Region 3 Facilities Meetings for the Community  
Important issues for discussion

It is our understanding that among other topics, FCPS would like to have feedback on two proposals, only one of which can happen within the budget. One proposal is for the building of a new school along the southern part of Rte 1 (approximately behind the Costco) and the other proposal is to renovate the current administrative offices at Virginia Hills to become an arts magnet elementary school. These are the pros and cons of these proposals as seen by the Region 3 PTAs and SLES parents.


Construction of this new school will positively impact our region in several ways:
Current Boundaries will most likely change and shift south. This is also due to the movement of ~300 students from Woodlawn to the new ES being constructed on Fort Belvoir.

Pros
• Provide a new Elementary School with between 400-700 seats which would help ease the overcrowding in the Elementary Schools in the Mount Vernon Lee Magisterial District  
• Ability to create new and maintain current neighborhood schools and allow for many more students to walk and bike to school.  
• Alleviate attendance islands and build better community among residents. Attendance islands are areas outside of a school boundary which means long bus rides for students.  
• Ability to better accommodate the future growth of the Route 1 Corridor and population increase such as development of North Hill and other future projected projects. http://www.sfdc.org/whats-happening/  
• These students would have significantly less time on a bus going between home and school  
• This school would provide an opportunity to offer wrap around services to these families, many of which have FRM students.  
• The county has said they are looking to create 1000 seats in our area. a new school with about 600 seats, plus 215 seats at Bucknell, 100 seats at Belle View and 300 at Woodlawn would more than accommodate those numbers and allow for additional growth that is clearly taking place along the corridor.  
• The bond that passed in 2013 would be fulfilled by the construction of this school  
• Overcrowding at West Potomac can be minimized by the building of this school with the students going on to Mount Vernon or Hayfield HS.  
• This school could be an arts magnet as well

Cons
• Schools along the Richmond Corridor will have significant boundary changes, but with the opening of the Fort Belvoir school, this will happen regardless.  
• The school will definitely be a Title 1 school  
• Would challenge the diversity in many of our area schools. This school would primarily be made up of hispanic and black students and this plan would eliminate those students from attending schools such as Stratford Landing.

Opening of Virginia Hills

Pros
• This school will feed into the Hayfield HS which is currently under capacity.  
• This school will be an arts magnet  
• This school could draw people from the new developments going in around the new Walmart on Rte 1.  
• The county could save some money by repurposing a building rather than building a new one.
• Could be revisited later as this area continues to grow

Cons
• This doesn’t alleviate the need to locate current needed 1000 seats along the Richmond Highway Corridor or any future growth.
• This school will pull students from the Vantage and Stoneybrook neighborhoods who currently attend Groveton. It will also pull students from Rose Hill which is currently not at capacity, only finding seats for 300 of our 1000 students.
• Currently, VA Hills is used for administrative purposes, including teacher and staff trainings. If this building is changed to an elementary school, our local teachers will always have to go to Fairfax and the like for their trainings.
• The bond was passed for the construction of a new school along the Rte. 1 corridor and this does not meet that specification.
• Reopening this school does not address the overcrowding issue at West Potomac as not enough students would be transferred to another High School.

Plans for renovation of Stratford Landing were submitted for an enrollment of 950.

Pros
• this is aligned with the presentation to the PTA in November
• this plan allows for growth at SLES
• allows for the entire AAP center to remain at SLES
• Current plans would not need boundary lines to be redrawn for SLES
• It is easier to keep funds for a school with plans submitted at 950 than to ask the county for money later in the process so not matter what the final outcome is, we are currently scheduled to get a significant chunk of money
• our FRM numbers are likely to stay about where they are now, supposing no major shifts in population happen in our current boundary lines
• should keep our students out of trailers, etc for many, many years
• Since plans are in place for a school of 950, tax payers would not waste money that has already been spent on this process. Important in times where budgets are already extremely tight or completely short on funds.

Cons
• If the entire AAP center stays and enrollment keeps growing, then some currently districted families would need to move out of the school
• the school would remain large at 900+ students
• Traffic on Riverside would remain mostly the same, although new bus lanes, kiss and ride lanes, etc would alleviate some, if not much, of that
• does not allow for programs such as Head Start if the plans stay the same for AAP and no boundary changes

Meetings Schedule:

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<th>Date</th>
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| Thursday, March 19 | 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. | Twain Middle School – cafeteria  
4700 Franconia Rd  
Alexandria, VA 22310 |
| Monday, March 23   | 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. | Sandburg Middle School - cafeteria  
8428 Fort Hunt Rd  
Alexandria, VA 22308 |
| Wednesday, April 8 | 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. | Hayfield Secondary School - HS cafeteria  
7630 Telegraph Rd  
Alexandria, VA 22315 |
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| Wednesday, April 15| 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.| Whitman Middle School - cafeteria  
2500 Parkers Ln  
Alexandria, VA 22306 |