY – OPENED AUGUST 2020

CONSIDERATIONS & BENEFITS

CURRENT WCPS ELEMENTARY FACILITY



HICKORY ELEMENTARY – COLLABORATION SPACE

CONSIDERATIONS & BENEFITS

NEWEST WCPS ELEMENTARY FACILITIES



JONATHAN HAGER ELEMENTARY – OPENED AUGUST 2016

CONSIDERATIONS & BENEFITS

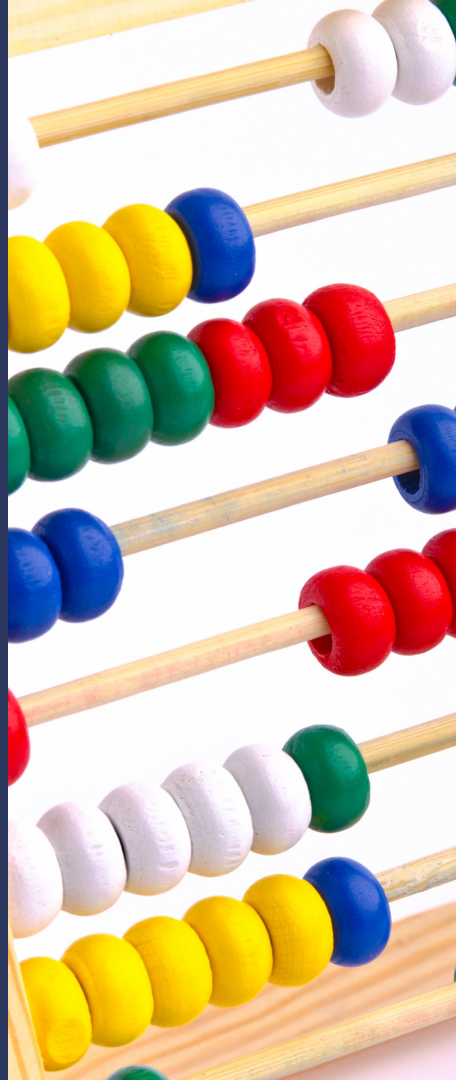
COMMUNITY BENEFITS



- **MODERN SPACES FOR COMMUNITY USE**
  - Gymnasium
  - Media Center
  - Dining/Multi-Purpose room
- **LARGE GREEN SPACES**
  - Play fields
  - Playgrounds and new equipment
- **IMPROVED SAFETY & TRAFFIC PATTERNS**
  - Separate Bus and Parent Drop-off areas
  - Adequate Staff Parking
  - State-of-the-art security features

CONSIDERATIONS & BENEFITS

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS



- Will eliminate two (2) aging elementary facilities
- Will save more than $22 million in state and local funds
- Constructing Downsville Pike Elementary in lieu of two (2) replacement schools
- Saves over $15.7 million in local funds
- Will save approximately $580,000 in annual operational budget

UPCOMING SCHEDULE



Superintendent's Report to the Board of Education



Public Hearing



Board of Education Vote

PUBLIC COMMENT



SPEAKERS:

- 3-Minute Limit
- Wait to be called
- State your name

CONTACT INFORMATION



Submit comments to the Board of Education:

- **WRITE**
  WCPS Public Information Office
  10435 Downsville Pike, Hagerstown, MD 21740

- **E-MAIL**
  public_feedback@wcps.k12.md.us

- **CALL**
  301-766-2996

Washington County
BOARD OF EDUCATION