



Balancing Enrollment Community Surveys – Executive Summary

In January and February of 2021, Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) collected feedback on balancing enrollment through a phone survey and an online survey. The phone survey targeted a statistical representation of parents/guardians throughout the county, totaling 656 surveys. The online survey was open to parents/guardians, students, district staff, and community members and had 4,049 responses. Of those 4,049 responses, 3,570 were parents/guardians, 479 were students, 306 were employed by HCPS, 161 were residents of Harford County, 4 had a development or real estate interest in Harford County, 1 was a business owner in Harford County, and 1 planned to move to Harford County.

The phone and online surveys had several of the same questions. Below is a comparison of the responses to these questions overall, for each of the regions assessed in balancing enrollment process, and for elementary, middle and high schools. The schools within each assessment region are listed below. **Note:** The regions summarized in the Critical Data phone survey summary document are more general than the regions below.

North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jarrettsville, Norrisville, North Bend & North Harford Elementary Schools • North Harford Middle School • North Harford High School
East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darlington & Dublin Elementary Schools
Southeast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meadowvale, Havre de Grace, Roye-Williams, Hall’s Cross Roads, Bakerfield & George D. Lisby Elementary Schools • Havre de Grace & Aberdeen Middle Schools • Havre de Grace & Aberdeen High Schools
Center West	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Hill, Forest Lakes, Hickory, Red Pump & Youth’s Benefit Elementary Schools • Fallston Middle School • Fallston High School
Center East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bel Air, Churchville, Fountain Green & Prospect Mill Elementary Schools • Bel Air & Southampton Middle Schools • Bel Air & C. Milton Wright High Schools
Center South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abingdon, Church Creek, Emmorton, Homestead/Wakefield, Ring Factory, William Paca/Old Post Rd & William S. James Elementary Schools • Patterson Mill Middle High School
South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deerfield, Edgewood, Joppatowne, Magnolia & Riverside Elementary Schools • Magnolia & Edgewood Middle Schools • Joppatowne & Edgewood High Schools

Are you aware that some schools in the district are overcrowded while others are underutilized (meaning they have room for many more students)?

Region/Grade Group	Phone Survey – Yes Response	Online Survey – Yes Response
All	60.9%	69.7%
Parents/Guardians & Students	<i>Same as “All”</i>	67.2%
North	60%	69.7%
East	60%	60.7%
Southeast	54.5%	60.1%
Center West	71.2%	66.8%
Center East	63.8%	71.8%
Center South	66.3%	67.7%
South	53.9%	61.3%
Elementary School	62.7%	63.9%
Middle School	61.7%	70.0%
High School	58.3%	70.1%

Do you feel that adjusting school boundaries may be necessary to address this issue?

Region/Grade Group	Phone Survey – Yes Response	Online Survey – Yes Response
All	72.6%	65.6%
Parents/Guardians & Students	<i>Same as “All”</i>	64.4%
North	69.8%	62.1%
East	60%	57.1%
Southeast	67.7%	75.9%
Center West	66.7%	58.0%
Center East	72.3%	67.1%
Center South	69.9%	54.8%
South	85.3%	61.3%
Elementary School	71.4%	64.5%
Middle School	74.3%	65.0%
High School	72.2%	64.9%

Survey respondents were asked to rate values that could be important in a boundary review process from Not at All Important to Extremely Important. Below are the top three most important values.

Region/Grade Group	Phone Survey	Online Survey
All	Having Adequate Resources for All Students, Small Class Size, Creating and Maintaining Neighborhood Schools	Having Adequate Resources for All Students, Small Class Size, Proximity or Nearness of the School to the Student's Home
Parents/Guardians & Students	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>
North	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>
East	Location of Specialized or Regional School Programs, Having Adequate Resources for All Students, Small Class Size	Having Adequate Resources for All Students, Proximity or Nearness of the School to the Student's Home, Small Class Size
Southeast	<i>Same as "All"</i>	Having Adequate Resources for All Students, Small Class Size, Creating and Maintaining Neighborhood Schools
Center West	Having Adequate Resources for All Students, Creating and Maintaining Neighborhood Schools, Small Class Size	<i>Same as "All"</i>
Center East	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>
Center South	Having Adequate Resources for All Students, Creating and Maintaining Neighborhood Schools, Small Class Size	<i>Same as "All"</i>
South	Having Adequate Resources for All Students, Small Class Size, Student Not Crossing Busy Roads/Railroad Tracks	Having Adequate Resources for All Students, Small Class Size, School Operating Budget
Elementary School	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>
Middle School	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>
High School	Having Adequate Resources for All Students, Creating and Maintaining Neighborhood Schools, Small Class Size	<i>Same as "All"</i>

Which of the following is most important to you when you think about the school(s) students attend? Below are the top three most important values.

Region/Grade Group	Phone Survey	Online Survey
All	Quality of the School and their Teachers, Class Size, Having Adequate Resources for All Students	Quality of the School and Their Teachers, Class Size, Stay at Same School
Parents/Guardians & Students	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>
North	Class Size, Quality of the School and their Teachers, Attend the Same School as Neighborhood Friends	<i>Same as "All"</i>
East	Having Adequate Resources for All Students, Class Size, Safety/Security	<i>Same as "All"</i>
Southeast	Class Size, Quality of the School and Their Teachers, Proximity to Home/Walkability	<i>Same as "All"</i>
Center West	Quality of the School and their Teachers, Class Size, Attend the Same School as Neighborhood Friends	Quality of the School and Their Teachers, Stay at Same School, Class Size
Center East	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>
Center South	<i>Same as "All"</i>	Quality of the School and Their Teachers, Stay at Same School, Class Size
South	Quality of the School and their Teachers, Class Size, Safety/Security	Quality of the School and Their Teachers, Class Size, Better Programs/Clubs/Opportunities
Elementary School	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>
Middle School	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>
High School	<i>Same as "All"</i>	Quality of the School and Their Teachers, Stay at Same School, Class Size

Regarding boundary adjustments, what is your main concern if changes are made?
Below are the top three most important values.

Region/Grade Group	Phone Survey	Online Survey
All	Students will Change Schools, Quality of the School and Their Teachers, Length of Bus Ride to School will Increase	Quality of the School and Their Teachers, Students will Change Schools, Changing the Feeder Pattern
Parents/Guardians & Students	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>
North	Students will Change Schools, Length of Bus Ride to School will Increase, Quality of the School and Their Teachers	<i>Same as "All"</i>
East	Quality of the School and Their Teachers, Logical/Clear Boundaries, Students will Change Schools	<i>Same as "All"</i>
Southeast	Special programs will no longer be offered at the same schools, Quality of the School and Their Teachers, Students will Change Schools	Quality of the School and Their Teachers, Students will Change Schools, Loss of Community School
Center West	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>
Center East	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>
Center South	Students will Change Schools, Length of Bus Ride to School will Increase, Quality of the School and Their Teachers	<i>Same as "All"</i>
South	Quality of the School and Their Teachers, Students will Change Schools, Transportation To and From School	Quality of the School and Their Teachers, Students will Change Schools, Transportation To and From School
Elementary School	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>
Middle School	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>
High School	<i>Same as "All"</i>	<i>Same as "All"</i>