Facility Utilization and School Boundary Study Update

Mr. Michael A. Watson
Division of Supporting Services

Mrs. Kimberly Howe, Director
Department of Capital Planning

September 24, 2025

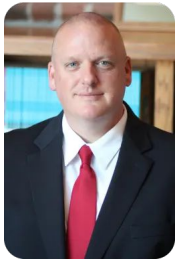
Current Status

Cannon Design

The Cannon Team is well underway reviewing and analyzing data on enrollment, capacities, building age and infrastructure needs, as well as community demographics & growth.

Feedback and information from the upcoming Community Forum – Guiding Principles and the Community Survey will be included in their analysis.

No analysis of any proposed plans have been developed at this point.



Mike Watson
Chief Operating Officer

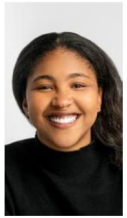


Kimberly Howe
Director, Capital Planning

Cannon Design Team



Paul Mills
LEED AP



Kia
Saint-Louis



Maria Gorodetskaya
AIA, NCARB



Lee Hwang
GISP

Community Forums

Community Forum #1 – Guiding Principles first session on 9/25/25 reached capacity and registration closed.

A 2nd night for Community Forum #1 was added on 9/26/25 and will reach maximum capacity.

Community Engagement Team

Held a virtual meeting on 9/17/25 and discussed their role in advocating and sharing information to their school community.

Timeline for Community Engagement



Public Hearing
January 2026 – details being finalized

March 2026 – Board of Education Action

Community Forum #2 – Possible Options (2 sessions each night: 4 to 6 pm and 7 to 9 pm)
11/12/2025 George Washington Carver Elementary School
11/13/2025 Chopticon High School
11/14/2025 Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Center

Registration will open October 13th
www.smcps.org/redistricting

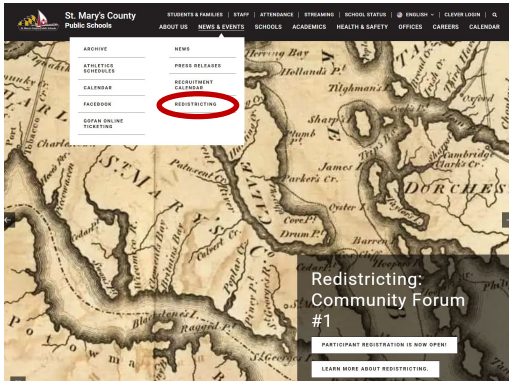
Community Survey #2 – opens 11/12/2025
https://www.smcps.org/offices/supporting-services/redistricting/events-surveys

Community Forum #1 – Guiding Principles
9/25/2025 – 6 to 8 pm - Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Ctr.
9/26/2025 – 5 to 7 pm - Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Ctr.

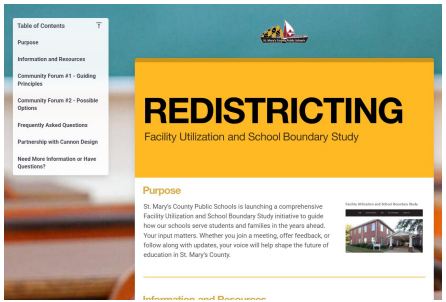
Community Survey #1 – opens 9/25/2025
https://www.smcps.org/offices/supporting-services/redistricting/events-surveys

Where Can I find Information?

Website: www.smcps.org/redistricting



SMORE: https://secure.smore.com/n/9w1xv
(each school SMORE will include this link)



Facebook
www.facebook.com/smcps.org

Youtube
www.youtube.com/@smcps

Informational Videos – Introduction Video

Instagram
www.Instagram.com/smcps_md

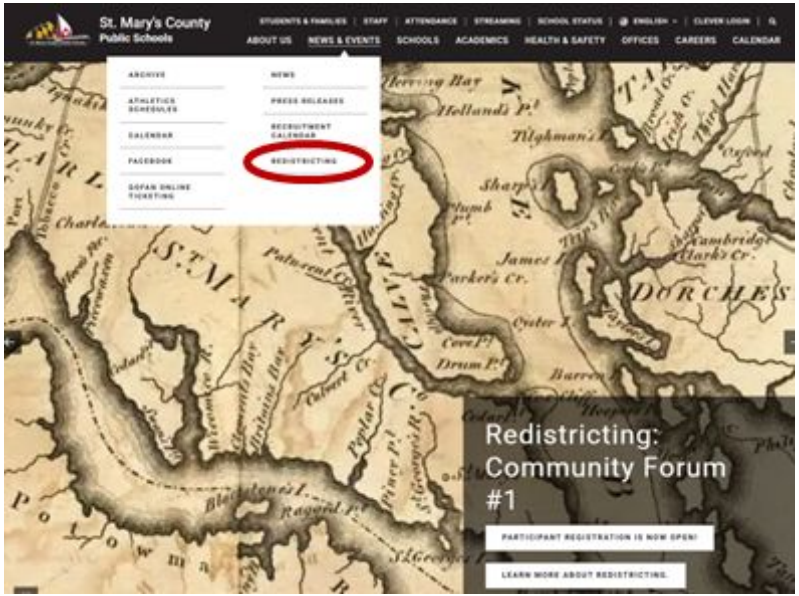


Press Releases
www.smcps.org/news-events/press-releases

What Can I Find On The Website?

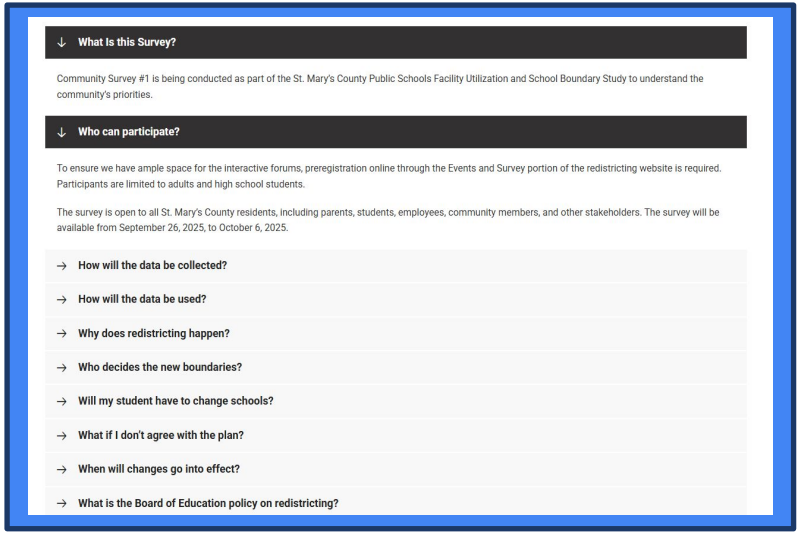
The main source of information will be the dedicated website:

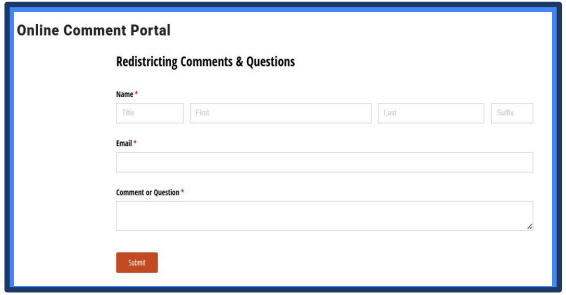
- Home Page
  - Most current information will land on the home page first.
- Events & Surveys
  - Community Forums
    - Community forums require online registration prior to the event given space capacities.
    - Given the interactive nature of the events, adults and high school students may register to participate.
    - Community forums are to develop guiding principles and review and provide feedback on the data and possible options. Opportunities for public comment on the final proposals will be offered in January at a scheduled public hearing.
  - Community Surveys
    - Surveys will be used to collect community input on operational and facility options being considered for the Facility Utilization and School Boundary Project.



What Can I Find On The Website?

- Frequently Asked Questions
  - This section will continue to be expanded as the process continues.
- Data & Documents
  - Survey results and documents will be added as they become available.
  - There are documents on capacity, enrollment, and current boundaries currently posted.
  - Community Surveys
    - Surveys will be used to collect community input on operational and facility options being considered for the Facility Utilization and School Boundary Project.
- Contact Us
  - Dedicated email: redistricting@smcps.org
  - Online Comment portal





How Can You Participate and Support?

- Participate in the Community Forums –must register using the online form
- Participate in the Community Surveys – online
- Share information and resources with your school community
- Encourage others to participate in the forums and surveys
- Most importantly – serve as an advocate for your school



St. Mary's County Public Schools believes in planning with the community—not just for it.

This isn't a one-time conversation. It's an ongoing dialogue, and every voice matters.

