Office of the Superintendent of Schools MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Rockville, Maryland

June 3, 2020

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Clarksburg Elementary School and Silver Spring International Middle School/

Sligo Creek Elementary School Information (03-12-20-01-A, -B)

Board members requested information regarding the following:

Question A

Ms. Silvestre requested information regarding the actual (current) enrollment numbers for Clarksburg Elementary School.

Response

As of March 22, 2020, the enrollment at Clarksburg Elementary School was 640 students. This is the most accurate enrollment data for the time school buildings were open for in-person student instruction prior to the implementation of the Continuity of Learning plan on March 30, 2020.

Question B

Dr. Smith requested that staff bring forward information for the Board regarding the flooding/floodplain issues for the Silver Spring International Middle School/Sligo Creek Elementary School site selection.

Response

The flooding/floodplain issues refer to the former Parkside Elementary School location on Brunett Avenue in Silver Spring. Currently, Parkside is the headquarters of the Montgomery County Department of Parks.

There is a floodplain associated with Sligo Creek near the former Parkside Elementary School site (Attachment). During a 100-year storm event and to some extent shorter return period storms, Sligo Creek Parkway, the primary access route to Brunett Avenue, will become inaccessible. Depending on the catchment area for the school, access to the school from south of Sligo Creek will be limited as there does not appear to be a short work-around route for crossing a flooded Sligo Creek.

More information on the actual flood-stage elevations and the elevation of U.S. Route 29 would be needed to determine if the bridge that spans Sligo Creek on U.S. Route 29 were to remain accessible during 100-year storm events. Federal Highway Administration design guidelines require only a 50-year frequency of storm events.

There are at least two alternate routes for arrivals from the north of Sligo Creek. The current combined location of Silver Spring International Middle School/Sligo Creek Elementary School faces an opposite impact as students to the north of Sligo Creek would have limited access. Neither of the above mentioned sites is without floodplain issues, whether or not these issues have been recognized in the past. How each school would operate during a long-term closure due to flooding would depend on boundary locations for student attendance for each school.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Andrew M. Zuckerman, chief operating officer, via e-mail.

JRS:AMZ:SPA

Attachment

Copy to:

Executive Staff

Mr. Adams

Ms. Karamihas

Ms. Webb

