

## **Response received from MCPS Administration:**

In reviewing the eleven options including enrollment projection data of resident students, and the stakeholder input received in the context of the four policy factors as outlined in Policy FAA, the superintendent considered the following:

- o The impact of changes on the demographic composition of resident students (FARMS, EML) for all the middle and high schools in the scope
- o Geographic proximity of communities, articulation patterns, and noncontiguous areas
- o Stability of school assignment over time
- o Goals of 80-100% utilization over the long term whenever possible and minimizing fiscal and operating costs whenever feasible.

Options 1-4 were developed using the 2024-2025 enrollment data and prior to stakeholder feedback, and they were initial options with the expectation of refinement or change.

Options A, C, and D show split articulation for paired primary and intermediate schools that already have more transitions than traditional elementary schools.

Option E, F, and G, assumed a closure of Silver Spring International Middle School (SSIMS). At its December 11, 2025 Board Business meeting, the Board suspended the process for considering the superintendent's recommendation to close SSIMS. Modified Option B best addresses the policy factors and considers stakeholder feedback, while refining previously developed options.