MCCPTA Draft Resolution on Programs Analysis

October 2025

What is MCCPTA?

- MCCPTA = Montgomery County Council of PTAs = umbrella organization that supports all PTAs in our county
- YOUR PTA can send up to two delegates and the President to represent your community and to vote on advocacy priorities, resolutions, and MCCPTA leaders.
- MCCPTA, like local PTAs, is made up entirely of volunteers. We are not MCPS.
- MCCPTA advocates at the county level for ALL students and on behalf of our PTAs
- As a collective, MCCPTA and local PTAs have a strong voice. We are the largest parent/guardian/teacher organization and one of the largest public education stakeholders in the county.

What is a Resolution?

- A resolution is a position statement on a particular issue either for or against. It must be approved by the Delegates Assembly and be consistent with MCCPTA's guiding principles. Anyone within MCCPTA or within any local PTA unit can put forth a call for a resolution.
- As a Delegate of your PTA, your role is to act on behalf of your school, in consultation with your PTA members
 - Share this information with your school community.
 - Gather feedback, questions, suggestions, etc., and share with Rodney Peele at RMCC2@mccpta.org
 - Return to the next DA meeting on October 29 where you and other Delegates will vote on the resolution. Remember, PTA Presidents are also allowed to vote at Delegates Assemblies.

What does the Resolution Say?

DRAFT Resolution on Programs Analysis:

MCCPTA Draft Resolution: More Time for Programs Analysis

Resolution FAQs

We want families, schools, and the community to have a voice in the process (ideally modeled after the Boundary Study), by asking MCPS to present a comprehensive proposal to the public, collect feedback, and make revisions based on the feedback, and for the Board of Education <u>not</u> to "approve" or "accept" a programs plan that did not allow for such public feedback, and for the County Council not to fund changes if MCPS and the BOE did not allow for such feedback.

What is the Academic Programs Analysis?

- MCPS Academic Programs Analysis website
 - Create six regions (each with 4 or 5 high school clusters)
 - Offer five or six Programs in each of the 6 Regions and limit student access to their assigned region only
 - Expand access to academic programs
- Plans to end countywide access to magnet and special programs (MS and HS) and dissolve consortia (DCC, NEC)
- MCPS has an aggressive launch date (applications to the programs will begin fall 2026) but has not created a detailed plan and has not adequately engaged students, staff, families, administrators, program coordinators, communities and other stakeholders in creating such a plan

What is the Boundary Study and is it Connected to the Programs Analysis?

- The <u>Boundary Study</u> must be done because MCPS is opening two new high schools in 2027. As a
 result, boundaries in all surrounding areas must be reevaluated. The study will determine where
 MCPS students attend middle school and high starting fall 2027. The final decisions will be made in
 March of 2026.
- MCPS announced on 10/3/25 that the Programs Analysis is now directly tied to the Boundary Study.
- The Programs Analysis affects more families and communities than the Boundary Study.
- The Boundary Study includes at least 3 rounds of comprehensive proposals and public feedback before the BOE makes a decision in spring 2026. The Programs Analysis has 0 rounds of proposals and public feedback on those proposal; yet, the BOE will be asked to make a decision within months.
- There is no requirement to revamp programs at every HS and MS by 2027. We're asking MCPS to slow down the Programs Analysis to ensure equity, equivalent quality, fiscal responsibility, accountability, oversight, and stakeholder input.

Why Delay the Regional Programs Implementation?

- MCPS does not have a strong record of success with regional programs

 Example: The regional application-based IB programs at Kennedy, Springbrook, and Watkins Mill were touted as equivalent to Richard Montgomery's application-based IB program. Yet, after six years, none of the three regional IB programs come close to RM's outcomes. There is no evidence to show that barring kids from attending RM would have improved attendance or outcomes at the regional IB programs.
- Lack of a <u>comprehensive</u> proposal. The information MCPS has shared to date <u>lacks</u>: full cost analyses, stated educational outcomes and metrics for "success", regional programs transportation study, curriculum development, robust staffing and training plan, safeguards to ensure each region will have comparable programs with <u>equivalent quality</u>, evidential data to support the regional interest level in the chosen programs, plan to ensure proportionate seat availability between regions
- MCPS has not appropriately engaged students, staff, and community stakeholders for input and feedback
- Questionable whether MCPS is following BOE policy and MCPS regulations (see slide 10)
- Refer also to the <u>Resolution FAQs</u>

Resolution Timeline

September 30	DRAFT Resolution was presented at the Delegates Assembly meeting
October 6	Delegates receive additional materials to share with their communities
October 3-October 28	Delegates engage their communities, solicit feedback, and submit proposed revisions to resolution language. Email suggestions and revisions to RMCC2@mccpta.org
October 29	Delegates Assembly meeting @ 7PM where all local PTA Presidents, Delegates, and MCCPTA Board of Directors are invited to review the resolution language and vote on the resolution

What Happens if the Resolution is Passed?

- The MCCPTA President will issue a statement on behalf of the full MCCPTA organization; it will be sent to the Superintendent, the Board of Education, and the County Council
- MCCPTA may issue a press release
- MCCPTA elected officers, Board members and Delegates can formally advocate on behalf of the resolution position

Relevant Law, Policy, and MCPS Regulations

The BOE is required to vote on the Programs Analysis separate from the Boundary Study and MCPS is required to follow policy and regulations.

Maryland Statute 4-111 gives County Boards the authority to establish courses of study and curriculum guides.

<u>Policy IFA</u> requires the Board to approve curriculum frameworks, standards, goals, funding, staffing, and staff development. <u>Regulation IFA-RA</u> mandates Board approval for any addition or elimination of core or non-core courses or programs, as well as formal plans for curriculum development or revision.

Under Regulations IEE-RA and Policy IFA, the Superintendent must:

- Submit a detailed proposal outlining staffing, evaluation, and impact on OTHER programs, schools and students;
- Obtain Board approval before even beginning curriculum development; and
- Secure funding approval before implementation

Funding and Hearings: All funding must be approved by both the Board of Education and County Council, and the Board retains the right to hold public hearings.

Additional Resources

Evelyn Chung Op Ed (Bethesda Today, August 29, 2025)

Mont. County Councilmember Natali Fani-Gonzalez letter to her fellow Councilmembers

MCCPTA President, Brigid Howe, testimony to Board of Education (@ 23:40 time mark)

MCPS Office of Shared Accountability reports

MSDE test data for MCPS

MCPS Data Dashboards

MCPS **CURRENT** regional, county wide, and local programs

Resolution FAQs