



Minutes from ESS PTA Membership Meeting
Tuesday, November 11, 2025 - 7:30pm to 8:30pm
Held via Zoom

Attendees: Erin O' Brien(President), Kareema Mitchell-Allen (Vice President) Amy Molina-Moore (Secretary); Sarah Edelman, Claudia Grossman, Enkeleda Shtjefni, Lisa, Sue, Anne Wilson, Tom Fitzwater, Suzy Khimm, Sarah Winkler, Pail, Haile Beju, Kristen Pisani, Darius, Grace Fordman, Mekedes Tadesse, Marissa Wagner, Hillary Catlin, Allison C., Sylvia Gonsahn-Bollie,

The meeting started at 7:37

1. Open Discussion about the County's Redistricting and Changing of Magnet Schools:

Sarah Edelman – MCPS is shifting boundaries because they're completing a new highschool. They need to figure out what students are going there and on top of that less students in the county then anticipated. Western county didn't like the options, so now the major changes are in Eastern southern county.

Two of four options would change middle school, high school path. Einstein see 12%, Wheaton gets above 60% for Farms, Similar disruption at middle school level. In the middle of this superintendent said to close SSIMS.

Suzy Khimm - boundary study concentrates more poverty, unequal treatment of the county. More disruption for Eastern or Central County.

There will be two more options in next boundary study, and then decision will be presented to the board in January. Not clear if there will be brand new options based on information.

Magnet Programs – initial feedback wanting an expansion of downcounty consortium, carve county into 6 regions and each region would have its own magnet. Having more options and more seats is a real equity win. Some concerns about pace and how it will

be rolled out.

Erin shared survey results – people support changing boundaries.

Overall - we are supportive and need more information about implementation.

We support the regional magnet program for increasing equity for all kids. We support some kind of condemnation that Bethesda is exempt from the shift. They should be supporting more diverse student populations and not concentrating poverty further.

Sarah Edelman has stepped up to represent the ESS position in front of the board.

Sarah Winkler spoke passionately and eloquently about the injustice of redistricting without including Bethesda/ Chevy Chase.

MCPS driven and the board doesn't really seem to understand what's going on.

We should encourage parents to fill out latest MCPS survey

Next Step: Erin to send a letter to our superintendent and the board of education sharing our concerns and requests.

Sarah Winkler to write a letter naming the complete injustice that Bethesda and Chevy Chase are exempt from boundary changes.

Sarah Edelman to represent our position at next board meeting.

Erin thanked folks and meeting adjourned at 8:32pm.