



MCCPTA DRAFT Resolution: More Time for MCPS Programs Analysis

Whereas, MCPS has undertaken a system-wide Programs Analysisⁱ that affects every cluster in the county with far less than the time, information and public engagement necessary for stakeholders and communities to have a meaningful voice and influence in final decisions; and

Whereas, MCPS has already launched an all-consuming major Boundary Studyⁱⁱ in 2025-26 affecting most high schools and middle schools in the county with multiple rounds of proposals and opportunities for stakeholders and communities to have a meaningful voice and influence prior to opening two new high schools in 2027; and

Whereas, MCPS has not conducted a thorough analysis of the root cause of challenges in access and educational outcomes in current programs, including curriculum audits and longitudinal evaluations of admissions criteria and procedures, to inform the Programs Analysis; and

Whereas, MCPS has undertaken a concerted effort through the Programs Analysis to eliminate access from the vast majority of the county to its most successful and highest in-demand high school programs;ⁱⁱⁱ and

Whereas, MCPS has stated an intent to modify access, applications, funding and/or program priorities in ways that have not been made public in the Programs Analysis;^{iv} and

Whereas, MCPS has not shared in the Programs Analysis what, if any, measurable educational outcomes or goals will be used to evaluate existing programs and new programs; and

Whereas, MCPS has stated that the Programs Analysis may result in some programs being discontinued, downsized, or moved^v – changes that would have a dramatic impact on the communities they serve – without fully vetting the options with affected communities; and

Whereas, MCPS has undertaken an effort in the Programs Analysis to recreate the landscape of high school programs without establishing successful, compatible middle school programs first^{vi} to feed into the potential new or modified high school programs; and

Whereas, MCPS has undertaken an effort in the Programs Analysis to eliminate student choice in programs and geographic areas currently designated as consortia;^{vii} and

Whereas, MCPS has undertaken a public relations campaign for the Programs Analysis rather than a public engagement campaign;^{viii} and

Whereas, MCPS has not conducted a comprehensive analysis of transportation costs and options for the Programs Analysis despite its stated intention to convert countywide and other existing programs into regional programs;^{ix} and

Whereas, MCPS implemented regional International Baccalaureate programs in existing local IB schools six years ago which are not yet comparable in experience or educational outcomes^x to the nationally renown countywide IB program that MCPS aims to replace; and

Whereas, the 2025-26 MCPS Boundary Study^{xi} presents at least three rounds of options to the public, providing opportunity for meaningful public feedback and refinement between each round and allowing for stakeholders to influence recommendations before they are presented to the Board of Education; and

Whereas, MCPS has stated its intent for middle school students to apply next year to potentially dozens of undeveloped or unproven regional programs in various high schools instead of to the most successful and in-demand high school programs;^{xii} so, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Montgomery County Council of PTAs (MCCPTA) urges Montgomery County Public Schools to extend the Programs Analysis for at least one year to allow adequate time for dissemination of comprehensive, achievable proposals, with public engagement and consideration early enough for communities and stakeholders to be heard, and be it further

Resolved, that the MCCPTA urges the Montgomery County Board of Education not to accept or approve systemwide changes in MCPS high school or middle school academic programs until MCPS conducts multiple rounds of proposals and public feedback for the Programs Analysis modeled after the process and timeline for the 2025-26 Boundary Study; and be it further

Resolved, that the MCCPTA asks the Montgomery County Council not to provide funding in the MCPS operating budget to initiate major program revisions (including applications for new programs) unless and until MCPS provides adequate, transparent and reasonable analysis of costs (including staffing, transportation), existing program performance (including input from families, students, staff, and administrators) and potential impact on communities (including families, programs and schools) as part of a comprehensive, achievable plan informed by a Programs Analysis with multiple rounds of public feedback like the 2025-26 Boundary Study.

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- ⁱ <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/academic-programs-analysis/>
- ⁱⁱ <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/facilities/boundary-study/>
- ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/academic-programs-analysis/>
- ^{iv} <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/academic-programs-analysis/>
- ^v <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/academic-programs-analysis/>
- ^{vi} <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/academic-programs-analysis/>
- ^{vii} <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/academic-programs-analysis/>
- ^{viii} <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/academic-programs-analysis/>
- ^{ix} <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/academic-programs-analysis/>
- ^x <https://ww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/sharedaccountability/reports/detail.aspx?id=1598>
- ^{xi} <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/facilities/boundary-study/>
- ^{xii} <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/academic-programs-analysis/>