

# **BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY**

## **INFORMATIONAL REPORT**

### **DECISION ON SURPLUS OF BOARD PROPERTY KNOW AND DESIGNATED AS WOODBRIDGE CENTER PROPERTY HARFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS TAX MAP 0065, PARCEL 1014 BEL AIR, HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND**

**MARCH 23, 2026**

#### Background Information:

The Board of Education owns property along Clover Valley Way in Woodbridge subdivision in Joppa and is comprised of 12 acres. The Hanson Development Corporation originally donated the site to Harford County on September 14, 1988. Subsequently, the County transferred the deed to the Board of Education on October 28, 1992, for use as a potential elementary school site. A second parcel, adjacent to the site, has been retained by the Department of Parks and Recreation for its use as public space for the community.

The site has a unique shape and is almost entirely wooded. There are two streams located on the property, one along the north side and one along the east side. Including, and adjacent to the two streams are wetlands areas, also bounded by seventy-five (75) foot Natural Resource district buffer areas. The site has a very irregular topography that includes several severe slopes. The presence of the wetlands and the severe slopes would require careful placement of a potential school building with limited open play areas. In addition, a considerable amount of excavation would be required to balance the site and create a suitable building pad.

Section 4-115 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, along with related Maryland State Board of Education regulations and Maryland State Department of Education procedures, requires that before a local board of education may transfer ownership of real property, the board must determine that the property is no longer needed for school purposes. The statute further requires that any such transfer of real property be conveyed to the local county government.

#### Discussion:

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Assistant Superintendent for Operations, has determined that the Woodbridge Center property is no longer needed for school purposes. In accordance with Section 4-115 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education declare the property surplus and authorize its conveyance to Harford County Government.

If the Board of Education approves this recommendation, Harford County Public Schools will submit the request to the Maryland State Department of Education and the Interagency

Commission on School Construction (IAC) for approval of the disposal and transfer of the subject parcel to Harford County Government.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Schools recommends that, for the reasons explained above, the Board declare the Subject Property surplus pursuant to Section 4-115 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and authorize the Superintendent to execute, on behalf of the Board, any deed or other documents necessary to convey the Subject Property to Harford County, Maryland, in fee simple.

Attachments:

1. Consolidation Plat (Revised Final Plat – Parcel 2 Woodbridge Center) dated April 15, 2004.