Possible East Bethesda School Changes: May 2010

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase (B-CC) cluster Roundtable approaches to relieve elementary school overcrowding will be discussed at a public information meeting at Bethesda Elementary School on Thursday, May 27, 2010 from 7:30–9:00 pm. East Bethesda residents are encouraged to attend to hear the Roundtable report, and to let Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) know this is an issue of importance to our community.

In addition, a summary of the Roundtable report and a description of next steps in the MCPS process will be provided at the June 2nd EBCA General membership meeting.

Roundtable approaches under discussion include:

- Moving 6th grades at North Chevy Chase and/or Chevy Chase Elementary Schools to Westland Middle School. This would not require a boundary study and could be implemented as soon as August 2011.
- Establishing a boundary study for East Bethesda (and Paddington Square) to examine elementary schools assignments.
- Additions for B-CC cluster Elementary schools.
- Opening a new elementary and/or middle school in the B-CC Cluster. These would require boundary studies.

After reviewing input from the B-CC Roundtable process, the MCPS Superintendent will prepare a recommendation for the Board of Education (BOE) for the FY 2012 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that is released in late October 2010. The BOE will conduct public hearings and take action in late November. Boundary studies could follow in winter 2010 for inclusion in the FY 2012 CIP, or fall 2011 for the FY 2013 CIP. The implementation of reassignments may need to wait until additions (earliest completion August 2014) or new schools (earliest completion August 2016) are funded and built.

More information, links to MCPS B-CC Cluster planning activities, and tips for advocacy can be found on the ebca.org Local Education webpage.

Questions? Contact EBCA Education Committee Chair Monica Hayes at education@ebca.org