
MEETING MINUTES

Facilities and Enrollment Advisory Committee Meeting
April 30, 2025

Committee Members Present:

Jennifer Bausman
Amanda Crawford
Kristin DiMonte, Co-Chairperson
Paul Fulk
Judith Kerns
Kent Niedzielski

Staff Members Present:

Chad Criswell, Senior Project Manager and Planning Supervisor, Facilities
Robert Rollins, Director of Facilities
Wendy Smith, Administrative Assistant IV, Facilities

Summary of the Discussion of the Facilities and Enrollment Advisory Committee (FEAC, the Committee):

I. Welcome/Review of Agenda

Staff reviewed the agenda for the meeting. Over the next several meetings the Committee will be provided with Working Documents for its review and discussion to assist it with preparing a recommendation to the Board of Education (BOE) as instructed by the March 18th, 2025, Charge from the BOE to establish an attendance zone for the new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School.

II. Review of Working Document 1

Staff reviewed Working Document #1 and established this will be the format that all materials would be presented to the Committee during this process. Items covered in Working Document #1 included:

- Summary of Charge from BOE
- Tentative Schedule
- Background Information
 - Full-Time Equivalent Students
 - State-Rated Capacity (SRC)
 - Local-Rated Capacity (LRC)

- Enrollment
- Enrollment Projections
- Feeder Patterns
- Student Travel Time
- Free and Reduced Meal (FARM) and Racial Information
- School Programs and Special Permission
- Additional Considerations
- Guide to Starting the Process for the FEAC
- Attendance Zone Options - *How they will be presented to the FEAC*

Throughout the presentation the Committee proposed the following questions:

Why is the new school going to have so many Pre-K classrooms?

Staff responded that Maryland's Blueprint for Education and Washington County Public Schools (WCPS) goal to increase the 3-year old pre-kindergarten program necessitates the need for more pre-kindergarten classroom spaces. WCPS is one of the school systems in Maryland that currently offers universal pre-kindergarten for 4-year olds, and is attempting to increase its 3-year old pre-kindergarten program to meet the requirements identified in the Blueprint for Education Act.

Do Pre-K classrooms have different building / space requirements than K – 5 classrooms?

Staff responded that pre-kindergarten classrooms do have different building / space requirements. However, pre-kindergarten spaces can be used as conventional classrooms, and conventional classrooms can be used as pre-kindergarten classrooms when needed, it just may not be as ideal as a specifically designed space (similar to relocatable classrooms). The new "Downsville Pike" Elementary School is being designed as a 4-round school with a larger core space to allow for increase capacity (additional classrooms via a 5th round) in the future should the need arise.

Will the recommendations of the Committee be the final decision?

Staff responded that the Committee's responsibility is to review the data and create recommendations for consideration by the BOE. The BOE may accept the recommendations of the Committee, or they may reject the recommendations of the Committee and create its own.

How will the Committee agree on a recommendation to the BOE?

Staff responded that this would be done by a majority vote. The Committee will need a quorum present to proceed to vote on any recommendations.

III. Discussion of Upcoming FEAC Meeting Dates

The next meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday, May 14, 2025 at 6 pm in the Funkstown Room, at the Center for Education Services.

IV. Adjourn

The Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Submitted by:

Wendy Smith, Administrative Assistant IV, Facilities Department

Attachments:

Working Document 1

Power Point – 4/30/25 FEAC meeting

In Accordance with the March 18, 2025 Charge from the Washington County Board of Education (WCBOE) to the Facilities and Enrollment Advisory Committee (FEAC)

Considerations for Developing a New “Downsville Pike” Elementary School Attendance Zone and Additional Elementary Attendance Zone Realignments

Working Document 1

For use at the April 30, 2025

Facilities Enrollment Advisory Committee (FEAC) Meeting

THIS IS NOT A FINAL REPORT, OR RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FEAC.

These Considerations are intended as a preliminary investigation of possible options for use by the Facilities and Enrollment Advisory Committee (FEAC). This document contains various information that is subject to future revision, including: draft enrollment projections, Free and Reduced Meal Student (FARMS) information, assumptions, and recommendations.

All public comment on this document, or the Work of the FEAC should be directed to:
FEAC@wcps.k12.md.us

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I. Summary of the Formal Charge

On March 18, 2025, the Washington County Board of Education (WCBOE) charged the Facilities and Enrollment Advisory Committee (FEAC) to conduct a review of specific current school attendance zones and recommend changes to such zones based upon current enrollment projections through the 2027-2028 school year that will best utilize available space. The WCBOE charged FEAC, in its advisory capacity, to:

- Develop an attendance zone for the anticipated opening of the new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School. The school is scheduled to be open for the 2027-2028 school year.
- Study and recommend changes, if any, to elementary attendance zones to alleviate projected enrollment pressures at district facilities.

School Board Policy JCA and Administrative Regulation JCA-R promulgated pursuant thereto provide guidance in the establishment of school attendance areas. The FEAC, in formulating its recommendations, is to consider the following factors in accordance with the Charge set forth by the WCBOE:

- The impact of the proposed attendance area adjustments on the feeder patterns for elementary, middle, and high schools.
- The goal of assigning elementary students to matriculate to no more than three (3) middle schools and middle school students to matriculate to no more than two (2) high schools, if possible.
- The goal of assigning students of those schools studied so that the local- rated capacity (LRC) of each school is not exceeded, if possible. LRC is defined as:
 - 90% of state-rated capacity for elementary schools
- The projected enrollment through 2027-2028 school year, including subsequent year projections.
- The goal of providing a reserve capacity in those schools studied to allow for future growth.
- The factors set forth in Board Policy JCA (Section III, Paragraph E) which, are as follows:
 - *the educational opportunity afforded to students in each school involved;*
 - *the long-range enrollment projections including consideration of anticipated future residential development/construction;*
 - *the state- and local-rated capacity of affected schools;*
 - *the geographic location of each school in relationship to the surrounding population areas;*
 - *the current and projected student travel time;*
 - *the continuing of the feeder school patterns;*
 - *the opening of a new school or the necessity to close a school;*
 - *the need to maintain racial balance in a school and/or the school system;*
 - *the socio-economic composition of affected schools;*
 - *the cost associated with the various options.*

While each of the factors listed above is to be considered, it may be impractical, in all cases, to reconcile each and every boundary line alternative with each and every factor.

Meetings/Public Comment

- Meetings of the FEAC are open to the public, as observers, not as participants.

- If necessary, meetings may be conducted at school locations in the communities that may be affected by the FEAC's recommendations.
- Meetings are to be scheduled as determined by the FEAC as necessary to comply with its charge.
- Meetings are to be in-person and shall not be conducted virtually. The FEAC shall receive and consider public input/comment via email correspondence only. All public email correspondence received shall be included in the final report to the Board.
- The FEAC shall not conduct community forums. Community forums will be conducted by the Board at a later date, after consideration has been given to the final recommendations from the Superintendent.

Deadlines

- Recommendations shall be submitted in writing to the Board no later than April 7, 2026.

II. Introduction

During FEAC meetings where various ideas will be discussed regarding potential recommendations, Staff will provide "Working Documents" to the committee. These "Working Documents" will contain considerations that are intended as a preliminary investigation of possible options for use by the FEAC. These documents can contain information that is subject to future revision, including: draft enrollment projections, Free and Reduced Meal Student (FARMS) information, assumptions, and recommendations. The "Working Documents" will be included with (and referenced within) the meeting minutes as part of the public record for this process.

This Working Document 1 is intended to provide some definitions, explanations and a general overview of the process so the FEAC can complete the work identified in the Charge. It is not all-inclusive, and committee members may need to ask Staff for additional information during the process, and/or to be possibly included in future Working Documents. It is advised that the FEAC keep all Working Documents to reference/utilize during this process.

Based on the 2024 Educational Facilities Master Plan (EFMP) and the Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvement Plan, the proposed "Downsville Pike" Elementary Replacement School is currently scheduled to open in August of 2027. Upon the completion of the 2026-2027 school year, the Fountain Rock Elementary School and Hickory Elementary School will be closed. This redistricting process will determine the attendance zone configuration for "Downsville Pike" Elementary School, and modifications to the attendance zones for schools adjacent to the new schools. Also, modifications to other elementary school attendance zones throughout the County will be reviewed by the Committee to determine if other realignments require consideration by the WCBOE, consistent with the March 18, 2025, Charge.

The current name of "Downsville Pike" Elementary is temporary until such time the Board chooses or selects a new name. All working documents shall utilize the name "Downsville Pike" Elementary, until that time. If a name is chosen during this process, it will be identified and indicated in future reports that all previous uses/mention of "Downsville Pike" referenced the newly named school. The "Downsville Pike" Elementary School is being built with a 688 pre-kindergarten through grade 5 seat capacity. The two (2) schools being closed, Fountain Rock Elementary School and Hickory Elementary School have a 271 and a 268 pre-kindergarten through grade 5 seat capacity, respectively. This means that the new school

is being built with an additional 149 seat capacity, above what the closing schools collectively have (688 – 539 = 149). At first glance, the task appears to be simple, move all of the students from the two (2) closing schools to the new school. Both Hickory Elementary School and Fountain Rock Elementary School, as well as some of the Elementary schools that are adjacent to them, have more students (or are projected to have more students) than their respective capacity. Some schools in the area have less students than their respective capacities. Because of these considerations, the FEAC is being asked to look at ways to create a New “Downsville Pike” Elementary School attendance zone and balance the enrollment/projected enrollment as appropriate at adjacent schools, and/or other elementary schools within the County.

Based on the nature of this process, and consideration to stakeholders, Staff recommends splitting the Committee’s work into two (2) groupings of recommendations.

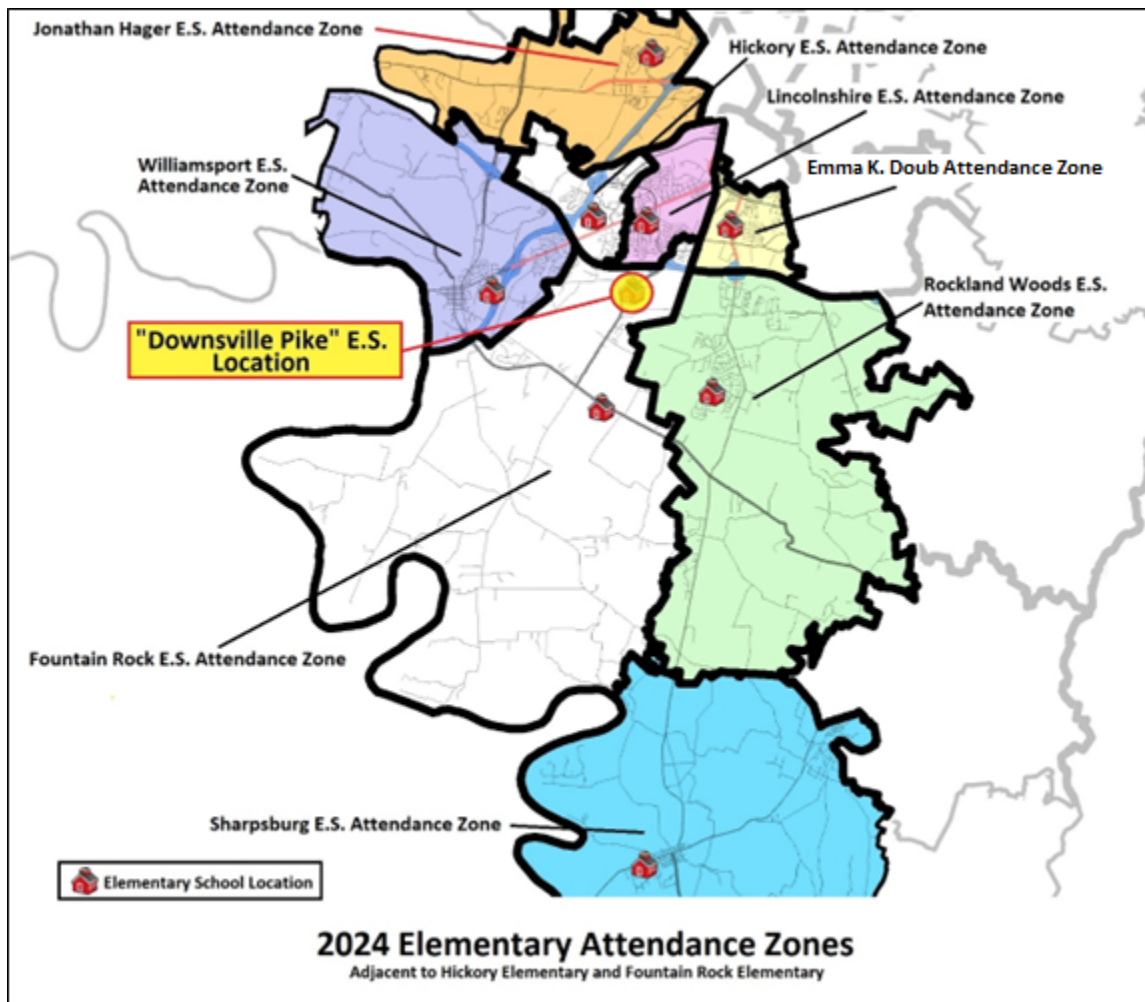
The first group of recommendations should do the following:

1. Re-distribute the entire existing Hickory Elementary School attendance zone.
2. Re-distribute the entire existing Fountain Rock Elementary School attendance zone.
3. Create a new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School attendance zone.
4. Re-distribute any portion of another attendance zone that is necessary for a recommendation from 1, 2 or 3 above.

The second group of recommendations should do the following:

1. Re-distribute other attendance zones to alleviate projected enrollment pressures at district elementary facilities not impacted by the first group of recommendations.

The location of the new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School, the current Hickory Elementary School attendance zone, Fountain Rock Elementary attendance zone, and the adjacent elementary school attendance zones are all shown below.



During this process the FEAC will prepare attendance zone realignment (redistricting) recommendations that the committee will present to the Board of Education to consider. **Please understand that the Board is not required to implement these recommendations. The Board, at the Superintendent's recommendation, or their own determination, can implement a different attendance zone realignment(s) than what the FEAC recommends.**

Through this process, the FEAC will determine a “best recommendation” for a new “Downsville Pike” Elementary attendance zone that the Board and the Superintendent will consider. To achieve the best recommendation, the FEAC will need to review various realignment options, and through vote, determine which options make up the best recommendations. While all of the identified factors will be identified and reviewed during this process, the basic components of this Charge from an introductory standpoint are as follows:

Hickory Elementary School

- The current Hickory Elementary School has a state-rated capacity (SRC) of 268 students.
- The Official September 30, 2024, enrollment at Hickory Elementary School was 326 students.
- Enrollment projections for Hickory Elementary School indicate that in the 2027-2028 school year, it will have 339 students with 30 pre-kindergarten students (current program).

Fountain Rock Elementary School

- The current Fountain Rock Elementary School has a state-rated capacity (SRC) of 271 students.
- The Official September 30, 2024, enrollment at Fountain Rock Elementary School was 319 students.
- Enrollment projections for Fountain Rock Elementary School indicate that in the 2027-2028 school year, it will have 314 students with 40 pre-kindergarten students (current program).

“Downsville Pike” Elementary School

- The proposed “Downsville Pike” Elementary School will have a SRC of 688 seats (120 seats for pre-kindergarten).

Adjacent Elementary School Attendance Zones

- Jonathan Hager Elementary School shares an attendance zone boundary with Hickory Elementary School.
- Jonathan Hager Elementary School has a SRC of 471 students.
- The Official September 30, 2024, enrollment was 498 students.
- Enrollment projections for Jonathan Hager Elementary School indicate that in the 2027-2028 school year, it will have 536 students (65 students above its current SRC) with 55 pre-kindergarten students (current program).
- Williamsport Elementary School shares an attendance zone boundary with Hickory Elementary School.
- Williamsport Elementary School has a SRC of 568 students.
- The Official September 30, 2024, enrollment was 533 students.
- Enrollment projections for Williamsport Elementary School indicate that in the 2027-2028 school year, it will have 523 students (45 students below its current SRC) with 55 pre-kindergarten students (current program).
- Lincolnshire Elementary School shares an attendance zone boundary with both Hickory Elementary School and Fountain Rock Elementary School.
- Lincolnshire Elementary School has a SRC of 545 students.
- The Official September 30, 2024, enrollment was 503 students.
- Enrollment projections for Lincolnshire Elementary School indicate that in the 2027-2028 school year, it will have 511 students (34 students below its current SRC) with 55 pre-kindergarten students (current program).
- Emma K. Doub Elementary School shares an attendance zone boundary with Fountain Rock Elementary School.
- Emma K. Doub Elementary School has a SRC of 297 students.
- The Official September 30, 2024, enrollment was 389 students.
- Enrollment projections for Emma K. Doub Elementary School indicate that in the 2027-2028 school year, it will have 375 students (78 students above its current SRC) with 35 pre-kindergarten students (current program).
- One (1) of the pre-kindergarten programs are physically housed at Boyd J. Michael, III Technical High School (Little Eagles).

- Rockland Woods Elementary School shares an attendance zone boundary with Fountain Rock Elementary School.
- Rockland Woods Elementary School has a SRC of 751 students.
- The Official September 30, 2024, enrollment was 655 students.
- Enrollment projections for Rockland Woods Elementary School indicate that in the 2027-2028 school year, it will have 720 students (31 students below its current SRC) with 75 pre-kindergarten students (current program).
- Sharpsburg Elementary School shares an attendance zone boundary with Fountain Rock Elementary School.
- Sharpsburg Elementary School has a SRC of 471 students.
- The Official September 30, 2024, enrollment was 362 students.
- Enrollment projections for Sharpsburg Elementary School indicate that in the 2027-2028 school year, it will have 377 students (94 students below its current SRC) with 40 pre-kindergarten students (current program).

These Working Documents contain information and data that are to be considered as tools or starting points for the FEAC in the determination of its recommendations. Due to the timing of the recommendation, and fluid nature of enrollment, projections, economic influences, etc., all information contained within this document shall be subject to future revisions or updates.

The options presented in the Working Documents may not initially reflect, or identify, all of the factors identified in the Charge. These options are to be considered as starting points for the FEAC to consider and not final recommendations. As options are created, modified, and further refined by the FEAC, and prior to a final recommendation to be presented to the WCBOE, all factors of the Charge will be formally considered and addressed.

III. Tentative Schedule

This will be determined by the FEAC, but the DRAFT schedule that has been put together to meet the Charge presented by the WCBOE will be as follows (subject to future revisions by the FEAC):

April 30, 2025	FEAC Introductory Meeting
May 14, 2025	FEAC Meeting
May 28, 2025	FEAC Meeting
June /July 2025	FEAC Meeting(s) – Complete Preliminary Recommendation (Additional meetings in August if necessary)
July/Aug./Sept. 2025	FEAC to Present Update to the WCBOE on the Status of the Charge (at WCBOE Meeting or Work Session)
Nov. – Dec. 2025	FEAC Meetings to Evaluate/Modify Preliminary Recommendation and Add/Modify/Delete Additional Recommendations based on updated enrollment (9/30/2025) and other information
Jan./Feb. 2026	FEAC to Present Recommendations to WCBOE

IV. Background Information

This process requires the FEAC to consider the Factors identified in the Charge. Before the FEAC can consider these Factors, it would be helpful to understand the Factors, or the components that make up these Factors. While all Factors will be discussed and considered during the process, the information prepared below is to help serve as a starting point for the FEAC.

The opening of a new school or the necessity to close a school

On June 20, 2023, the Washington County Board of Education (WCBOE) approved the closure of two (2) of its oldest and most inadequate elementary school facilities: Hickory Elementary School and Fountain Rock Elementary School. These closings are contingent upon the opening of a new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School. The new “Downsville Pike Elementary School is proposed as a four-round facility that will accommodate 688 pre-kindergarten through fifth grade and special education students. When a school is described as a “four-round” school, that indicates that there are (4) Kindergarten classrooms, (4) 1st grade classroom, (4) 2nd grade classrooms, etc..

Full-Time Equivalent Students

Full-time equivalent (FTE) students only become a point of discussion when reviewing pre-kindergarten enrollment. The Maryland Department of Planning only considers kindergarten through grade 12 students, because pre-kindergarten is not a mandatory program. However, as WCPS offers pre-kindergarten programs to better prepare our students, and these programs utilize space within the facility, we must consider this impact to enrollment. Full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment reflects the total amount of pre-kindergarten through grade 12 students that attend a school for the full day. Years ago, some WCPS facilities, had a ½ day pre-kindergarten program, and the calculated FTE’s were different. That is not applicable for this process. If it becomes applicable, it will be reviewed at that time. Where a school has a full day pre-kindergarten program, one (1) pre-kindergarten student = one (1) full-time equivalent student. So, in a full day pre-kindergarten program, a 20-student pre-kindergarten class serves only 20 students.

It is important to note that pre-kindergarten students are enrolled on an application basis to fill the number of spots available. Because it is voluntary and parents can provide transportation for students, a pre-kindergarten student is NOT required to reside in a specific attendance zone to attend a school with a pre-kindergarten program. For example, a pre-kindergarten student from Clear Spring could be enrolled as a pre-kindergarten student in Sharpsburg.

Why is this important? Pre-kindergarten enrollment is limited to the number of open seats. Also, because pre-kindergarten attendance is not impacted by an attendance zone, the recommendations made by the FEAC will not impact pre-kindergarten students, or pre-kindergarten enrollment of existing programs. The recommendations may create, or limit space for additional pre-kindergarten programs. During this process, the committee will discuss the appropriate way to view and account for this type of scenario.

State-Rated Capacity (SRC)

The enrollment capacity for each WCPS’ facility is determined through the use of state-mandated formulas as described in COMAR 14.39.02.05 to derive the “State-Rated Capacity” (SRC), and in accordance with Washington County Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) to determine the derivative “Local-Rated Capacity” (LRC). The SRC is defined in the COMAR reference as “...the number of students that the Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC) or its designee determines that

an individual school has the capacity to enroll.” The formulas differ for elementary and secondary schools, as well as technical schools and special and alternative education facilities. Because the FEAC will primarily be dealing with elementary school facilities, that will be the focus of this background information.

Elementary School Capacity (Pre-K through Grade 5): the SRC for an elementary school is determined by multiplying the number of classrooms for each grade by the state approved classroom capacities for each grade and summing the products. State approved classroom capacities for elementary schools are as follows:

Pre-Kindergarten classroom	20 students
Kindergarten classroom	22 students
Grades 1 – 5 classroom	23 students
Special Education classroom	10 students

School rooms that are less than 550 square feet in area are excluded from these calculations, as are specialty classrooms such as art, music, science, gymnasiums, computer labs, etc.

Local-Rated Capacity (LRC)

The “Local-Rated Capacity” (LRC) for elementary schools is defined as 90% of the SRC in accordance with the Washington County Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO). Therefore, if a school has a SRC of 100 seats, then it would have a local-rated capacity of 90 seats. While the state of Maryland does not recognize the LRC, it is used within the APFO to determine whether an elementary school has adequate seat capacity.

Enrollment

Enrollment changes occur every day at WCPS facilities. People and families move in and out of the county, and to different areas within the county all year. This means that students will come into the system and schools, students will change schools, and students will leave schools and/or the system all year. Because it is constantly changing, the Maryland State Department of Education, and the Maryland Department of Planning count enrollment every year on (or about) September 30th. This enrollment count becomes the “Official Enrollment” for the schools, and the County. September 30, 2024, is the enrollment that the FEAC will utilize in its work. Staff will update the committee on any “extreme” changes to the enrollment at applicable facilities that may be experienced throughout the year. Additionally, the committee will review the enrollment recorded on September 30, 2025, as part of its process, which will further validate the data being reviewed.

Enrollment Projections

Enrollment projections for all WCPS facilities are generated annually. They can change year-to-year based on a lot of different reasons. For example, a recorded kindergarten enrollment that is higher than the projected kindergarten enrollment can create a long-term increase in the following year’s enrollment projections.

As an example, consider a “perfect attendance zone” where no one can move into or out of, and every year a class of 20 Kindergartners come to school, and a class of 20 5th graders leave. This would be considered a “Single Round” or “1-round” elementary school, 1 class per grade level, i.e. (1) Kindergarten class of 20, (1) 1st grade class of 20, (1) 2nd grade class of 20, etc. For this example, the enrollment projections would be very simple, and look something like this:

	K	1	2	3	4	5	Total
2024 Recorded Enrollment	20	20	20	20	20	20	120
2025 projections	20	20	20	20	20	20	120
2026 projections	20	20	20	20	20	20	120
2027 projections	20	20	20	20	20	20	120

Easy, right? Let's say that the following year, something strange happens, a class of 60 kindergartners show up (In this example, Kindergarten would be "three-rounds" with (3) kindergarten classes of 20 each:

	K	1	2	3	4	5	Total
2025 Recorded Enrollment	60	20	20	20	20	20	160
2026 projections	20	60	20	20	20	20	160
2027 projections	20	20	60	20	20	20	160
2028 projections	20	20	20	60	20	20	160

As you can see, this class of 60 will slowly migrate through grades K-5 over the next several years. If 20 students return the following year (2026) and every year after that, eventually (by 2031), the school would return to its original population:

	K	1	2	3	4	5	Total
2026 Recorded Enrollment	20	60	20	20	20	20	160
2027 projections	20	20	60	20	20	20	160
2028 projections	20	20	20	60	20	20	160
2029 projections	20	20	20	20	60	20	160
2030 projections	20	20	20	20	20	60	160
2031 projections	20	20	20	20	20	20	120

But what if the people in this attendance zone started having more children? All of a sudden, the following year (and every year after that), another class of 60 Kindergartners showed up, it would really impact the future enrollment projections:

	K	1	2	3	4	5	Total
2026 Recorded Enrollment	60	60	20	20	20	20	200
2027 projections	60	60	60	20	20	20	240
2028 projections	60	60	60	60	20	20	280
2029 projections	60	60	60	60	60	20	320

This type of scenario is reviewed annually for ALL enrollment projections that are generated.

Birth rates also impact enrollment projections. Staff reviews birth rates within the County with the FEAC during the annual Enrollment and Educational Facilities Master Plan presentations. As a reminder, births to mothers that have/provide a Washington County Zip code are recorded annually. Assuming they do not move out of the county, these children will become kindergarten students five (5) years after birth. While new families move into the county, and some exit the county, the resultant kindergarten class is conversely related to the number of births five (5) years prior. This relationship is called the birth to kindergarten ratio, and it typically ranges between .89 and 1.01. So, if 5 years ago, there were 1,000 recorded births, WCPS would expect to see between 890 to 1,010 total Kindergarten students this year.

This ratio is utilized to create kindergarten projections and is based on a number of different economic factors and trends.

Nationwide, and in Washington County, the number of births per 1,000 people have been trending downwards over the last 30 years.

New developments (single-family homes, townhomes, apartments) within an attendance zone can also add additional students and have a significant impact on enrollment and enrollment projections. As an average, 100 new single-family home will add approximately 43 elementary students, 100 new townhomes will add approximately 32 elementary students, and 100 new apartments will add approximately 31 elementary students. These students could be in any/all of the elementary grade levels (i.e Grade 2, Grade 5, etc.). Typically 100 new homes don't open at once in a development. They are typically sold (or rented) as they are built. That being said, apartments (or multi-family homes) are typically opened by building (which houses several apartments).

So right about now, you're probably thinking. "That's interesting, but why is this background information important?"

The most recent enrollment projections will be formally presented to the WCBOE as part of the 2025 Educational Facilities Master Plan. The K-12 enrollment projections were sent to the Maryland Department of Planning on March 31, 2025, and shared with the WCBOE at that time. These projections were created using September 30, 2024, enrollment data (official enrollment) and with Birth Rate/Development information that is current as of March 2025. These projections will be utilized by the FEAC in the preparation of the Preliminary Recommendation to the WCBOE. Based on the fluid nature of enrollment, enrollment projections, and programmatic factors, each "Working Document" will contain these enrollment projections with any updates indicated. In November/December 2025, Staff will be able to provide the FEAC the official enrollment for September 30, 2025. The FEAC will be able to use this information, along with any changes to developments, etc. to make sure the Preliminary Recommendations are still valid and achieve the intended purpose.

FTE enrollment projections for all WCPS elementary facilities are provided in the Appendix at the end of Document 1. As a starting point, and to simplify this process, Hickory Elementary School, Fountain Rock Elementary School, and the adjacent schools have been summarized below.

WASHINGTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS													
Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Student Enrollment Projections: 2025-2034											For FEAC Use		
	State Rated Capacity	Local Capacity 90%	Sept. 30, 2024*	Projected 2025*	Projected 2026*	Projected 2027*	Projected 2028*	Projected 2029*	Projected 2030*	Projected 2031*	Projected 2032*	Projected 2033*	Projected 2034*
Emma K. Doub ES	297	267	389	387	380	375	366	362	358	354	350	342	343
Fountain Rock ES	271	244	319	316	319	314	320	309	315	318	322	322	323
Hickory ES	268	241	326	332	334	339	340	340	341	345	347	348	347
Jonathan Hager ES	471	424	498	509	523	536	551	559	577	584	593	602	611
Lincolnshire ES	545	491	503	528	516	511	530	528	525	525	529	534	536
Rockland Woods ES	751	676	655	681	705	720	736	754	748	757	763	769	778
Sharpsburg ES	471	424	362	367	378	377	378	369	380	380	379	380	380
Williamsport ES	568	511	533	531	526	523	519	517	519	518	515	514	513
Elementary School Total	3,642	3,278	3,585	3,651	3,681	3,695	3,740	3,738	3,763	3,781	3,798	3,811	3,831

* FTE student enrollment includes pre-kindergarten students.

Note: These projections assume residential building activity will be approximately 275 homes per year through 2027, and gradually increase over the subsequent 7 years.

Looking just at the 4-year projections (out to the 2027-2028 school year) the chart becomes a little easier to follow:

WASHINGTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS						
Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Student Enrollment Projections: 2025-2027						
	State Rated Capacity	Local Capacity 90%	Sept. 30, 2024*	Projected 2025*	Projected 2026*	Projected 2027*
Emma K. Doub ES	297	267	389	387	380	375
Fountain Rock ES	271	244	319	316	319	314
Hickory ES	268	241	326	332	334	339
Jonathan Hager ES	471	424	498	509	523	536
Lincolnshire ES	545	491	503	528	516	511
Rockland Woods ES	751	676	655	681	705	720
Sharpsburg ES	471	424	362	367	378	377
Williamsport ES	568	511	533	531	526	523
Elementary School Total	3,642	3,278	3,585	3,651	3,681	3,695

Now, taking out the Hickory Elementary School and Fountain Rock Elementary School State Rated Capacities, and adding in the new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School facility, it paints a clearer picture:

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Student Enrollment Projections: 2025-2027						
	State Rated Capacity	Local Capacity 90%	Sept. 30, 2024*	Projected 2025*	Projected 2026*	Projected 2027*
Emma K. Doub ES	297	267	389	387	380	375
"Downsville Pike" ES	688	619				
Fountain Rock ES			319	316	319	314
Hickory ES			326	332	334	339
Jonathan Hager ES	471	424	498	509	523	536
Lincolnshire ES	545	491	503	528	516	511
Rockland Woods ES	751	676	655	681	705	720
Sharpsburg ES	471	424	362	367	378	377
Williamsport ES	568	511	533	531	526	523
Elementary School Total	3,791	3,412	3,585	3,651	3,681	3,695

As shown above, and mentioned in the introduction of this Working Document, the total state-rated capacity increased by 149. Looking at these subject facilities (Hickory Elementary School, Fountain Rock Elementary School, “Downsville Pike” Elementary School, adjacent schools), the total number of seats

(state-rated capacity) projected surpasses the projected total number of PK-12 students at these facilities by 96 (red circles: 3,791-3,695=96). The local-rated capacity (blue circle) will be exceeded by approximately 55 PK-12 students (3,412-3,695=-283).

It is important to note that at the facilities indicated above, there are pre-kindergarten programs, and pre-kindergarten students accounted for, that impact available K-5 seats and enrollment. In 2025-2027, the following pre-kindergarten students are projected to be enrolled.

- Emma K. Doub Elementary School: 35 pre-kindergarten students
- Fountain Rock Elementary School: 40 pre-kindergarten students
- Hickory Elementary School: 30 pre-kindergarten students
- Jonathan Hager Elementary School: 55 pre-kindergarten students
- Lincolnshire Elementary School: 55 pre-kindergarten students
- Rockland Woods Elementary School: 75 pre-kindergarten students
- Sharpsburg Elementary School: 40 pre-kindergarten students
- Williamsport Elementary School: 55 pre-kindergarten students
- “Downsville Pike” Elementary School: is projected to have 120 seats available for pre-kindergarten students

During the Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) discussion, it was noted that pre-kindergarten students would not be directly impacted due to the FEAC’s recommendations. As a reminder, this is because a pre-kindergarten student does not need to reside in the attendance zone of the school where the pre-kindergarten program is offered and the student is accepted. Because it is a program, the enrollment for pre-kindergarten is generally CAPPED at the maximum number of program seats. So, unlike other grade levels, there may be potential pre-kindergarten students waiting for a pre-kindergarten spot to open, before they can be admitted/enrolled. This is not the case for grades K-5! For grades K-5, if you reside in the attendance zone, you are offered a seat, whether the class is full or not!

When the new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School opens (with a larger total seat capacity), it is anticipated to have a 120 student pre-kindergarten program capacity (i.e. six (6) 20 student classes). This means that the new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School **will have 568 seats to use for K-5 students.**

To help simplify the work of the FEAC, the committee will ONLY be looking at the K-5 enrollment at each school.

In order to do this, existing pre-kindergarten programs will be subtracted out from SRC and LRC calculations. There are some schools, where there are more existing pre-kindergarten programs than classrooms, as calculated by the State. In other schools, there are more pre-kindergarten classrooms, as currently calculated by the state, than pre-kindergarten programs. For all elementary facilities, and for each unique situation, staff has reviewed the use of these facilities with WCPS educational administrators and determined the appropriate K-5 SRC and LRC. The chart below was created by removing the appropriate number of pre-kindergarten program spots from the SRC and LRC calculations. The K-5 Adjusted Sept. 30, 2024 enrollment, and the enrollment projections “Projected K-5 Enrollment” for all elementary schools was created by subtracting out known, and planned pre-kindergarten students. This calculation, and the numbers associated in these charts will be utilized for all FEAC discussions regarding redistricting to simplify the process.

Looking at the two (2) elementary schools proposed to close (Hickory Elementary School and Fountain Rock Elementary School), the new "Downsville Pike" Elementary School, and all adjacent elementary schools previously identified, a K-5 chart can be created as an example. (Note: The K-5 adjusted SRC and LRC for Hickory Elementary School and Fountain Rock Elementary School are not included because those schools will not be open in 2027).

K-5 Student Enrollment Projections 2025 - 2027						
Downsville Pike" Elementary updated to 568 (Adjusted K-5) State-Rated Capacity						
	K-5 Adjusted State Rated Capacity	K-5 Adjusted Local Rated Capacity	K-5 Enrollment Sept. 30, 2024	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2025	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2026	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2027
Emma K. Doub ES	297	267	355	352	345	340
"Downsville Pike" ES	568	511				
Fountain Rock ES			282	276	279	274
Hickory ES			302	302	304	309
Jonathan Hager ES	431	388	442	454	468	481
Lincolnshire ES	485	419	459	473	461	456
Rockland Woods ES	671	604	580	606	630	645
Sharpsburg ES	431	388	322	327	338	337
Williamsport ES	548	493	484	476	471	468
Elementary School Total	3,431	3,070	3,226	3,266	3,296	3,310

The total available K-5 state-rated seat capacity for the seven (7) schools proposed to be open in 2027 exceeds the projected number of K-5 students by 121 (3,431-3,310). (it was 96 in the FTE calculation on page 11). This K-5 style chart, will be the basis of the primary chart used by the FEAC during its work.

To further simplify the information that the FEAC needs to review, the above chart was updated to show the anticipated available SRC at each school through the 2027-2028 school year:

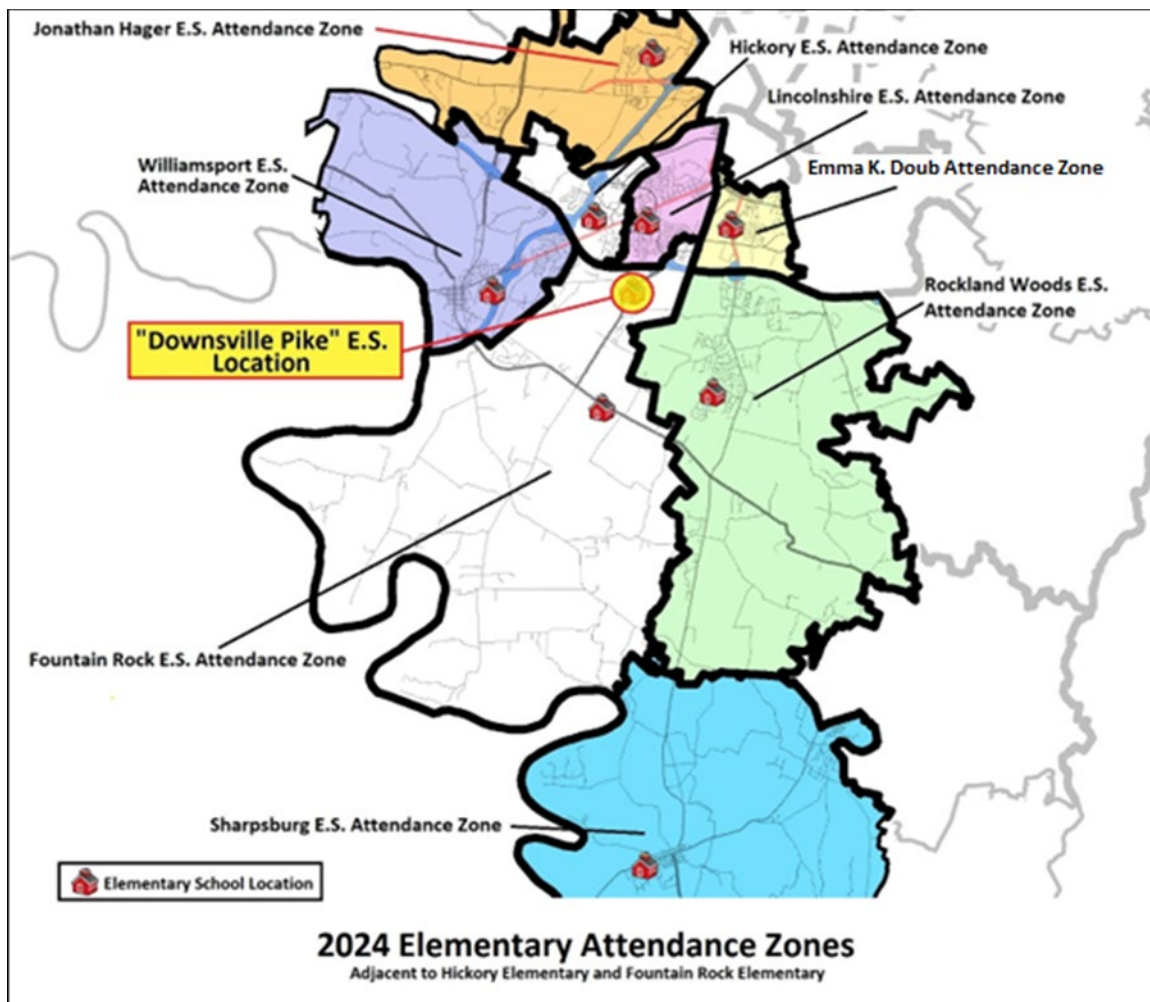
K-5 Student Enrollment Projections (seats available) 2025 - 2027 Downsville Pike" Elementary updated to 568 (Adjusted K-5) State-Rated Capacity						
	K-5 Adjusted State Rated Capacity	K-5 Adjusted Local Rated Capacity	K-5 Enrollment Sept. 30, 2024	Projected K-5 seats available 2025	Projected K-5 seats available 2026	Projected K-5 seats available 2027
Emma K. Doub ES	297	267	355	-55	-48	-43
"Downsville Pike" ES	568	511		568	568	568
Fountain Rock ES			282	-276	-279	-274
Hickory ES			302	-302	-304	-309
Jonathan Hager ES	431	388	442	-23	-37	-50
Lincolnshire ES	485	419	459	12	24	29
Rockland Woods ES	671	604	580	65	41	26
Sharpsburg ES	431	388	322	104	93	94
Williamsport ES	548	493	484	72	77	80
Elementary School Total	3,431	3,070	3,226	165	135	121

As you can see from the chart above, “Downsville Pike” Elementary School will have 568 K-5 seats available. Hickory Elementary School and Fountain Rock Elementary School have “no seats” available because they are closing. Based on current enrollment projections, Jonathan Hager Elementary School has no seats available (the projected enrollment exceeds the capacity). The numbers at these three (3) facilities are indicated in **RED**. The above chart will be modified for FEAC use later in this Working Document 1.

Feeder Patterns

The term “Feeder Pattern” represents the schools that a student will ascend to, once they have completed all of the grades at their current school. So, for example, a current student from Fountain Rock Elementary School who would graduate from 5th grade, would attend Springfield Middle School the following year for 6th grade. When that student graduated from 8th grade, he or she would then attend Williamsport High School the year after that for 9th grade. This example is accurate because the entire existing Hickory Elementary School and Fountain Rock Elementary School attendance zones are within the Springfield Middle School attendance zone and the Williamsport High School attendance zone.

Looking back at the map you were shown on page 2, below shows the current elementary attendance zones for Fountain Rock Elementary School, Hickory Elementary School, the new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School, and the adjacent schools.



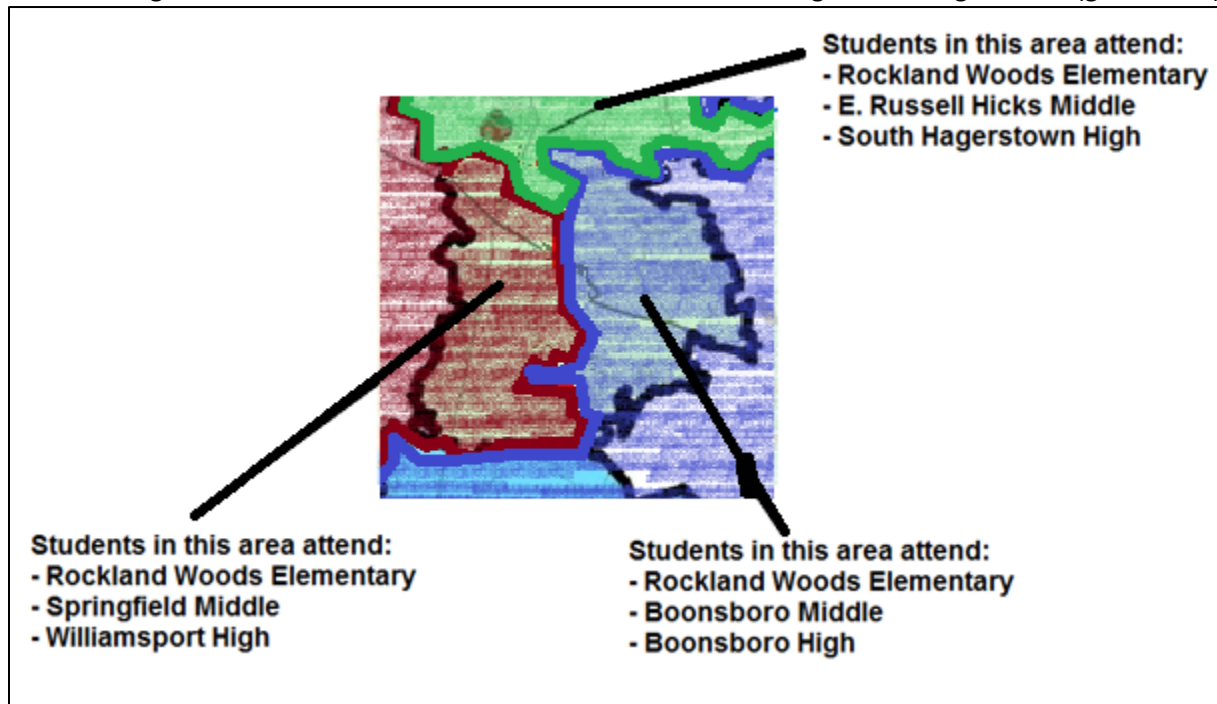
Taking that same map and overlaying the current middle and high school attendance zones, and then shading it, it shows a visual representation of the feeder patterns. As shown, the adjacent schools matriculate into several different middle and high schools. For example, the Sharpsburg Elementary School attendance zone and a portion of the Rockland Woods Elementary School attendance zone feed into the Boonsboro Middle School and Boonsboro High School attendance zones (which share the same geographical boundary), and have been shaded in “Blue”. Because they share the same attendance zone boundary, all students from Boonsboro Middle School will matriculate on to Boonsboro High School. The Fountain Rock Elementary School, Hickory Elementary School, and portions of the Lincolnshire Elementary School, Rockland Woods Elementary School, Williamsport Elementary School and Jonathan Hager Elementary School attendance zones, all feed into the Springfield Middle School and Williamsport High School attendance zones, which have been shaded in “Burgandy”. Again, because they share the same attendance zone boundary, all students from Springfield Middle School will matriculate on to Williamsport High School.

The Emma K. Doub Elementary School and portions of the Rockland Woods Elementary School, Lincolnshire Elementary School, and Jonathan Hager Elementary School, all feed into the E.R. Hicks Middle School and Western Heights Middle School, and South Hagerstown High School attendance zones which have been shaded in “Green”. Western Heights Middle School feeds into multiple high schools (South Hagerstown High School and North Hagerstown High School)

A portion of the Jonathan Hager Elementary School and Williamsport Elementary School feed into the Clear Spring Middle School and Clear Spring High School attendance zones which have been shaded in “Yellow”. Similar to Boonsboro and Williamsport, the middle school and high school share the same attendance zone boundary. All students from Clear Spring Middle School will matriculate on to Clear Spring High School.

The remaining portions of Jonathan Hager Elementary School feed into the Western Heights Middle School, Northern Middle School and North Hagerstown High School attendance zones which have been shaded in “Red”.

and high schools. In the above examples, the Rockland Woods Elementary School attendance zone is considered a split feeder pattern because a portion of the students in this elementary attendance zone will migrate on to Springfield Middle School and Williamsport High School (burgundy area), another portion will migrate on to Boonsboro Middle School and Boonsboro High School (blue area), and a third area will migrate on to E. Russell Hicks Middle School and South Hagerstown High School (green area):



Jonathan Hager Elementary School, Williamsport Elementary School, and Lincolnshire Elementary School all feed to multiple middle and high schools. While middle and high school attendance boundary modifications have not been requested as part of the Charge to the FEAC, for each elementary consideration, the committee will review the impact on the area under consideration and the schools.

A document that identifies the Feeder Patterns for all WCPS Schools is provided in the Appendix at the end of Document 1.

Location of Schools

Staff will provide the Geographic locations of the applicable existing elementary schools, including the new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School, to all proposed Areas/Options that are under consideration by the FEAC. The FEAC will be able to review this information during its assessment.

Student Travel Time

Another factor that the FEAC will consider during its work is the impact of the recommendations on student travel time. This is most easily described as the time that a student spends on a bus during transportation services to and from school. This information will be provided from the WCPS department of transportation. It is important for the FEAC to understand that student travel time can change year to year, based on a large number of factors. The number of bus routes, available buses, number of stops on a route, etc. all can change year to year, with no attendance zone realignment. A student could have had a 15 minute travel time to school last year, and a 20 minute travel time this year because of additional student pick-ups (stops) required after the time that they got on to the bus. Travel times between bus

routes can vary significantly depending on the area of the county in which the student resides, and the school that they attend. Students who live within a specified walking distance to school are not transported by bus. Based on Board Policy EEA-R, Paragraph 1-“Non-Transported Areas,” elementary students who reside within one (1) mile of the designated student entrance to the school are generally not eligible for transportation. These students are considered “walking” students. A recommendation that would add or decrease the number of “non-transported” students to a facility could have a significant financial impact to the school system and would need to be considered as part of the recommendation.

Currently there are no “non-transported” students who attend Hickory Elementary School or Fountain Rock Elementary School, and based on review of existing routes there will be no “non-transported” students who attend the new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School. There are students who currently attend Hickory Elementary School who reside within a “non-transportable” distance and safe route to Lincolnshire Elementary School.

The WCPS department of transportation will estimate travel times for each recommendation and indicate if the bus trip will be shorter or longer than the current route based on the best information available. After the initial recommendations are determined, transportation staff will drive these routes to verify the estimated time frames are accurate, and staff will update the committee if there is a significant variance. Based on the example above, the FEAC should understand that these travel times could vary in the future based on a number of continually changing conditions.

FARM and Racial Information

In November of 2024, the FY 2025 Free and Reduced Meal (FARM) student rates were released for all WCPS facilities. This percentage accounts for the number of students at that facility that receive free or reduced price meals. A document that identifies the FARM data for all schools is provided in the Appendix at the end of Document 1. This document is publicly available on the WCPS website. The FY 2025 FARM data, and comparison to FY 2024 FARM data, for Hickory Elementary School, Fountain Rock Elementary School, and the adjacent schools has been summarized below.

School Name	FY 2025 FARM%	FY 2024 FARM%	FY 2025 Variance
Hickory Elementary School*	82.1%	85.2%	-3.1%
Fountain Rock Elementary School	48.2%	46.5%	1.8%
Emma K. Doub Elementary School*	61.4%	61.6%	-0.2%
Jonathan Hager Elementary School*	74.4%	69.8%	4.7%
Lincolnshire Elementary School*	72.8%	78.7%	-5.9%
Rockland Woods Elementary School	53.1%	52.2%	0.9%
Sharpsburg Elementary School	39.8%	43.8%	-4.0%
Williamsport Elementary School	60.1%	60.9%	-0.8%

*Indicates Title I school

Racial composition of school populations is one of the factors that is considered when new attendance zones are created and will be considered during the creation of recommendations for the new “Downsville Pike” Elementary attendance zone and any adjustments to adjacent or other attendance zones.

The review of each recommendation will include the ethnic composition, and potential impact of the recommendation on the schools involved. The racial composition of the students is shown as “Percent of White,” which represents Caucasian students of European descent, and a “Percent of Non-White,” that represents Hispanic, American Indian, Asian, Black/African American, Native Hawaiian, and two or more races. This nomenclature is taken directly from the “2021 Maryland Public School Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity and Gender and number of Schools” as reported by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

Educational Programs – Title I

Schools with higher FARM percentages may be eligible to receive additional funding through the Title I Program. A recommendation that significantly increases or decreases a school’s FARM percentage could impact funding for that facility and would be an important factor for the FEAC to consider.

Overall funding for WCPS is formulated on a per pupil basis, not a per facility basis. Closing Hickory and Fountain Rock elementary schools will not increase or decrease special, federal, or state funding, but it will reduce overall operational costs due to increased efficiency. These cost savings could be redistributed for other educational uses, and programs, throughout WCPS.

Each school system receives an annual Title I funding allocation (federal funds) that it distributes to schools it has designated to receive the funding. These funds are combined with federal, state, and local funds to supplement current or existing school programs at the Title I facilities.

WCPS currently provides Title I funds to nine (9) elementary schools. Bester, Eastern, Emma K. Doub, Hickory, Jonathan Hager, Lincolnshire, Pangborn, Ruth Ann Monroe and Salem Avenue have a school-wide Title I program. It is currently unknown if the new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School will be a future Title I school or not. Each Local Education Authority (LEA) has the option to designate additional facilities that have been open for more than one (1) year as Title I schools. There is no limit on the number of facilities that a LEA designates as Title I; however, the total Title I funding allocation per LEA is not increased or adjusted based on an increase in the number of Title I facilities. The new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School could be designated as a Title I facility after the first operational year. If “Downsville Pike” Elementary School is not designated as a Title I facility some of the students that currently attend Hickory, Emma K. Doub, Lincolnshire, or Jonathan Hager elementary schools and are recommended to attend “Downsville Pike” Elementary School may not receive all the benefits that a school can derive from Title 1 resources. However, regardless of the Title I funding, students who attend “Downsville Pike” Elementary School will still be offered the same programs that are currently offered at WCPS elementary schools based on the individual needs of each student.

During this process, the FEAC may look at finite areas, (i.e. where only 1 or 2 students currently reside) to consider as a potential recommendation, or as a part of a recommendation. Due to the sensitive and confidential nature of FARM students, and racial (ethnicity) information, the committee will be given general estimates of the impact of the various recommendations (i.e. significant increase/decrease, minor increase/decrease, no change, etc.) during the public meetings. Once the committee has prepared preliminary recommendations, the FEAC will go into a scheduled “closed session” during a meeting, where staff will identify that actual resulting number changes caused by the recommendations, for the committee to consider (for example: “With this recommendation(s), the facility would go from 34.3% Farm to 34.4% Farm, and the minority student population would decrease from 47.3% to 47.2%,” etc.). The information shared in the “closed session” will then be re-considered by the FEAC in an open session, where the committee may choose to make changes to the recommendations,

without identifying specific numbers. For the final report, the data may be reviewed by WCPS's legal department to determine the best way to provide this information to the Board and protect confidentiality.

Other Educational School Programs and Special Permission

Additional background information that the committee may find useful is a discussion on school programs (specifically the Magnet Program) and special permission students. Magnet Programs are highly competitive programs for identified gifted and talented students. At the elementary school level, students are invited to apply to magnet programs, based on a screening and/or referral process. WCPS currently has four (4) magnet elementary schools that allow academically qualified students from other elementary attendance zones to attend and participate at the magnet school. The program only accounts for one (1) additional class in each of the magnet school's grade 2 through 5 levels. Students from the attendance zone of the magnet school/program have to apply through the same process as an out of attendance zone student. One year, a magnet class could be comprised entirely of "out of attendance zone" students, if they are more qualified, where the next year it could be entirely comprised of "in attendance zone" students. The varying number of additional students in each of these classes (i.e. from other attendance zones) can create some year-to-year fluctuations in the specific school enrollments. This is specifically prevalent in the 2nd grade where projections are created before Magnet Program students are identified. Students who are selected for a Magnet Program and reside outside of the school attendance zone for the Magnet Program are not eligible for bus transportation. Those students must have alternative transportation provided for them (parent, guardian, grandparent, etc.) to and from the school.

Emma K. Doub Elementary School and Williamsport Elementary School houses two (2) of the four (4) elementary magnet programs. Because these programs are open to all WCPS students, a recommendation that impacts a Magnet School would not impact a Magnet student's ability to enroll in the program. This means that on any year, students from any WCPS facility can attend Williamsport Elementary School in Grades 2-5 if they are selected as part of the competitive Magnet Program application process. As an example, if a current Williamsport Elementary School Magnet Program student resides in the current Williamsport Elementary School attendance zone, they are receiving transportation services to Williamsport Elementary School, just like all of the other eligible students in the attendance zone. If this "example" student would reside in an area that was reassigned to a different attendance zone (i.e. Jonathan Hager Elementary School attendance zone or "Downsville Pike" Elementary School attendance zone), that student would no longer be eligible for transportation services to Williamsport Elementary School, if the child chose to remain the Williamsport Elementary Magnet Program. This "example" student would be eligible for transportation to their newly assigned elementary school. However, if they chose to remain in the Williamsport Elementary School Magnet Program, they would now be in the same position as the current other out-of-attendance zone magnet program students, and would need alternative transportation provided by a parent, guardian, etc.. The current WCPS Elementary Magnet Programs are located at Boonsboro Elementary School, Emma K. Doub Elementary School, Fountaindale Elementary School, and Williamsport Elementary School. For the students who currently reside in the Hickory Elementary School and Fountain Rock Elementary School attendance zone, if they are currently in one of these four (4) magnet programs, they can remain in that programs as long as they continue to academically qualify and their transportation is still provided (as it is today).

Special permission students are students that are allowed to attend a different school than where the student is physically assigned based on their geographic residence and associated attendance zone. Special permissions are administratively granted to students for a variety of reasons or situations, and are not always guaranteed year to year. Special permission students may attend a school one year, and the

following year, may have to return to their school of residence. Special permission students will be further discussed and addressed in the Assumptions portion of this document.

V. Additional Considerations

Along with the Considerations provided in the Charge by the WCBOE, it may be helpful for the FEAC to consider the following during this process:

Much like any decision or change that is enacted by an outside influence in life it is very rare that a redistricting process will provide solutions that result in all impacted parties being satisfied, or happy. The FEAC during this process must remember that the ultimate goal is to provide the best and most logical solution for the entire student population, and school system of Washington County for the foreseeable future. As public input/comments are received throughout the process, it is imperative to consider what is being stated and then determine whether the comments offer an improvement to the solution that has been proposed based on the information that is provided. A proposal that is dismissed because it is considered unpopular by a few individuals may result in additional hardships brought on to more individuals (i.e. an entire school community) that have not been vocal during the process.

Many school districts across the country have their redistricting efforts or recommendations prepared solely by their transportation department staff due to the potential operating costs associated with changes. The WCPS transportation department will have staff available at the FEAC meetings to answer questions or provide initial input on what the FEAC is considering. As recommendations move forward in the process, the transportation department will provide additional and more concrete information on the proposed solutions. As with any large-scale school system with specific geographical areas and unique road or infrastructure conditions, various adjustments or changes to a recommendation may be needed to reach the best overall solution that can be realistically implemented. A recommendation that provides a single bus and bus driver for each student in the attendance area may be the best solution for ride times, but may result in an operational cost that is unrealistic and not the “best” solution.

VI. Guide to Starting the Process for the FEAC

This process, and the final recommendations will be a representation of the work of the FEAC. Staff’s job is to assist with providing data and general guidance for this effort. The WCBOE has outlined the criteria in the Charge for this Committee to consider in order to complete this task. As previously stated, this Working Document #1 is an attempt to help prepare the FEAC for the upcoming work by defining and describing that criteria, and general assumptions/rationale. If at any point in time, a Committee member does not understand a term, phrase, calculation, or data presented by Staff, or disagrees with an assumption, it is the Committee members responsibility to ask for clarification, or address the concern. For all boundary realignment recommendations, and decisions requiring a vote by the FEAC, the results of each vote will be reflected in the meeting minutes.

Meeting Minutes/Public Correspondence:

The minutes of all FEAC meetings will be prepared by Staff, and distributed to FEAC members as a “Draft Version” as timely as possible. Staff will request that the minutes are reviewed within a quick timeframe so they can be posted for public view on the FEAC’s website. The minutes will reference the Working Documents and Presentations (both of which will be attached to the meeting minutes), with the body of the minutes identifying the FEAC’s discussion. In accordance with the March 18, 2025 Charge, all public

correspondence will be directed to the following email address: FEAC@wcps.k12.md.us . All correspondence will be shared with the FEAC members.

The Process

It is important to remember that in order to give stakeholders time to review, and the WCBOE time to conduct its prescribed due diligence, based on the tentative schedule, a report of Recommendations from this Committee will be completed approximately a year-and-a-half prior to the proposed implementation date. As previously stated in this document projections and enrollments are fluid in nature. To try to compile a rational recommendation based on real-time data would be extremely costly, time consuming, and confusing to both the FEAC and the public, and would result in a report that would be outdated the day after the final data update unless it was continually adjusted by “school”, “street”, or “individual households”. To perform a logical analysis that can be followed by the FEAC and stakeholders of Washington County, the following process is suggested:

(Please note that this is only the suggested process that has been refined from past redistricting efforts. The FEAC may choose a different method if that is the consensus of the Committee)

Each initial option will represent a “planning area”, a “study area”, or a “geographic area” that will be considered by the FEAC. Each option will be designated alpha-numerically (i.e. **A.1, B.1, C.1**, etc.), and each change or revision to that area will increase the numerical value (i.e. **A.2, A.3**, etc.) to formulate a new option. As new options are proposed, the successive alphabetical designation will be utilized. These options (Option A.1, Option A.2, Option B.1, Option C.1) (if voted on, and approved by the FEAC) would become Boundary Realignment Recommendation #1, #2...etc. THE OPTIONS DO NOT BECOME FORMAL BOUNDARY REALIGNMENT RECOMMENDATIONS UNTIL THEY RECEIVE A MAJORITY VOTE FROM THE FEAC.

The following assumptions could be utilized by the FEAC to formulate initial options to consider:

1. The charge asks for consideration to be given to the projected enrollment in the 2027-2028 school year as well as long range enrollment projections including consideration of anticipated future residential development/construction. For the formulation of options, the projected enrollment for the 2027/2028 school year (3rd year projection from the current school year) will be utilized to ensure adequate numbers are provided in the consideration. Based on the fluid nature of “projections” the committee will review the actual September 2025 enrollment data as recorded on (9/30/2025) to determine if the initial recommendations/enrollment projections are accurate.
2. The total number of K-5 students in a geographic planning area from September 2024 will be the same as the total number of K-5 students in 2027. Staff will review the total number of K-5 students for prior school years, in the planning area under review for the FEAC’s consideration. Staff will also review “known future development” information, and the potential impact to the total number of students that could be generated. *See Assumption 5 below.*
3. The cumulative socio-economic composition of a geographic planning area from September 2024 will be the same as the cumulative socio-economic composition of a geographic planning area in 2027.
4. While Pre-Kindergarten students are counted as Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) students in the enrollment projections, they are not included in the geographic planning areas for each option considered by the FEAC. The pre-kindergarten programs allow students from other attendance

zones to be placed into the program based on the application process, and are limited based on program capacity.

5. Students in a geographic planning area receiving special permission to attend schools in other attendance zones will be counted at their “home” school, and as part of the geographic planning/study area in a move (i.e. 50 students in an area, but 5 attend different schools via special permission, the area proposed will move 50 students out of the school, and into another school).
6. Each option/consideration will only utilize the K-5 enrollment and identify the impact to the K-5 Adjusted SRC. The final report to the WCBOE will indicate both the K-5 Adjusted SRC and the FTE SRC in the resultant total recommendations from the FEAC.
7. Educational Opportunities offered to all Elementary students can be considered the same between different elementary facilities. It is noted and identified that schools designated as Title I facilities do receive additional funding to support those programs.
8. Costs: It is assumed that because the FEAC is not creating recommendations to open or close facilities, that the only costs associated with the attendance zone realignments shall be those related to transportation. It is assumed as students are moved between facilities, and enrollment is balanced through recommendations, appropriate teaching staff will be redistributed as necessary to support the students that are moved. (In more simple terms, the total number of students, and the total number of teachers/staff will remain the same in aggregate)

The purpose of these assumptions/considerations is to provide a starting point for each attendance zone option for consideration by the committee.

As options or successive revisions to options are more formally considered by the FEAC, the additional factors listed in the Charge will be reviewed

The below chart is similar to the last chart that was shown previously in the Background Information “Enrollment Projections” section.

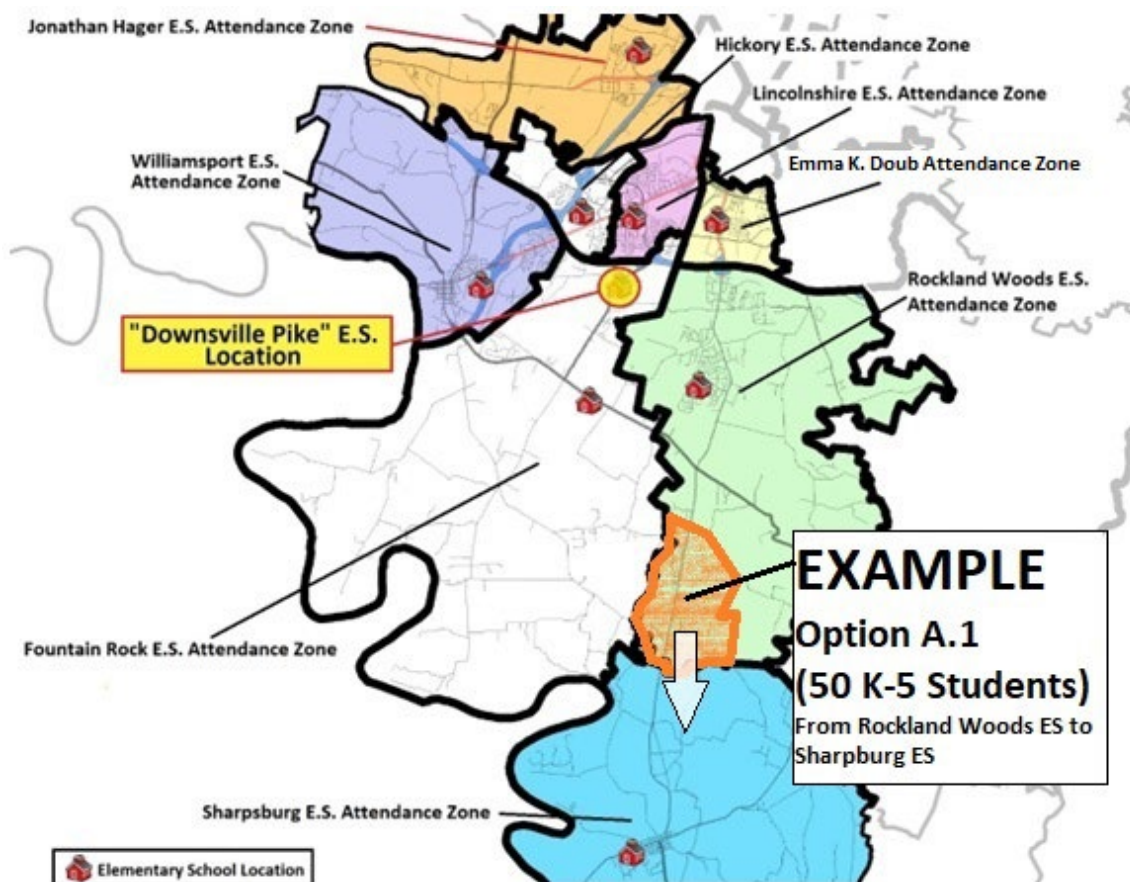
	K-5 Adjusted State Rated Capacity	K-5 Enrollment Sept. 30, 2024	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2027	Projected K-5 seats available 2027	Projected 2027 K-5 Percent Capacity	Options "In"	Options "Out"
Emma K. Doub ES	297	355	340	-43	114%		
"Downsville Pike" ES	568			568	0%		
Fountain Rock ES		282	274	-274			
Hickory ES		302	309	-309			
Jonathan Hager ES	431	442	481	-50	112%		
Lincolnshire ES	485	459	456	29	94%		
Rockland Woods ES	671	580	645	26	96%		
Sharpsburg ES	431	322	337	94	78%		
Williamsport ES	548	484	468	80	85%		
Elementary School Total	3,431	3,226	3,310	121			

In order to create accurate and simple options for the FEAC to consider during this process, the above chart shows only the K-5 information (subtracting out the pre-kindergarten student information) for the

identified elementary schools. It provides the K-5 state-rated capacity, the K-5 September 30, 2024, enrollment, the 2027 K-5 projected enrollment, and the 2027 projected percent capacity (SRC). The two columns on the far right are for attendance zone realignment options “in” to an attendance zone, and attendance zone realignment options “out” of an attendance zone. This format will help the committee keep track of the cumulative impact of the options being considered on the projected enrollment.

As an option is presented, this chart (or a portion thereof) will be utilized.

As an EXAMPLE, consider if the FEAC wanted to look at the southernmost point of the current Rockland Woods Elementary School attendance zone (shown in Green) and consider reassigning it to Sharpsburg Elementary School (shown in Blue). This geographic area is the orange square shown in the example below, let’s call it Option A.1:



THIS IS NOT A REAL OPTION - FOR EXAMPLE ONLY

Let’s assume that Option “A.1” represents a geographical area that currently has fifty (50) K-5 elementary students residing within it. If the FEAC considers this Option, the chart shown below with “no changes”, would start off as follows:

	K-5 Adjusted State Rated Capacity	K-5 Enrollment Sept. 30, 2024	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2027	Projected K-5 seats available 2027	Projected 2027 K-5 Percent Capacity	Options "In"	Options "Out"
Rockland Woods ES	671	580	645	26	96%		
Sharpsburg ES	431	322	337	94	78%		

If Option A.1 was implemented, it would have the following impact to the Chart:

	K-5 Adjusted State Rated Capacity	K-5 Enrollment Sept. 30, 2024	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2027	Projected K-5 seats available 2027	Projected 2027 K-5 Percent Capacity	Options "In"	Options "Out"
Rockland Woods ES	671	580	595	76	89%		A.1 (50)
Sharpsburg ES	431	322	387	44	90%	A.1 (50)	

Considering this Option A.1, the FEAC can see that 50 K-5 students are subtracted from Rockland Woods Elementary School, the projected K-5 enrollment decreases by 50, the available seats in 2027 increases by 50, and the percent capacity decreases from 96% to 89%. At Sharpsburg Elementary School, the projected K-5 enrollment increases by 50 students, the available seats in 2027 decreases by 50, and the percent capacity increases from 78% to 90%.

This type of chart allows, the committee to see the impact of individual recommendations, as well as the impact of the overall recommendations. So, for example, during the process as the FEAC is reviewing multiple options, the large chart could ultimately look something like this:

	K-5 Adjusted State Rated Capacity	K-5 Enrollment Sept. 30, 2024	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2027	Projected K-5 seats available 2027	Projected 2027 K-5 Percent Capacity	Options "In"	Options "Out"
Emma K. Doub ES	297	355	340	-43	114%		
"Downsville Pike" ES	568		502	66	88%	C.1 (200), D.1 (302)	
Fountain Rock ES		282	-8	8 (0)			B.2 (50), C.1(200), E.1 (32)
Hickory ES		302	7	-7 (0)			D.1 (302)
Jonathan Hager ES	431	442	481	-50	112%		
Lincolnshire ES	485	459	456	29	94%		
Rockland Woods ES	671	580	645	26	96%	B.2 (50)	A.1 (50)
Sharpsburg ES	431	322	387	44	90%	A.1 (50)	
Williamsport ES	548	484	500	48	91%	E.1 (32)	
Elementary School Total	3,431	3,226	3,310	121			

For the above example, you can see that both Fountain Rock Elementary School and Hickory Elementary School have all areas of reassigned by Options B.2, C.1, E.1 and D.1 (all are shown in Options "Out"). The new "Downsville Pike" Elementary School received two (2) Options "In" and is projected to be 88% full. By using this type of chart, the FEAC can keep track of where projected enrollment at each facility is!

On the above Chart, even though all areas of Fountain Rock Elementary School and Hickory Elementary School have been recommended to be reassigned to different attendance zones, there is a remainder for each in the K-5 Projected Enrollment 2027 and the Projected K-5 seats available 2027 columns.

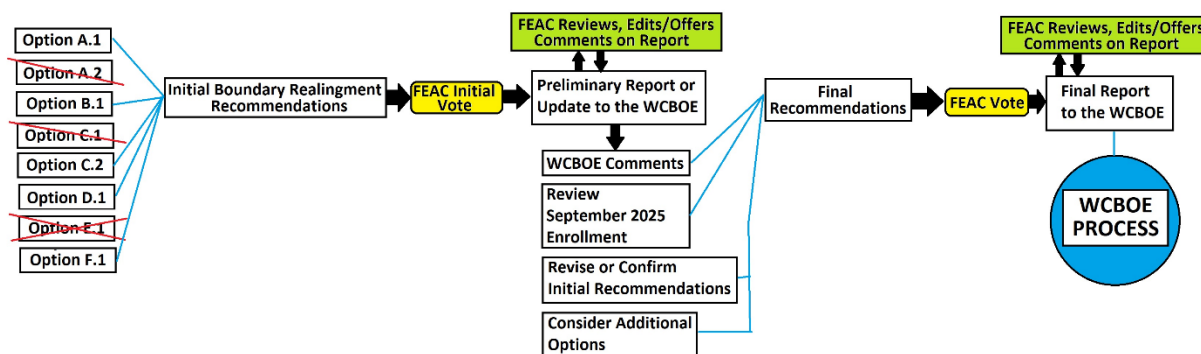
	K-5 Adjusted State Rated Capacity	K-5 Enrollment Sept. 30, 2024	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2027	Projected K-5 seats available 2027	Projected 2027 K-5 Percent Capacity	Options "In"	Options "Out"
Bester ES	568	448	395	173	70%		
"Downsville Pike" ES	568		502	66	88%	C.1 (200), D.1 (302)	
Fountain Rock ES		282	-8	8 (0)			B.2 (50), C.1(200), E.1 (32)
Hickory ES		302	7	-7 (0)			D.1 (302)

This difference occurred because as stated in the Assumptions, each option area assumes the same number of K-5 students in 2027, as were counted in that area in 2024. Because the enrollment projected at Fountain Rock Elementary School was 8 lower in 2027 (274) than what was recorded in 2024 (282), it left a remainder of -8 (i.e. 8 additional students were pulled out/counted in 2027). Hickory Elementary School had the opposite situation... the projected K-5 enrollment in 2027 was 309, and the recorded K-5 enrollment in 2024 was 302, which shows 7 K-5 students remaining in 2027. In these situations where there is a significant difference, staff will address it with the committee. In the above example, the net difference is (-1) and it can be assumed as negligible based on how enrollment projections are generated! This difference will not be negligible when it is in an area where a development is under construction... Again, in these scenarios, staff will bring it to the attention of the FEAC.

Early in the process, the FEAC will typically come to a general agreement on the percentage of capacity it would like to achieve at each school facility. This is equated into the total number of students that the FEAC would like to see redistributed between attendance zones. It may take a review of several Options for the FEAC to meet the desired percent capacity. In certain cases, options can be modified as needed to meet this intent (i.e. A.1, A.2, A.3) etc.

In other instances, it may take two (2) separate options (i.e. B.2, and C.2) to reach the desired intent. This would most likely be used in a scenario where two (2) separate (non-contiguous) geographic areas were considered. There might be multiple options that can achieve the same goal as one single option.

The basic process that the FEAC will follow will go something like this:



Once the initial options are reviewed, the FEAC will determine the best options and will call them the "Initial Boundary Realignment Recommendations". Once the "Initial Recommendations" are determined, the FEAC will vote to present them to the WCBOE as a Preliminary Report to solicit input. Pending WBOE input and comments, the FEAC will review September 2025 enrollment, and other information to determine if the "Initial Recommendations" are still valid and meet the intent of the committee. The FEAC

can choose to review/add Additional Options, or Revise/Confirm the “Initial Recommendations”. Once the FEAC is satisfied, it will compile the “Final Recommendations” and put them to a vote. Once the “Final Recommendations” have been determined by vote, staff will compile the information into a report for the FEAC review and comment/mark-up. A copy of the report will be provided to the Superintendent and Chief Legal Counsel for Formal Review. This report will be presented to the WCBOE as the “Final Recommendations” of the FEAC by the FEAC Co-Chairpersons and Staff.

Once completed, this report will represent the “Best Recommendations” of the majority of the FEAC for the WCBOE to Consider. **At this point in time, the FEAC’s work in the Charge is complete.**

The WCBOE and the Superintendent will review the report as part of the WCBOE process. The Board may choose to accept, modify, or reject any and all recommendations from the FEAC. As part of its process, the Board will conduct Public Hearings, prior to a final vote on Attendance Boundary Realignment.

VII. Attendance Zone Options – To be reviewed in Future Working Documents

Appendix

Elementary Enrollment Projections FTE

WASHINGTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Student Enrollment Projections: 2025-2034

March 31, 2025

	State Rated Capacity	Local Capacity 90%	Sept. 30, 2024*	Projected 2025*	Projected 2026*	Projected 2027*	Projected 2028*	Projected 2029*	Projected 2030*	Projected 2031*	Projected 2032*	Projected 2033*	Projected 2034*
Bester ES	628	565	490	476	455	445	443	443	439	444	453	458	462
Boonsboro ES	499	449	514	529	537	539	561	564	572	580	589	597	608
Cascade ES	278	250	137	142	139	141	142	142	146	149	151	153	155
Clear Spring ES	386	347	398	408	425	429	429	426	418	411	403	397	396
Eastern ES	572	515	439	424	442	452	474	481	492	506	515	519	520
Emma K. Doub ES	297	267	389	387	380	375	366	362	358	354	350	342	343
Fountain Rock ES	271	244	319	316	319	314	320	309	315	318	322	322	323
Fountaindale ES	365	329	413	416	413	408	392	390	381	373	369	364	364
Greenbrier ES	274	247	259	266	262	265	267	267	268	267	267	265	264
Hancock ES	295	266	193	172	162	155	153	162	163	165	164	163	161
Hickory ES	268	241	326	332	334	339	340	340	341	345	347	348	347
Jonathan Hager ES	471	424	498	509	523	536	551	559	577	584	593	602	611
Lincolnshire ES	545	491	503	528	516	511	530	528	525	525	529	534	536
Maugansville ES	755	680	698	726	738	746	752	763	768	773	775	779	783
Old Forge ES	366	329	354	357	364	370	370	373	366	362	365	368	367
Pangborn ES	745	671	749	740	740	719	722	726	726	725	724	724	722
Paramount ES	408	367	397	404	406	404	411	410	417	420	426	428	430
Pleasant Valley ES	225	203	186	193	194	195	197	200	209	215	217	217	219
Potomac Heights ES	294	265	351	358	348	352	343	349	345	347	350	354	357
Rockland Woods ES	751	676	655	681	705	720	736	754	748	757	763	769	778
Ruth Ann Monroe PS	692	623	579	611	622	616	628	636	647	650	654	657	663
Salem Ave. ES	722	650	713	734	756	759	769	782	789	793	799	804	809
Sharpsburg ES	471	424	362	367	378	377	378	369	380	380	379	380	380
Smithsburg ES	431	388	362	363	363	367	378	365	370	377	383	386	388
Williamsport ES	568	511	533	531	526	523	519	517	519	518	515	514	513
Elementary School Total	11,577	10,422	10,817	10,970	11,047	11,057	11,171	11,217	11,279	11,338	11,402	11,444	11,499

* FTE student enrollment includes pre-kindergarten students.

Note: These projections assume residential building activity will be approximately 275 homes per year through 2027, and gradually increase over the subsequent 7 years.

Elementary Enrollment Projections K-5

K-12 Enrollment Projections: 2025-2034

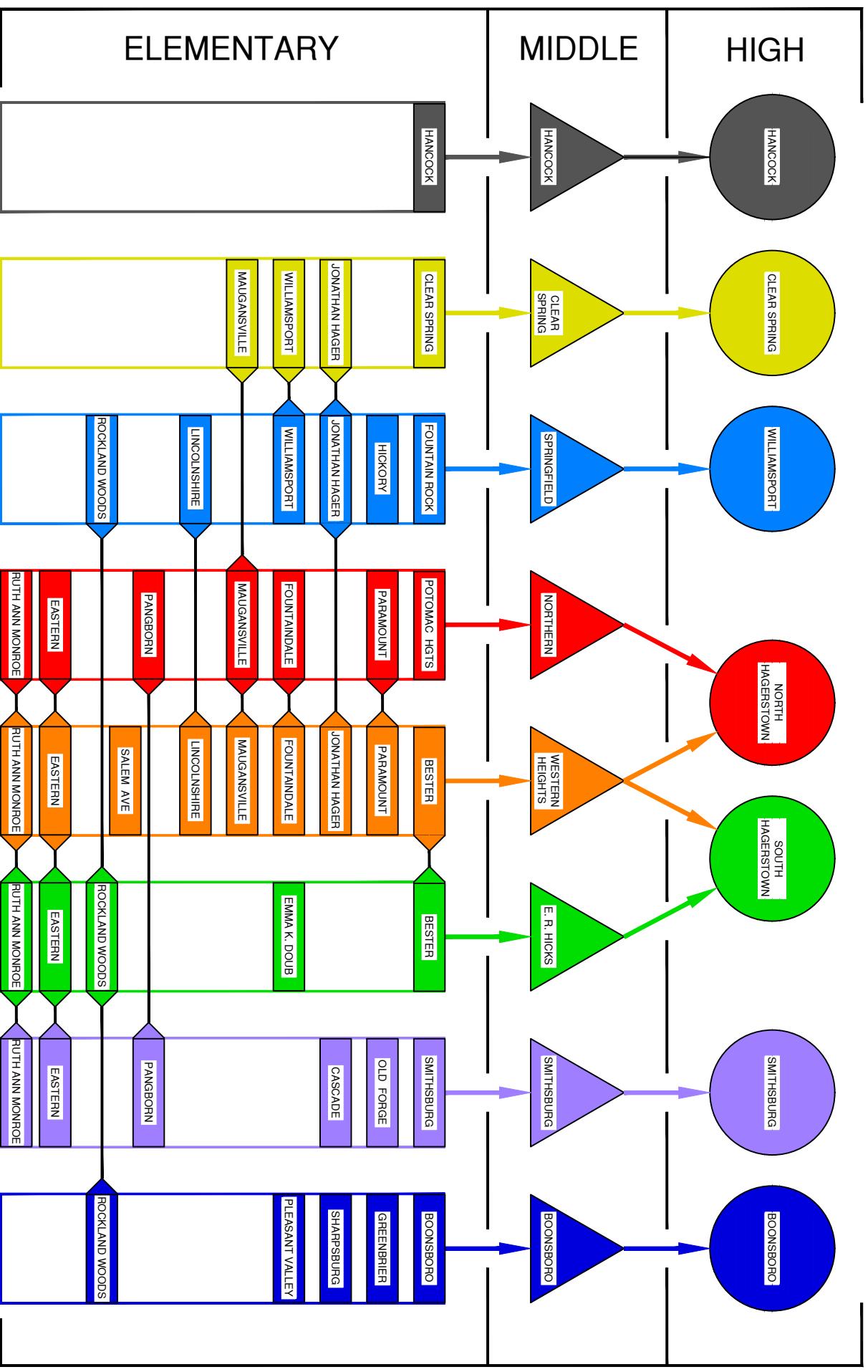
March 31, 2025

	K-5 Adjusted State Rated Capacity	K-5 Adjusted Local Rated Capacity	K-5 Enrollment Sept. 30, 2024	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2025*	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2026*	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2027*	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2028*	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2029*	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2030*	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2031*	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2032*	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2033*	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2034*
Bester ES	568	511	448	426	405	395	393	393	389	394	403	408	412
Boonsboro ES	479	431	461	474	482	484	506	509	517	525	534	542	553
Cascade ES	238	214	122	127	124	126	127	127	131	134	136	138	140
Clear Spring ES	366	329	358	368	385	389	389	386	378	371	363	357	356
"Downsville Pike" ES	568	511											
Eastern ES	572	515	439	424	442	452	474	481	492	506	515	519	520
Emma K. Doub ES	297	267	355	352	345	340	331	327	323	319	315	307	308
Fountain Rock ES			282	276	279	274	280	269	275	278	282	282	283
Fountaindale ES	365	329	384	381	378	373	357	355	346	338	334	329	329
Greenbrier ES	274	247	221	226	222	225	227	227	228	227	227	225	224
Hancock ES	275	248	173	157	147	140	138	147	148	150	149	148	146
Hickory ES			302	302	304	309	310	310	311	315	317	318	317
Jonathan Hager ES	431	388	442	454	468	481	496	504	522	529	538	547	556
Lincolnshire ES	485	419	459	473	461	456	475	473	470	470	474	479	481
Maugansville ES	675	608	633	651	663	671	677	688	693	698	700	704	708
Old Forge ES	366	329	318	322	329	335	335	338	331	327	330	333	332
Pangborn ES	705	634	678	670	670	649	652	656	656	655	654	654	652
Paramount ES	388	349	359	364	366	364	371	370	377	380	386	388	390
Pleasant Valley ES	205	185	167	173	174	175	177	180	189	195	197	197	199
Potomac Heights ES	274	247	308	318	308	312	303	309	305	307	310	314	317
Rockland Woods ES	671	604	580	606	630	645	661	679	673	682	688	694	703
Ruth Ann Monroe PS	552	497	456	486	497	491	503	511	522	525	529	532	538
Salem Ave. ES	682	614	636	654	676	679	689	702	709	713	719	724	729
Sharpsburg ES	431	388	322	327	338	337	338	329	340	340	339	340	340
Smithsburg ES	411	370	328	328	328	332	343	330	335	342	348	351	353
Williamsport ES	548	493	484	476	471	468	464	462	464	463	460	459	458
Elementary School Total	10826	9727	9715	9815	9892	9902	10016	10062	10124	10183	10247	10289	10344

School Feeder Patterns

Washington County Public Schools

School Feeder Pattern



FY 2025 Free and Reduced Meal Eligibility by School

Free and Reduced Meals Eligibility By School
For Compensatory Education Funding
October 31, 2024

School Name	K-12 Free	K-12 Red.	K-12 FAR	FY 2025 FAR %	FY 2024 FAR %	FY 2025 Variance
BESTER ELEMENTARY	373	23	396	88.4%	87.9%	0.5%
BOONSBORO ELEMENTARY	122	28	150	32.5%	30.3%	2.2%
BOONSBORO MIDDLE	193	31	224	33.3%	32.2%	1.1%
BOONSBORO HIGH	260	60	320	38.2%	37.3%	0.9%
BARBARA INGRAM HIGH	86	18	104	30.0%	30.3%	-0.3%
CASCADE ELEMENTARY	62	9	71	58.2%	52.6%	5.6%
CLEAR SPRING ELEMENTARY	126	34	160	44.7%	46.2%	-1.5%
CLEAR SPRING MIDDLE	126	31	157	52.2%	50.8%	1.4%
CLEAR SPRING HIGH	183	39	222	46.4%	46.4%	0.1%
EASTERN ELEMENTARY	370	0	370	84.3%	84.1%	0.2%
FOUNTAINDALE ELEMENTARY	189	23	212	55.2%	54.1%	1.1%
FOUNTAIN ROCK ELEMENTARY	117	19	136	48.2%	46.5%	1.8%
MARSHALL STREET CENTER	31	0	31	70.5%	76.1%	-5.6%
JOB DEVELOPMENT CENTER	18	7	25	65.8%	60.0%	5.8%
HANCOCK ELEMENTARY	93	22	115	66.5%	59.6%	6.9%
HANCOCK MIDDLE/HIGH	127	23	150	62.8%	60.8%	2.0%
HICKORY ELEMENTARY	224	24	248	82.1%	85.2%	-3.1%
E.RUSSELL HICKS MIDDLE	521	79	600	71.3%	71.9%	-0.6%
EMMA K. DOUB ELEMENTARY	218	0	218	61.4%	61.6%	-0.2%
JONATHAN HAGER ELEMENTARY	300	29	329	74.4%	69.8%	4.7%
LINCOLNSHIRE ELEMENTARY	334	0	334	72.8%	78.7%	-5.9%
MAUGANSVILLE ELEMENTARY.	326	81	407	64.3%	62.8%	1.5%
GREENBRIER ELEMENTARY	81	12	93	42.1%	39.7%	2.4%
NORTH HAG. HIGH	831	129	960	60.6%	57.7%	2.9%
NORTHERN MIDDLE	469	72	541	64.3%	65.5%	-1.1%
OLD FORGE ELEMENTARY	101	22	123	38.7%	41.1%	-2.5%
PANGBORN BLVD. ELEMENTARY	593	0	593	87.5%	87.3%	0.1%
PARAMOUNT ELEMENTARY	152	25	177	49.3%	47.6%	1.7%
PLEASANT VALLEY ELEMENTARY	36	6	42	25.1%	31.0%	-5.9%
POTOMAC HGTS ELEMENTARY	221	0	221	71.8%	70.6%	1.1%
ROCKLAND WOOD ELEMENTARY	267	41	308	53.1%	52.2%	0.9%
RUTH ANN MONROE PRIMARY	388	0	388	85.1%	85.2%	-0.1%
SALEM AVE. ELEMENTARY	489	40	529	83.2%	85.2%	-2.0%
SHARPSBURG ELEMENTARY	107	21	128	39.8%	43.8%	-4.0%
SMITHSBURG ELEMENTARY	115	19	134	40.9%	41.6%	-0.8%
SMITHSBURG HIGH	269	52	321	43.8%	46.3%	-2.5%
SMITHSBURG MIDDLE	216	45	261	47.1%	44.3%	2.8%
SOUTH HAG. HIGH	1033	161	1194	70.7%	71.8%	-1.1%
WESTERN HGTS. MIDDLE	566	68	634	71.8%	75.2%	-3.4%
WILLIAMSPORT ELEMENTARY	239	52	291	60.1%	60.9%	-0.8%
SPRINGFIELD MIDDLE	472	82	554	68.6%	65.4%	3.1%
WILLIAMSPORT HIGH	577	87	664	62.6%	60.1%	2.5%
Totals	11621	1514	13135	60.6%	60.2%	0.4%

Considerations for Developing a New “Downsville Pike” Elementary School Attendance Zone and Additional Elementary Attendance Zone Realignment

Working Document 1

Facilities and Enrollment Advisory Committee (FEAC) Meeting
April 30, 2025

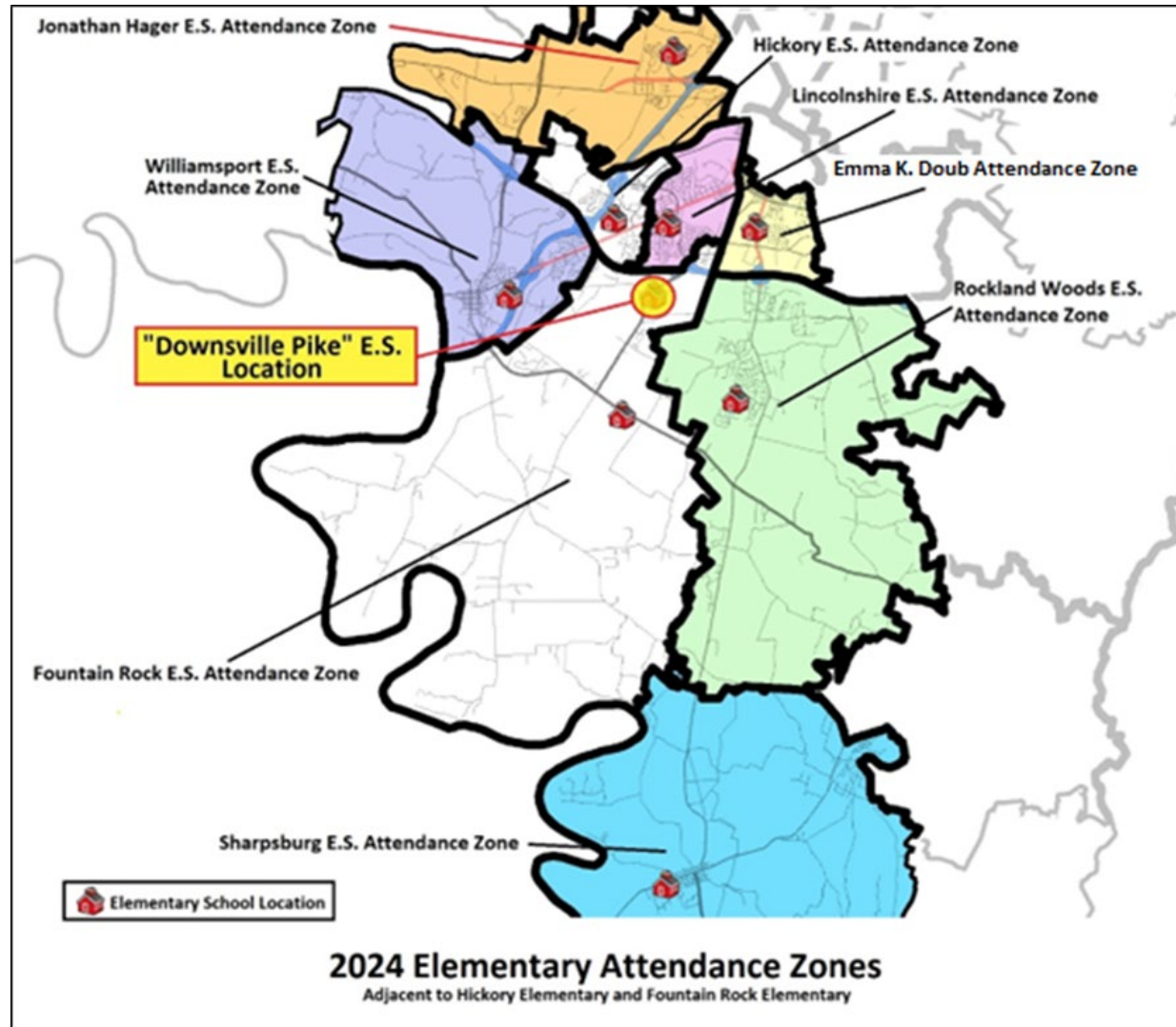
Formal Charge

- March 18, 2025
- Develop an attendance zone for the anticipated opening of the new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School. The school is scheduled to be open for the 2027-2028 school year
- Study and recommend changes, if any, to elementary attendance zones to alleviate enrollment pressures at district facilities
- School Board Policy JCA and Administrative Regulation JCA-R

Introduction

- Working Document #1
 - Definitions, explanations, general overview of the process
 - Future reference document
 - FEAC Binder
- “Downsville Pike” Elementary School
 - Hickory Elementary School
 - Fountain Rock Elementary School
 - Adjacent Elementary Schools

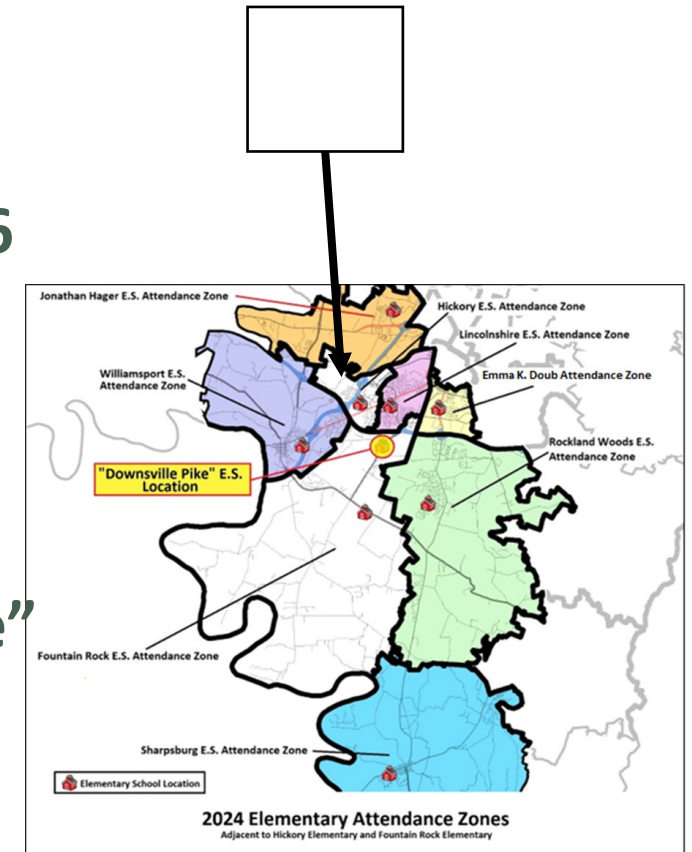
“Downsville Pike” Elementary and Adjacent Attendance Zones



Introduction

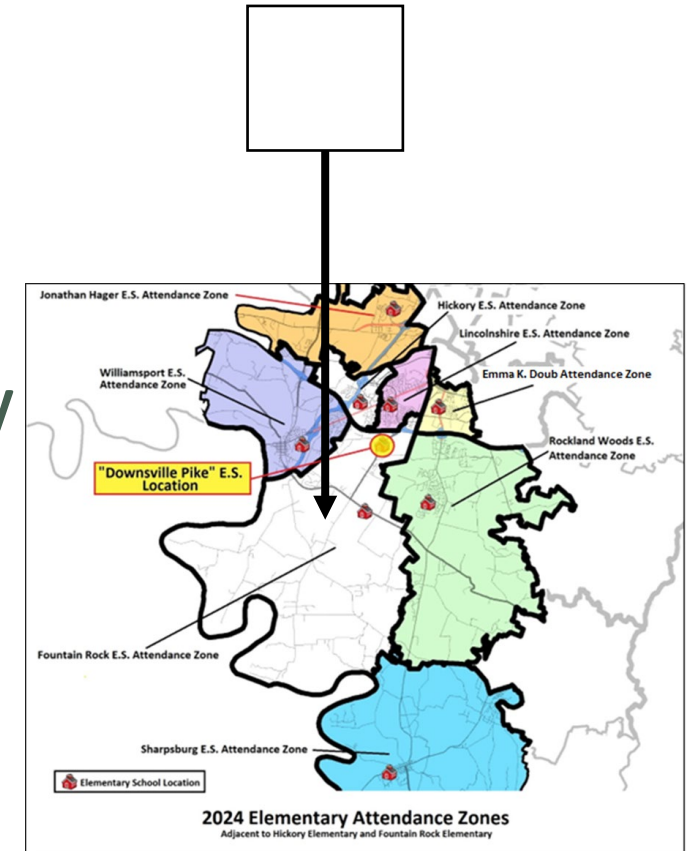
■ Hickory Elementary

- 2024 State-rated capacity (SRC) of 268 students
- Official September 30, 2024 enrollment was 326 students
- Enrollment projections at Hickory Elementary
 - 2027-2028 school year 339 students
 - 30 pre-kindergarten students (current program)
- Will close upon the opening of “Downsville Pike” Elementary School in August of 2027
- Two (2) relocatable classrooms



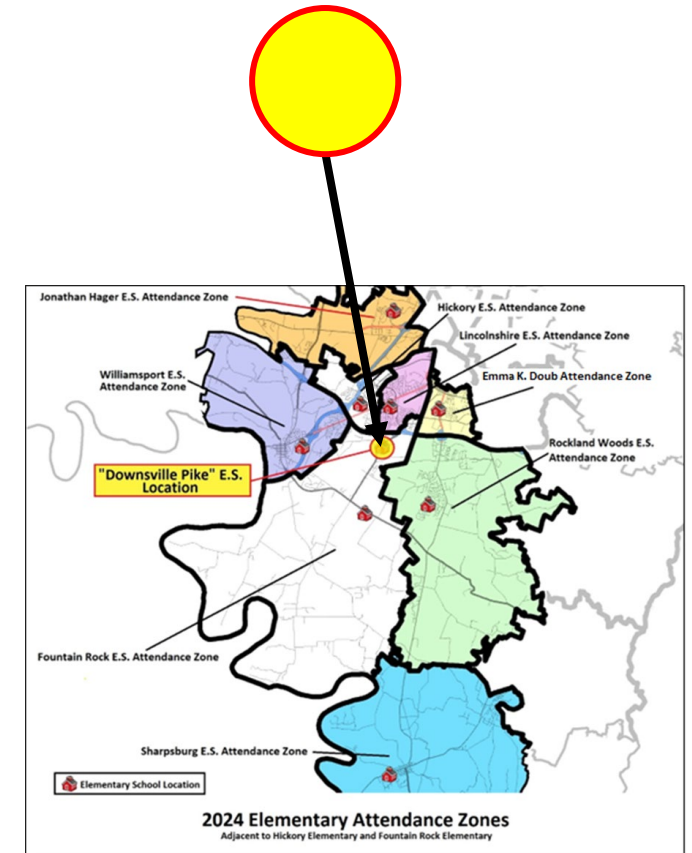
Introduction

- **Fountain Rock Elementary**
 - 2024 State-rated capacity (SRC) of 271 students
 - Official September 30, 2024 enrollment was 319 students
 - **Enrollment projections at Fountain Rock Elementary**
 - 2027-2028 school year 314 students
 - 40 pre-kindergarten students (current program)
 - **Will close upon the opening of “Downsville Pike” Elementary School in August of 2027**
 - **Two (2) relocatable classrooms**



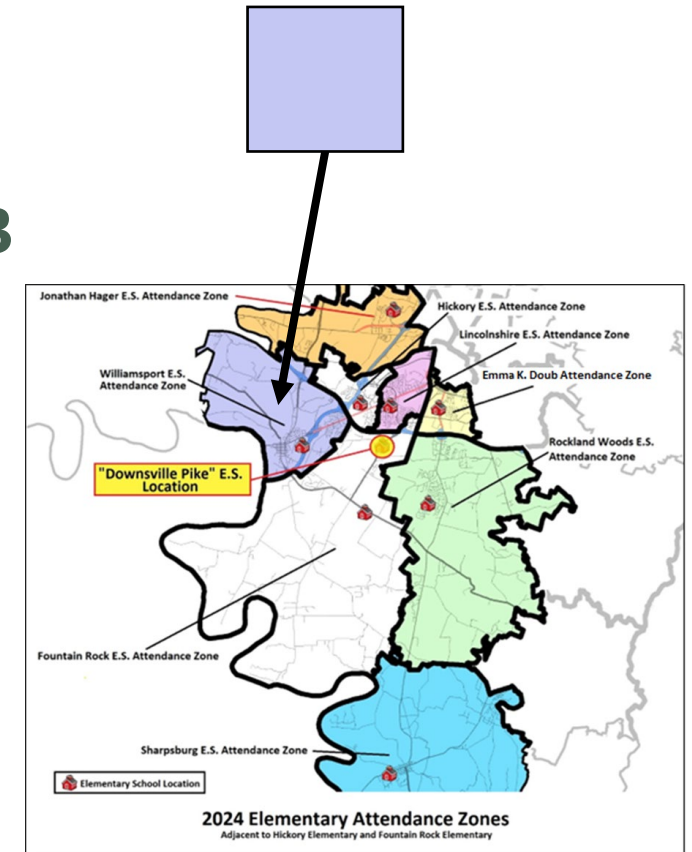
Introduction

- **“Downsville Pike” Elementary**
 - Proposed State-rated capacity (SRC) of 688 students
 - 120 pre-kindergarten seats (classroom capacity)
 - Will open for the 2027-2028 school year



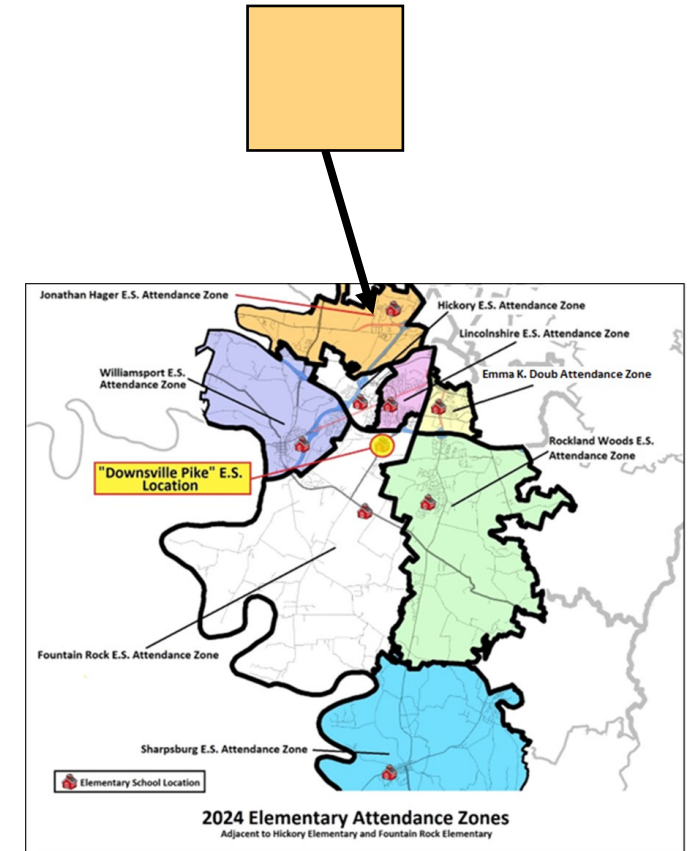
Introduction

- **Williamsport Elementary**
 - 2024 State-rated capacity (SRC) of 568 students
 - Official September 30, 2024 enrollment was 533 students
 - Enrollment projections at Williamsport Elementary
 - 2027-2028 school year 523 students
 - (-45 below SRC)
 - 55 pre-kindergarten students (current program)
 - One (1) relocatable classroom



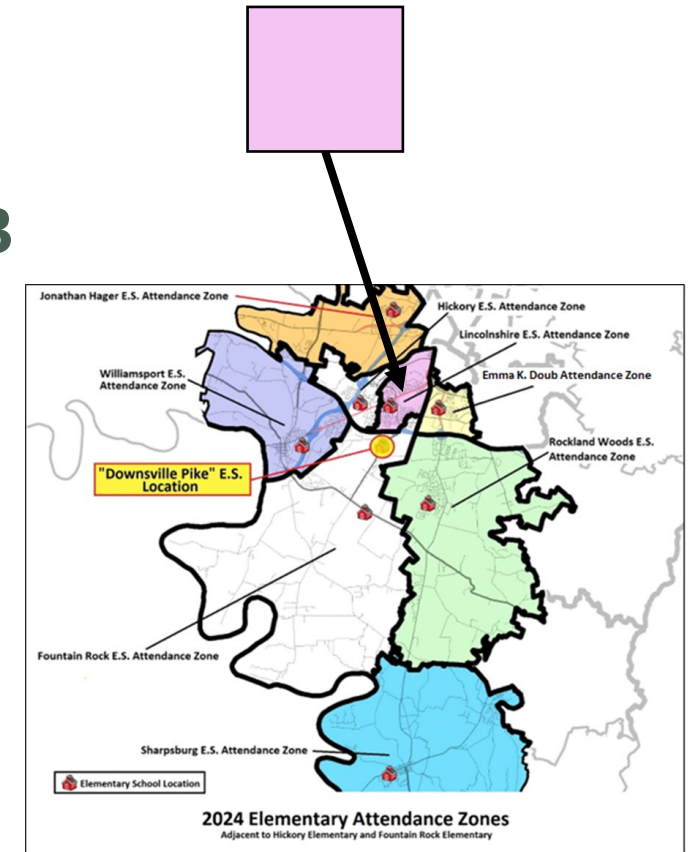
Introduction

- **Jonathan Hager Elementary**
 - 2024 State-rated capacity (SRC) of 471 students
 - Official September 30, 2024 enrollment was 498 students
 - Enrollment projections at Jonathan Hager Elementary
 - 2027-2028 school year 536 students
 - (+65 above SRC)
 - 55 pre-kindergarten students (current program)
 - **Phase II – 217 seat expansion**
 - In 2024 Educational Facilities Master Plan (EFMP)



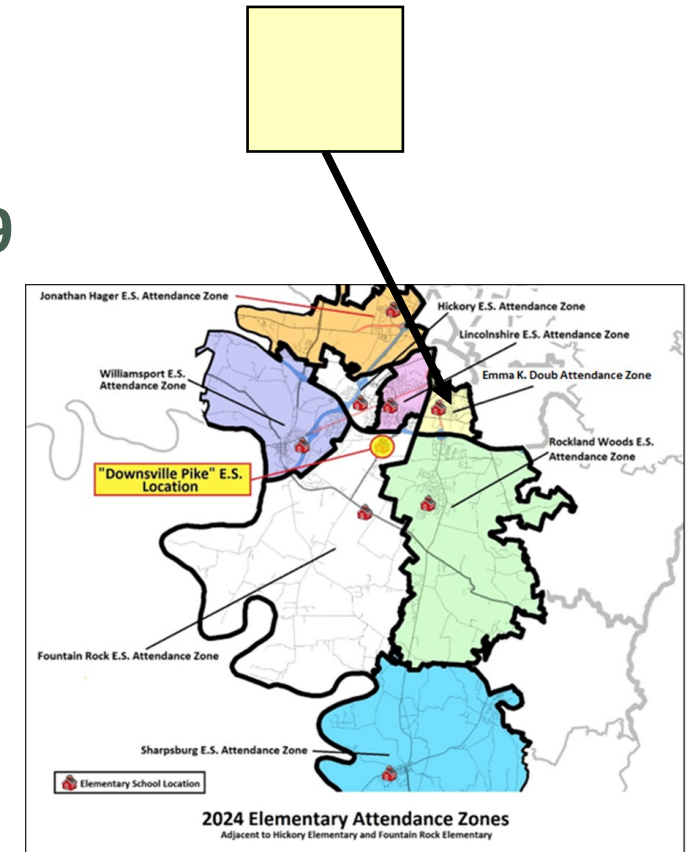
Introduction

- **Lincolnshire Elementary**
 - 2024 State-rated capacity (SRC) of 545 students
 - Official September 30, 2024 enrollment was 503 students
 - Enrollment projections at Lincolnshire Elementary
 - 2027-2028 school year 511 students
 - (-34 below SRC)
 - 55 pre-kindergarten students (current program)
 - Three (3) relocatable classrooms



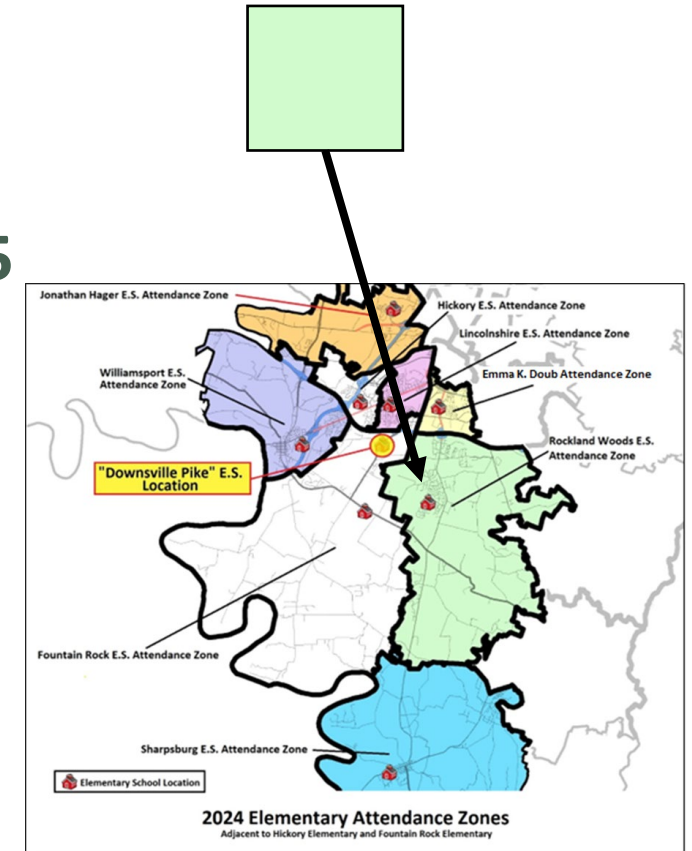
Introduction

- **Emma K. Doub Elementary**
 - 2024 State-rated capacity (SRC) of 297 students
 - Official September 30, 2024 enrollment was 389 students
 - Enrollment projections at Emma K. Doub Elementary
 - 2027-2028 school year 375 students
 - (+78 above SRC)
 - 35 pre-kindergarten students (current program)
 - Four (4) relocatable classrooms



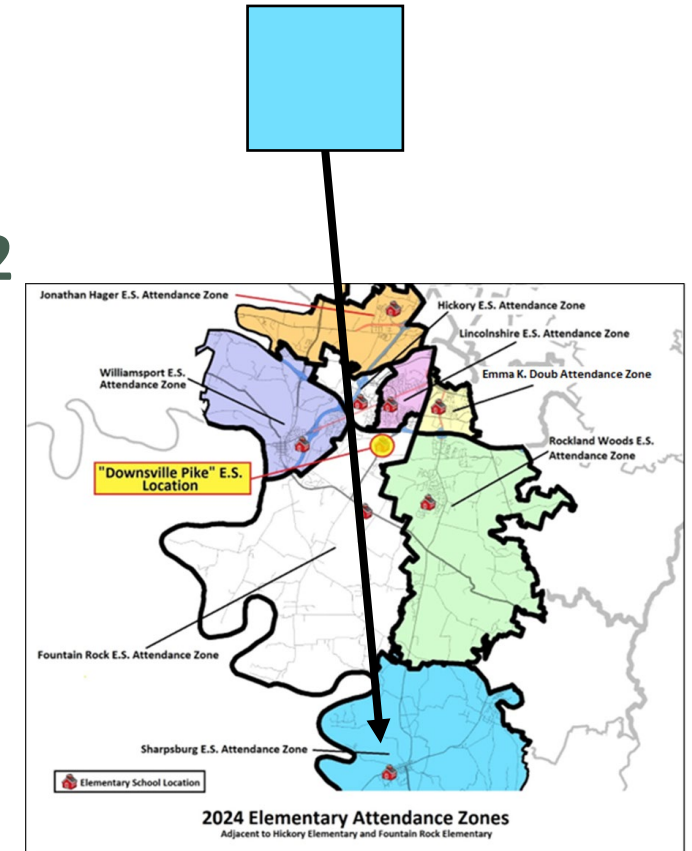
Introduction

- **Rockland Woods Elementary**
 - 2024 State-rated capacity (SRC) of 751 students
 - Official September 30, 2024 enrollment was 655 students
 - Enrollment projections at Rockland Woods Elementary
 - 2027-2028 school year 720 students
 - (-31 below SRC)
 - 75 pre-kindergarten students (current program)



Introduction

- **Sharpsburg Elementary**
 - 2024 State-rated capacity (SRC) of 471 students
 - Official September 30, 2024 enrollment was 362 students
 - Enrollment projections at Sharpsburg Elementary
 - 2027-2028 school year 377 students
 - (-94 below SRC)
 - 40 pre-kindergarten students (current program)



Tentative Schedule

- April 30, 2025 FEAC Introductory Meeting
- May 14, 2025 FEAC Meeting
- May 28, 2025 FEAC Meeting
- June/July 2025 FEAC Meeting(s) - Complete Preliminary Recommendation
(Additional meetings in August if necessary)
- July/Aug./Sept. 2025 Present Update to the WCBOE (*WCBOE Meeting or Work Session*)
- Nov. – Dec. 2025 FEAC Meeting(s)
Review Updated Enrollment
Evaluate/Modify Preliminary Recommendations
Add/Modify/Delete Additional Recommendations
- Jan./Feb. 2026 FEAC to Present Recommendations to WCBOE

Background Information

The Opening of a new School or the necessity to close a School

- June 20, 2023 - WCBOE approved the closure of Hickory Elementary School and Fountain Rock Elementary School.
- Closings are contingent upon the opening of a new “Downsville Pike” Elementary School.
 - Four-round facility – “What’s a round?”
 - (4) kindergarten classrooms
 - (4) 1st grade classrooms
 - (4) 2nd grade classrooms
 - (4) 3rd grade classrooms
 - (4) 4th grade classrooms
 - (4) 5th grade classrooms
 - Special education classrooms/pre-kindergarten classrooms
 - Capacity of the new school - 688 pre-kindergarten through fifth grade and special education students
 - Pre-kindergarten students enrolled through application
 - Core (Administrative Suite, Cafeteria, Gym, Kitchen, Media Center, Health Suite) designed for one (1) additional round

Background Information

- **Full-time equivalent (FTE) students**
 - Pre-kindergarten
 - Not mandatory
 - ½ day programs – Not currently applicable
- **Pre-kindergarten students enrolled through application**
 - Attendance zone does not matter
- **Recommendations from FEAC will not impact pre-kindergarten students (or pre-kindergarten enrollment*)**
 - *Consideration of existing or future pre-kindergarten program space

Background Information

- **State-Rated Capacity (SRC)**

- COMAR -“...the number of students that the Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC) or its designee determines that an individual school has the capacity to enroll.”

- **State approved classroom capacities for elementary schools are as follows:**

Pre-Kindergarten classroom	20 students
Kindergarten classroom	22 students
Grades 1 – 5 classroom	23 students
Special Education classroom	10 students

School rooms that are less than 550 square feet in area are excluded from these calculations, as are specialty classrooms such as art, music, science, gymnasiums, computer labs, etc.

Background Information

- **Local-Rated Capacity (LRC)**

- Washington County Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO)
- Elementary School LRC = 90% of SRC
- EXAMPLE: Elementary School with a SRC of 100 seats, has an LRC of 90 seats
- School can be above LRC, and below SRC

Not applicable for this Charge, but middle school and high school LRC is equal to the SRC

Background Information

■ Enrollment

- Maryland State Department of Education(MSDE), and the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) counts enrollment every year on (or about) September 30th
 - K-12 enrollment (MSDE/MDP – Funding)
 - Full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment – How full the facilities really are
 - Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12 – Total number of students enrolled
- Pre-kindergarten students are the variable

Background Information

- **Enrollment Projections**
 - Cohort Model: Trend Analysis

	K	1	2	3	4	5	Total
2024 Recorded Enrollment	20	20	20	20	20	20	120
2025 projections	20	20	20	20	20	20	120
2026 projections	20	20	20	20	20	20	120
2027 projections	20	20	20	20	20	20	120



Background Information

- Enrollment Projections

- Example

	K	1	2	3	4	5	Total
2025 Recorded Enrollment	60	20	20	20	20	20	160
2026 projections	20	60	20	20	20	20	160
2027 projections	20	20	60	20	20	20	160
2028 projections	20	20	20	60	20	20	160

Background Information

- Enrollment Projections

- Example

	K	1	2	3	4	5	Total
2026 Recorded Enrollment	20	60	20	20	20	20	160
2027 projections	20	20	60	20	20	20	160
2028 projections	20	20	20	60	20	20	160
2029 projections	20	20	20	20	60	20	160
2030 projections	20	20	20	20	20	60	160
2031 projections	20	20	20	20	20	20	120

Background Information

- Enrollment Projections

- Example

	K	1	2	3	4	5	Total
2026 Recorded Enrollment	60	60	20	20	20	20	200
2027 projections	60	60	60	20	20	20	240
2028 projections	60	60	60	60	20	20	280
2029 projections	60	60	60	60	60	20	320

Background Information

■ Enrollment Projections

- Current enrollment and historical trends
- New developments
 - Single-family homes (approx. 43 ES students per 100)
 - Townhomes (approx. 32 ES students per 100)
 - Multi-family homes (apartments) (approx. 31 ES students per 100)
- Birth rates
 - 5 years prior to kindergarten enrollment year
- Geographical Information System (GIS)

Background Information

■ Enrollment Projections

WASHINGTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Student Enrollment Projections: 2025-2034

For FEAC Use

	State Rated Capacity	Local Capacity 90%	Sept. 30, 2024*	Projected 2025*	Projected 2026*	Projected 2027*	Projected 2028*	Projected 2029*	Projected 2030*	Projected 2031*	Projected 2032*	Projected 2033*	Projected 2034*
Emma K. Doub ES	297	267	389	387	380	375	366	362	358	354	350	342	343
Fountain Rock ES	271	244	319	316	319	314	320	309	315	318	322	322	323
Hickory ES	268	241	326	332	334	339	340	340	341	345	347	348	347
Jonathan Hager ES	471	424	498	509	523	536	551	559	577	584	593	602	611
Lincolnshire ES	545	491	503	528	516	511	530	528	525	525	529	534	536
Rockland Woods ES	751	676	655	681	705	720	736	754	748	757	763	769	778
Sharpsburg ES	471	424	362	367	378	377	378	369	380	380	379	380	380
Williamsport ES	568	511	533	531	526	523	519	517	519	518	515	514	513
Elementary School Total	3,642	3,278	3,585	3,651	3,681	3,695	3,740	3,738	3,763	3,781	3,798	3,811	3,831

* FTE student enrollment includes pre-kindergarten students.

Note: These projections assume residential building activity will be approximately 275 homes per year through 2027 and gradually increase over the subsequent 7 years.

Background Information

■ Enrollment Projections

WASHINGTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Student Enrollment Projections: 2025-2027

	State Rated Capacity	Local Capacity 90%	Sept. 30, 2024*	Projected 2025*	Projected 2026*	Projected 2027*
Emma K. Doub ES	297	267	389	387	380	375
Fountain Rock ES	271	244	319	316	319	314
Hickory ES	268	241	326	332	334	339
Jonathan Hager ES	471	424	498	509	523	536
Lincolnshire ES	545	491	503	528	516	511
Rockland Woods ES	751	676	655	681	705	720
Sharpsburg ES	471	424	362	367	378	377
Williamsport ES	568	511	533	531	526	523
Elementary School Total	3,642	3,278	3,585	3,651	3,681	3,695

Background Information

■ Enrollment Projections

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Student Enrollment Projections: 2025-2027

	State Rated Capacity	Local Capacity		Projected 2027*
		90%		
Emma K. Doub ES	297	267		375
"Downsville Pike" ES	688	619		314
Fountain Rock ES	+149			339
Hickory ES				536
Jonathan Hager ES	471	424		511
Lincolnshire ES	545	491		720
Rockland Woods ES	751	676		377
Sharpsburg ES	471	424		522
Williamsport ES	568	511		
Elementary School Total	3,791	3,412		3,695

+96

Background Information

- **Enrollment Projections – Pre-Kindergarten discussion**
- **Current projections for 2025-2027**
 - Emma K. Doub Elementary School: 35 pre-kindergarten students
 - Fountain Rock Elementary School: 40 pre-kindergarten students
 - Hickory Elementary School: 30 pre-kindergarten students
 - Jonathan Hager Elementary School: 55 pre-kindergarten students
 - Lincolnshire Elementary School: 55 pre-kindergarten students
 - Rockland Woods Elementary School: 75 pre-kindergarten students
 - Sharpsburg Elementary School: 40 pre-kindergarten students
 - Williamsport Elementary School: 55 pre-kindergarten students
 - “Downsville Pike” Elementary School: is projected to have 120 seats available for pre-kindergarten students

Background Information

■ Enrollment Projections

K-5 Student Enrollment Projections 2025 - 2027						
Downsville Pike" Elementary updated to 568 (Adjusted K-5) State-Rated Capacity						
	K-5 Adjusted State Rated Capacity	K-5 Adjusted Local Rated Capacity	K-5 Enrollment Sept. 30, 2024	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2025	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2026	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2027
Emma K. Doub ES	297	267	355	352	345	340
"Downsville Pike" ES	568	511				
Fountain Rock ES			282	276	279	274
Hickory ES			302	302	304	309
Jonathan Hager ES	431	388	442	454	468	481
Lincolnshire ES	485	419	459	473	461	456
Rockland Woods ES	671	604	580	606	630	645
Sharpsburg ES	431	388	322	327	338	337
Williamsport ES	548	493	484	476	471	468
Elementary School Total	3,431	3,070	3,226	3,266	3,296	3,310

+121

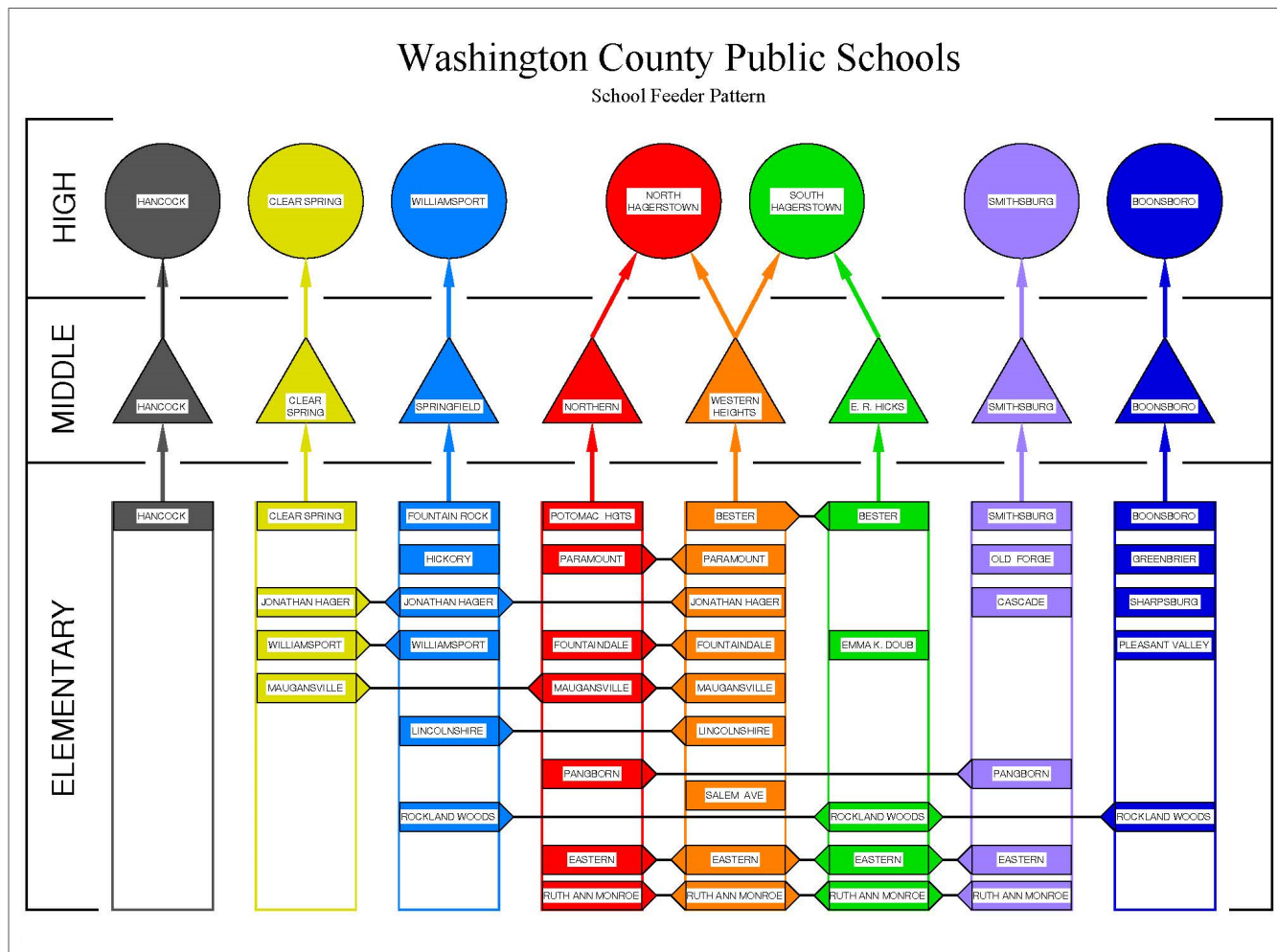
Background Information

■ Enrollment Projections

K-5 Student Enrollment Projections (seats available) 2025 - 2027 Downsville Pike" Elementary updated to 568 (Adjusted K-5) State-Rated Capacity						
	K-5 Adjusted State Rated Capacity	K-5 Adjusted Local Rated Capacity	K-5 Enrollment Sept. 30, 2024	Projected K-5 seats available 2025	Projected K-5 seats available 2026	Projected K-5 seats available 2027
Emma K. Doub ES	297	267	355	-55	-48	-43
"Downsville Pike" ES	568	511		568	568	568
Fountain Rock ES			282	-276	-279	-274
Hickory ES			302	-302	-304	-309
Jonathan Hager ES	431	388	442	-23	-37	-50
Lincolnshire ES	485	419	459	12	24	29
Rockland Woods ES	671	604	580	65	41	26
Sharpsburg ES	431	388	322	104	93	94
Williamsport ES	548	493	484	72	77	80
Elementary School Total	3,431	3,070	3,226	165	135	121

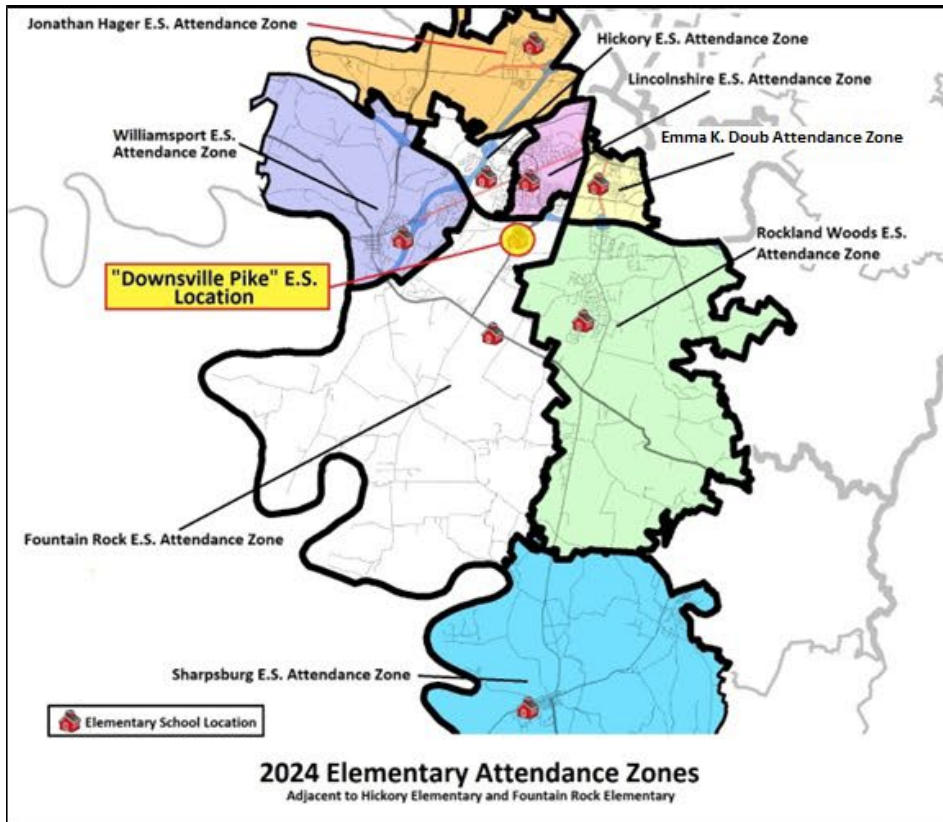
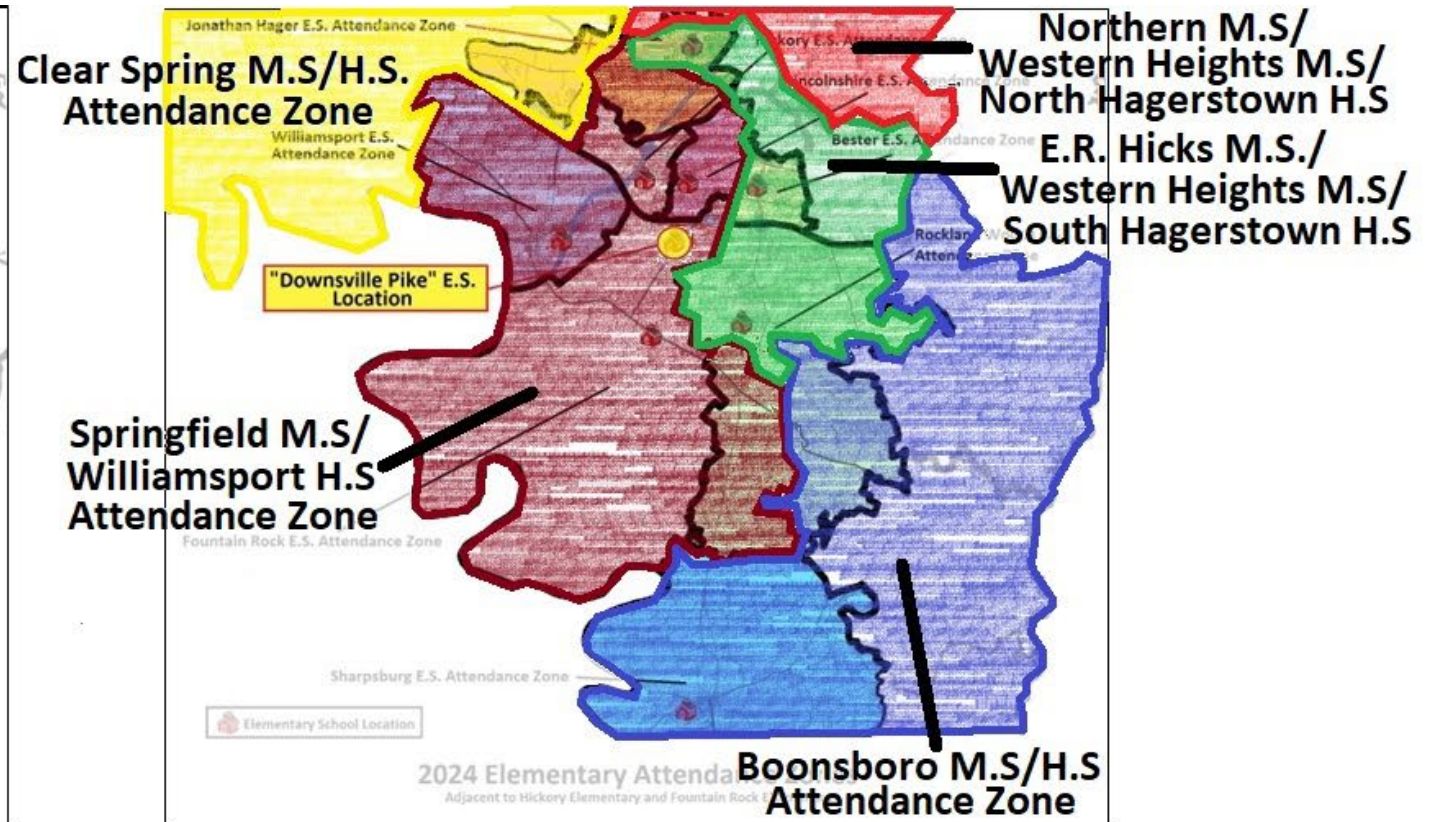
Background Information

■ Feeder Patterns



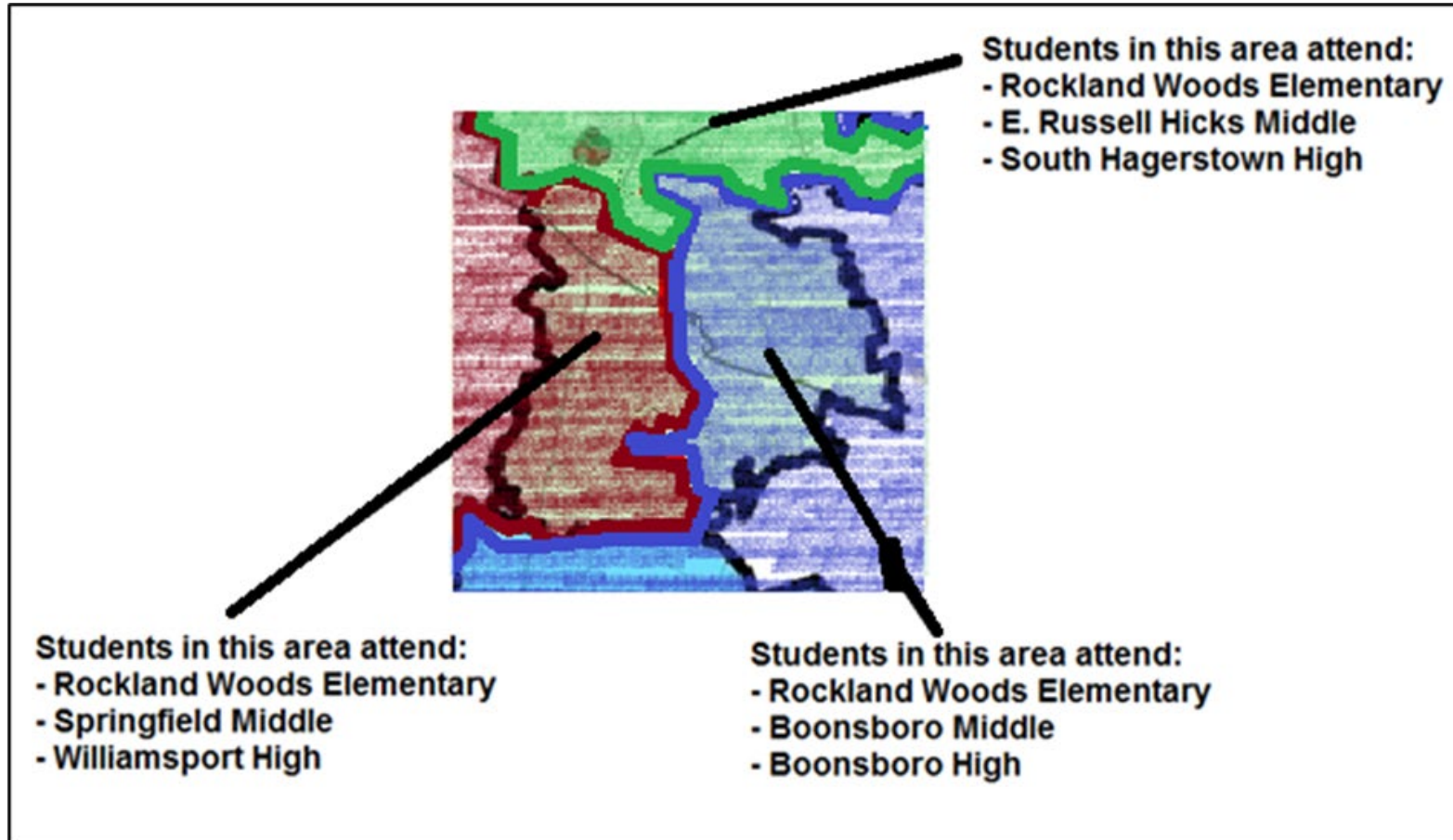
Background Information

■ Feeder Patterns



Background Information

■ Feeder Patterns



Background Information

- **Location of Schools**
- **Student Travel Time**
 - Time that a student spends on a bus during transportation services to and from school
 - Changes year to year
 - “Non-Transported Areas” - elementary students who reside within one (1) mile of the designated student entrance to the school are generally not eligible for transportation

Background Information

- Free and Reduced Meal (FARM) student rates

School Name	FY 2025 FARM%	FY 2024 FARM%	FY 2025 Variance
Hickory Elementary School*	82.1%	85.2%	-3.1%
Fountain Rock Elementary School	48.2%	46.5%	1.8%
Emma K. Doub Elementary School*	61.4%	61.6%	-0.2%
Jonathan Hager Elementary School*	74.4%	69.8%	4.7%
Lincolnshire Elementary School*	72.8%	78.7%	-5.9%
Rockland Woods Elementary School	53.1%	52.2%	0.9%
Sharpsburg Elementary School	39.8%	43.8%	-4.0%
Williamsport Elementary School	60.1%	60.9%	-0.8%

* Indicates Title I school

Background Information

Educational Programs

- Title I
 - Bester Elementary
 - Eastern Elementary
 - Emma K. Doub Elementary
 - Hickory Elementary
 - Jonathan Hager Elementary
 - Lincolnshire Elementary
 - Pangborn Elementary
 - Ruth Ann Monroe Primary
 - Salem Avenue Elementary

“...regardless of the Title I funding, students who attend “Downsville Pike” Elementary School will still be offered the same programs that are currently offered at WCPS elementary schools based on the individual needs of each student.”

Background Information

Educational Programs

■ Magnet Programs

- (4) Magnet elementary schools
 - Williamsport Elementary
 - Boonsboro Elementary
 - Emma K. Doub Elementary
 - Fountaindale Elementary
- Allows academically qualified students from other elementary attendance zones to attend
- One (1) “additional class” in grade 2 through 5
- Changes year to year - primarily in 2nd grade

■ Special Permission Students

Additional Considerations

- **Not everyone is going to agree with the recommendations**
 - FEAC - Logical solutions/recommendations based on the factors
 - Benefit all students of Washington County
 - Every recommendation will create hardships for some, and help others
 - Public input/opinions
 - Listen and consider what is being stated
 - Does it change the consideration of the factors?
 - Improvement to what has been proposed?
 - Is there a better alternative solution?

Getting Started

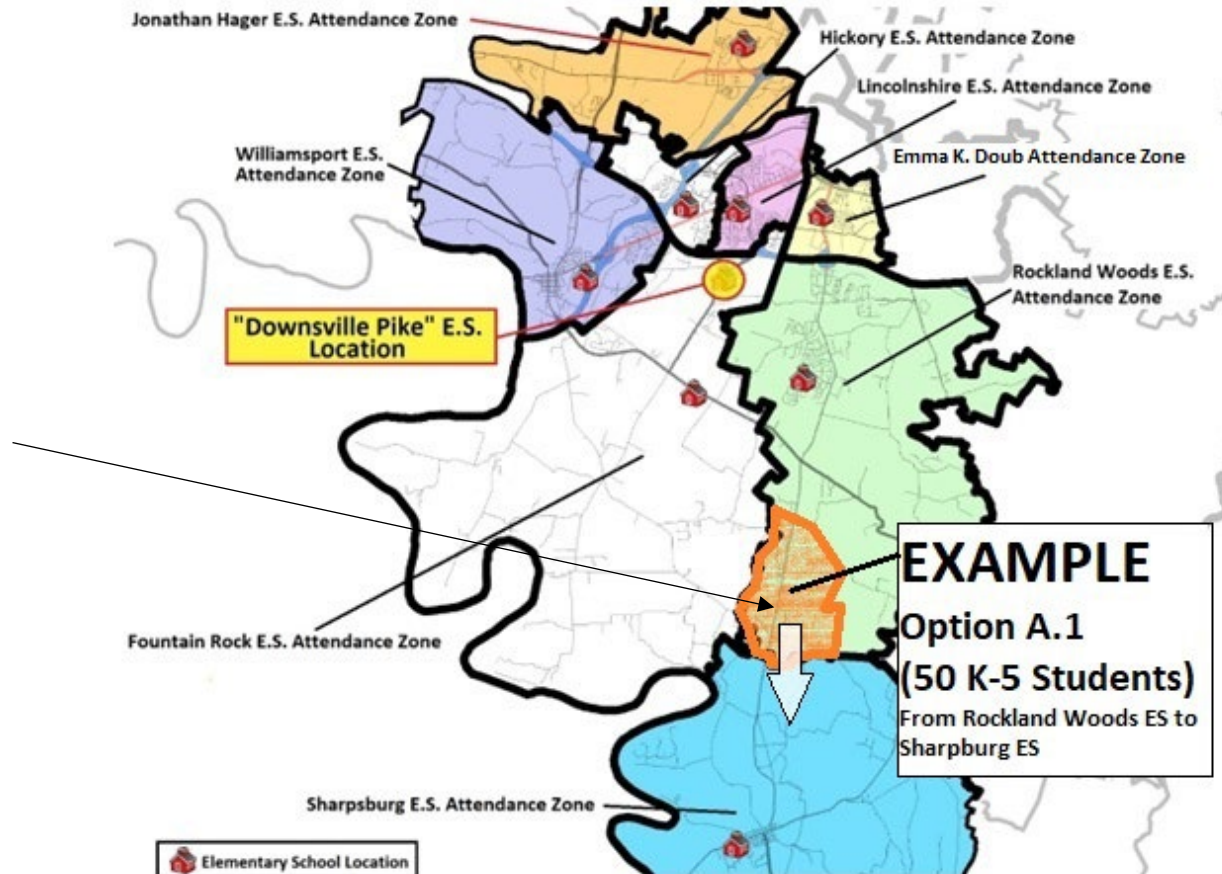
- Assumptions
 - Each option will represent a “planning area” or a “study area”, or a “geographic area”
 - Each option will be designated alpha-numerically (i.e. A.1, B.1, C.1, etc.)
 - A change or revision will increase the numerical value (i.e. A.2, A.3, etc.)
 - The options become Boundary Realignment Recommendation #1, #2...etc. ONLY if Voted on and approved by the FEAC.

Getting Started

- Assumptions
 - Projected enrollment 2027-2028 school year
 - No pre-kindergarten (Students or SRC)
 - Geographic planning areas
 - Consistent student count
 - # of K-5 students in 2024 same as # of K-5 students in 2027
 - Unless special case – i.e. development, trend, etc.
 - Socio-economic composition will not change
 - Students receiving special permission - counted at their “home” school
 - Educational opportunities offered to all elementary students can be considered the same between elementary facilities
 - Only costs associated with the attendance zone realignments shall be those related to transportation

Getting Started

Geographic,
Planning, or
Study Area



THIS IS NOT A REAL OPTION - FOR EXAMPLE ONLY

Background Information

■ Enrollment Projections

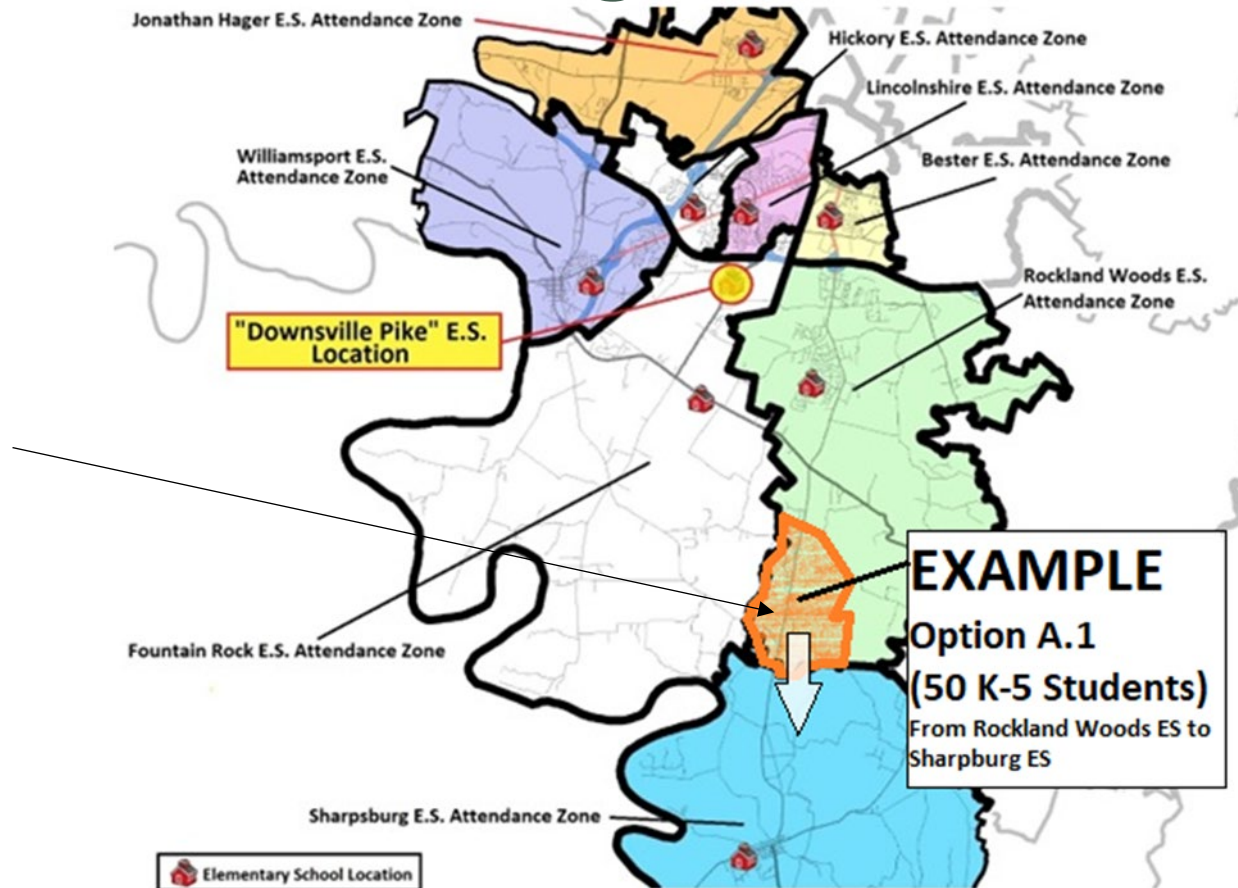
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	K-5 Adjusted State Rated Capacity	K-5 Adjusted Local Rated Capacity	K-5 Enrollment Sept. 30, 2024	Projected K-5 seats available 2025	Projected K-5 seats available 2026	Projected K-5 seats available 2027
Emma K. Doub ES	297	267	355	-55	-48	-43
"Downsville Pike" ES	568	511		568	568	568
Fountain Rock ES			282	-276	-279	-274
Hickory ES			302	-302	-304	-309
Jonathan Hager ES	431	388	442	-23	-37	-50
Lincolnshire ES	485	419	459	12	24	29
Rockland Woods ES	671	604	580	65	41	26
Sharpsburg ES	431	388	322	104	93	94
Williamsport ES	548	493	484	72	77	80
Elementary School Total	3,431	3,070	3,226	165	135	121

Getting Started

	K-5 Adjusted State Rated Capacity	K-5 Enrollment Sept. 30, 2024	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2027	Projected K-5 seats available 2027	Projected 2027 K-5 Percent Capacity	Options "In"	Options "Out"
Emma K. Doub ES	297	355	340	-43	114%		
"Downsville Pike" ES	568			568	0%		
Fountain Rock ES		282	274	-274			
Hickory ES		302	309	-309			
Jonathan Hager ES	431	442	481	-50	112%		
Lincolnshire ES	485	459	456	29	94%		
Rockland Woods ES	671	580	645	26	96%		
Sharpsburg ES	431	322	337	94	78%		
Williamsport ES	548	484	468	80	85%		
Elementary School Total	3,431	3,226	3,310	121			

Getting Started

Geographic,
Planning, or
Study Area



THIS IS NOT A REAL OPTION - FOR EXAMPLE ONLY

Getting Started

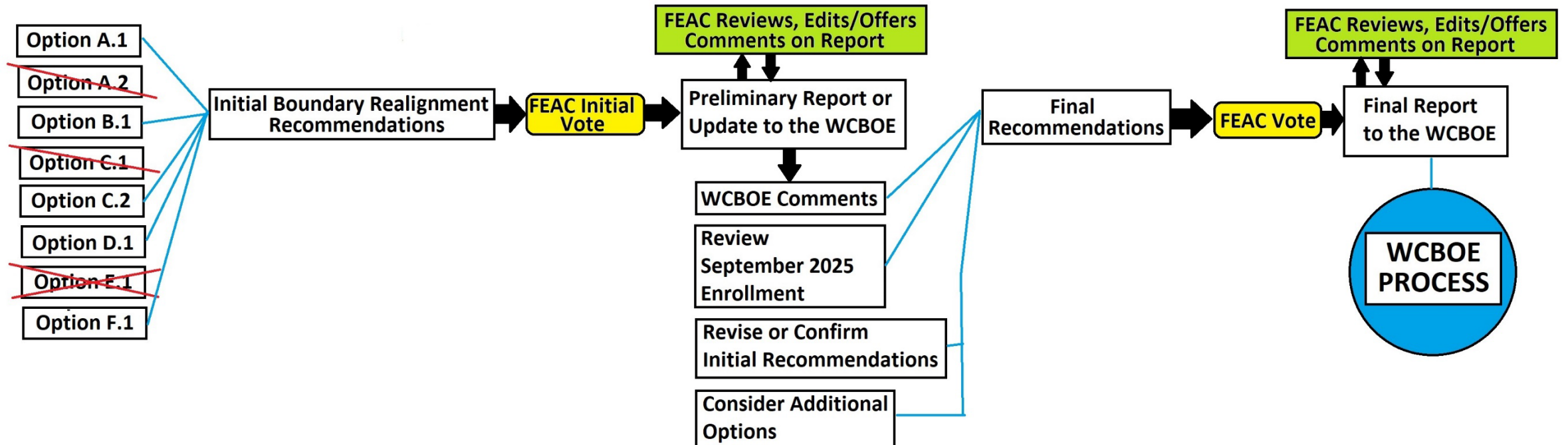
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Rockland Woods ES	671	580	645	26	96%		
Sharpsburg ES	431	322	337	94	78%		

	K-5 Adjusted State Rated Capacity	K-5 Enrollment Sept. 30, 2024	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2027	Projected K-5 seats available 2027	Projected 2027 K-5 Percent Capacity	Options "In"	Options "Out"
Rockland Woods ES	671	580	595	76	89%		A.1 (50)
Sharpsburg ES	431	322	387	44	90%	A.1 (50)	

Getting Started

	K-5 Adjusted State Rated Capacity	K-5 Enrollment Sept. 30, 2024	K-5 Projected Enrollment 2027	Projected K-5 seats available 2027	Projected 2027 K-5 Percent Capacity	Options "In"	Options "Out"
Emma K. Doub ES	297	355	340	-43	114%		
"Downsville Pike" ES	568		502	66	88%	C.1 (200), D.1 (302)	
Fountain Rock ES		282	-8	8 (0)			B.2 (50), C.1(200), E.1 (32)
Hickory ES		302	7	-7 (0)			D.1 (302)
Jonathan Hager ES	431	442	481	-50	112%		
Lincolnshire ES	485	459	456	29	94%		
Rockland Woods ES	671	580	645	26	96%	B.2 (50)	A.1 (50)
Sharpsburg ES	431	322	387	44	90%	A.1 (50)	
Williamsport ES	548	484	500	48	91%	E.1 (32)	
Elementary School Total	3,431	3,226	3,310	121			

Getting Started



Meetings/Meeting Minutes/Public Correspondence

- Meetings
 - Dates and Agendas advertised on FEAC Webpage
- Meeting Minutes
 - Once approved – Posted to FEAC Webpage
 - Will include
 - Working Documents
 - PowerPoints
 - Body of minutes identifying FEAC's discussion
- Public Correspondence
 - Email to FEAC@wcps.k12.md.us
 - All correspondence will be shared with FEAC members
 - All correspondence will be included with final Report to WCBOE

The Process

- Working Documents (1,2,3,etc.)
 - Sent out to FEAC members prior to FEAC meeting
 - Reviewed/discussed at meeting
 - Serve as basis for Report, minutes, public record
- Preliminary Report or Update to WCBOE
 - Will require vote on options
 - Designate as Preliminary Boundary Realignment Recommendations – NOT FINAL
 - Staff will prepare Preliminary Report for FEAC to Review
 - Co-Chairpersons to present to WCBOE
- Final FEAC Review
 - WCBOE comments on Preliminary Boundary Realignment Recommendations
 - September 30, 2025 enrollment
 - Additional considerations/options
- Final Report to WCBOE
 - Will require vote on Final Boundary Realignment Recommendations
 - Staff will prepare Report for FEAC to Review
 - Co-Chairpersons to present to WCBOE at Meeting

Thank You