

School Board Update

Mateo Dunne
Mount Vernon District



My Priorities

Priority #1: Academic Excellence

- FCPS should develop new strategies to increase literacy and numeracy and ensure a smooth and consistent implementation across all schools.

Priority #2: School Safety and Security

- FCPS should increase the number of school resource officers and security assistants to the nationally recommended ratios.
- FCPS should fund the installation of video cameras for school building and accelerate the construction of security vestibules at every school.
- FCPS should utilize weapons detection technology, vaping detectors, and video cameras to ensure the safety and security of our students and staff.

My Priorities

Priority #3: Mental and Behavioral Health Support

- FCPS should increase the number of counselors, social workers, and psychologists to the nationally recommended ratios.

Priority 4: Workforce Compensation

- FCPS should evaluate its pay and benefits to ensure they are competitive with similar school systems and neighboring jurisdictions.

Priority #5: Fiscal Responsibility

- FCPS should examine how it can increase the efficiency and effectiveness of its operations to achieve maximum return on investment for every taxpayer dollar.

Our Division Success (Compared to Class 2022)



94.6%

**4 -YEAR
ON-TIME**

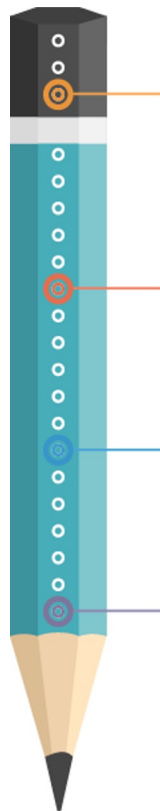
GRADUATION RATE

CLASS of 2024

Class of 2024 Scholarships

\$149.9 million

(+\$4.7 m)



89%

Self-reported plans to attend post-secondary programs immediately following high school (+5%)

264

National Merit Semifinalists Class of 2024 (+50 Semifinalists)

75%

High school students successfully completed at least one college equivalent course (AP, IB, DE) (+2%)

1178

Fairfax SAT Mean Score Class of 2024 (-7 points lower)

9.5%

Increase in 8th graders taking Algebra I or higher

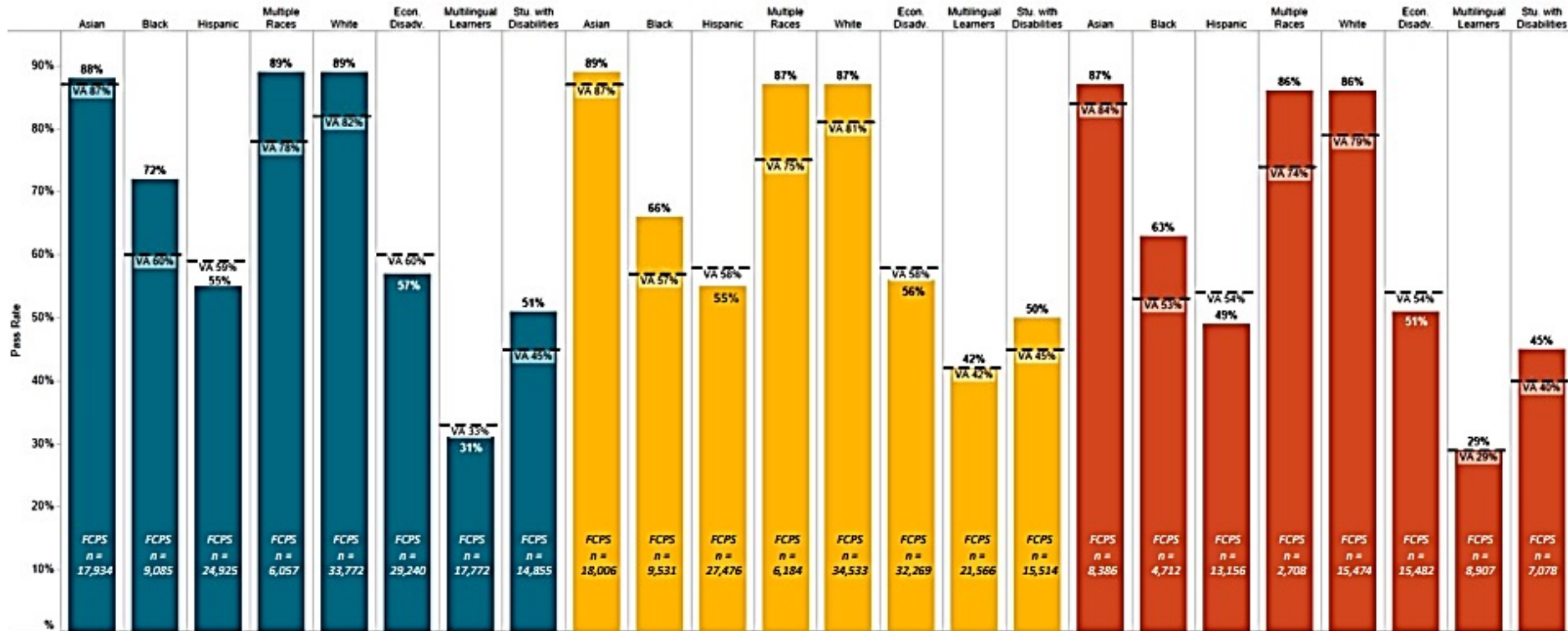
Student Group Annual Pass Rates on SOL and VAAP Tests

FCPS Student Group Rates Compared to Virginia - 2024

Reading

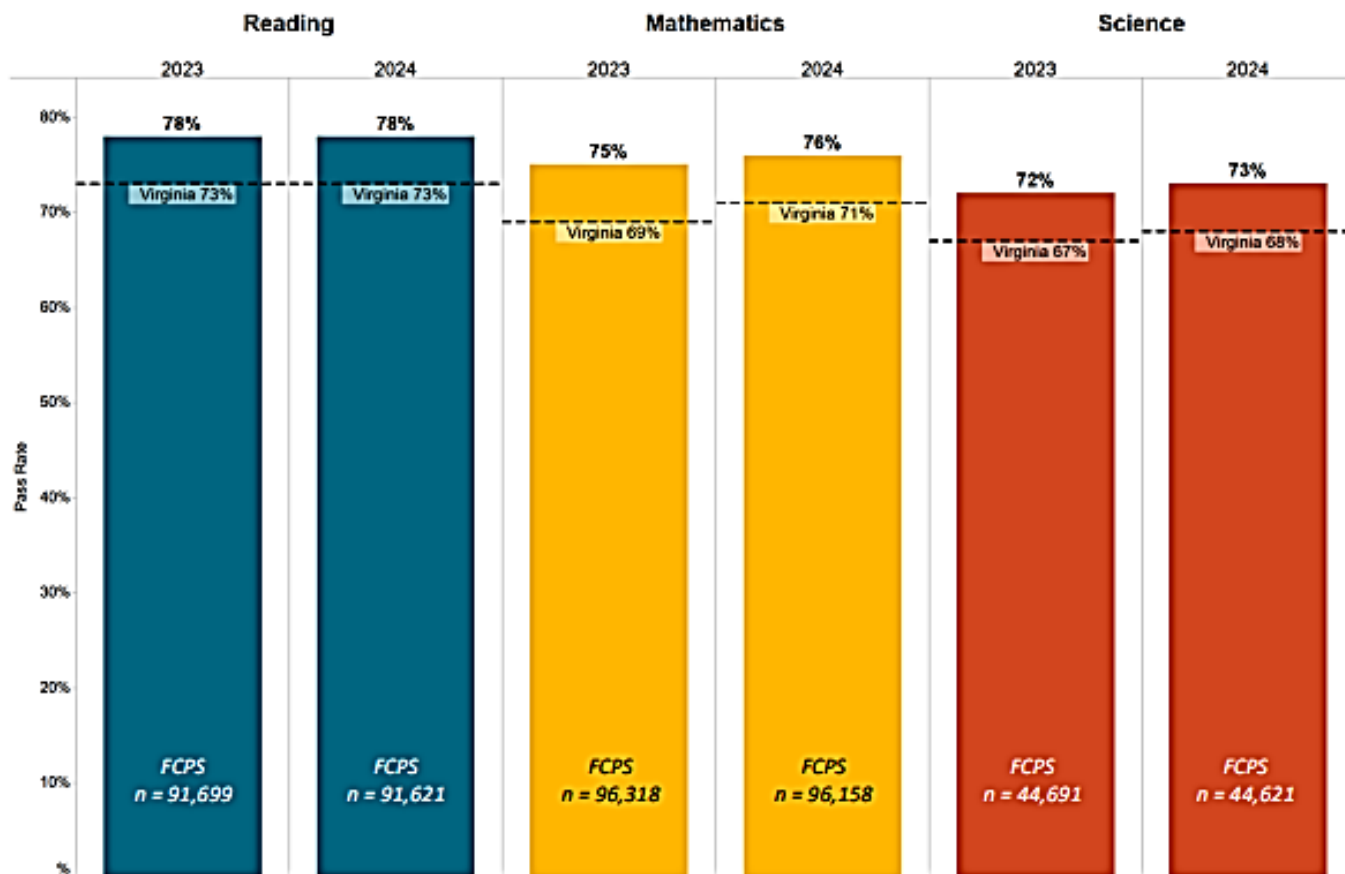
Mathematics

Science



Annual Pass Rates on SOL and VAAP Tests

FCPS "All Students" Rates Compared to Virginia - 2 Years



Key Points:

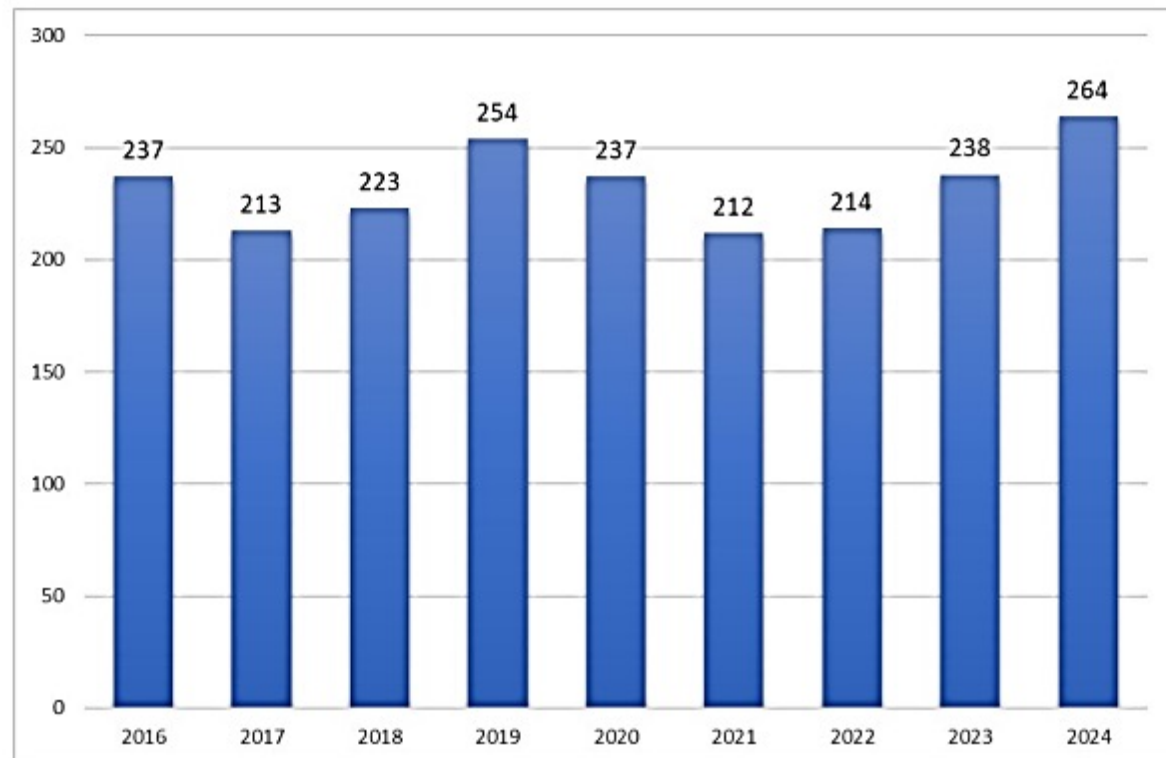
Fairfax improved in math and science and held steady in reading, outperforming Virginia in all subjects.

FCPS math pass rates increased even while more students took accelerated math courses:

- 6.8% increase in 5th graders taking Advanced Math
- 9.5% increase in 8th graders taking Algebra I or higher

National Merit Semifinalists

FCPS Students Identified by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) as National Merit Semifinalists on the PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®)



Key Points:

FCPS offers the PSAT/NMSQT® annually to students in their junior year.

The NMSC identifies students as semifinalists based on their score on the exam junior year.

264 FCPS students in the class of 2024 were named National Merit Semifinalists.

Reassessment of School Boundaries

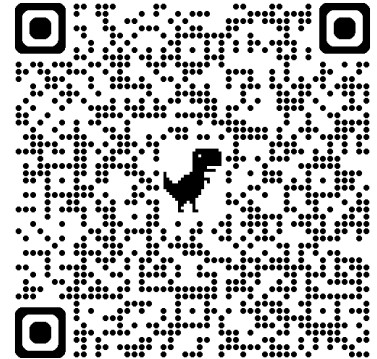
FCPS is conducting a comprehensive reassessment of school boundaries for the first time in 40 years.

Themes

- **Boundary Stability**
- **Community Engagement**
- **Fixing the Problems**
- **Moving 6th Grade to Middle School**

Get Involved

- Boundary Review Advisory Committee
- Community Meetings
- My Virtual Town Halls: Nov. 11 & **March 19, 7 PM**
- 38th Annual Mount Vernon Town Hall with Supervisor Dan Storck, February 8
- Group Meetings with Mateo Dunne
- HS Pyramid Advisory Councils
- Email (mdunne@fcps.edu)



Timeline

- Community Meetings: Nov. 2024-Feb. 2025
- Drafting Scenarios: March-May 2025
- Community Meetings: June-Sept.2025
- School Board Vote: January 2026
- Implementation of New School Boundaries:
 - Phased Implementation
 - Aug. 2026 (for School Year 2026-2027)

Community Meetings (Fall 2024 - Round 1)

- **Glasgow MS** - Monday, Nov. 18 @ 6:30 - 8:00 PM
- **Westfield HS** - Monday, Dec. 2 @ 6:30 - 8:00 PM
- **Lake Braddock HS** - Tuesday, Dec. 3 @ 6:30 - 8:00 PM
- **Mount Vernon HS** - Monday, Dec. 9 @ 6:30 - 8:00 PM
- **Annandale HS** - Thursday, Dec. 12 @ 6:45 - 8:15 PM
- **Madison HS** - Wednesday, Dec. 18 @ 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Virtual Community Meetings (Winter 2025)

- **Friday, January 10, 2025, 6 - 7:30 PM**
- **Thursday, January 16, 2025, 1 - 2:30 PM**
- **Saturday, January 25, 2025, 9:30 - 11 AM**
- **Monday, January 27, 2025, 6:30 - 8 PM**
- **Tuesday, January 28, 2025, 6:30 - 8 PM**
- **Monday, February 10, 2025, 6:30 - 8 PM**

What to Expect

- Limited, if any, boundary revisions for most schools.
- Attendance islands will be eliminated.
- Split feeders will be reduced or eliminated.
- More children biking or walking to school.
- Shorter bus rides.
- Middle schools will transition to Grades 6-8.

Rationale for School Boundary Changes

1. Eliminate Attendance Islands

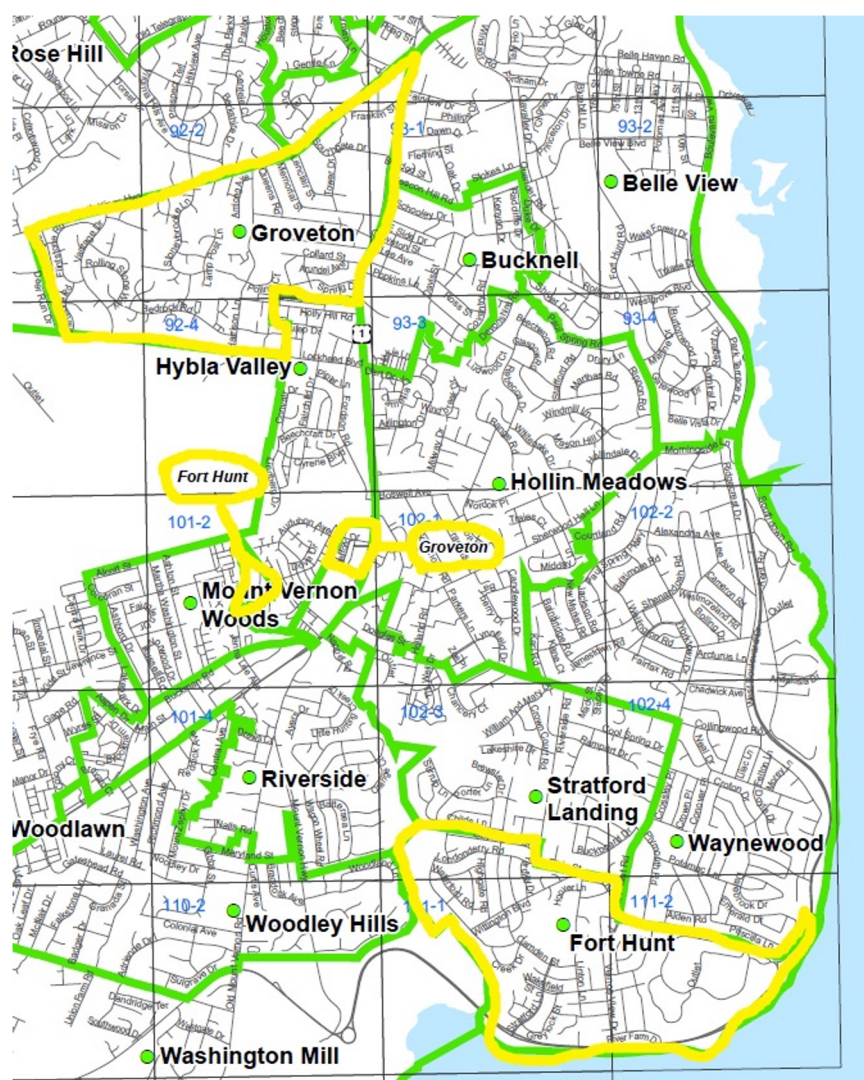
Definition: A neighborhood that is assigned to attend a distant, under-enrolled school in order to increase student enrollment.

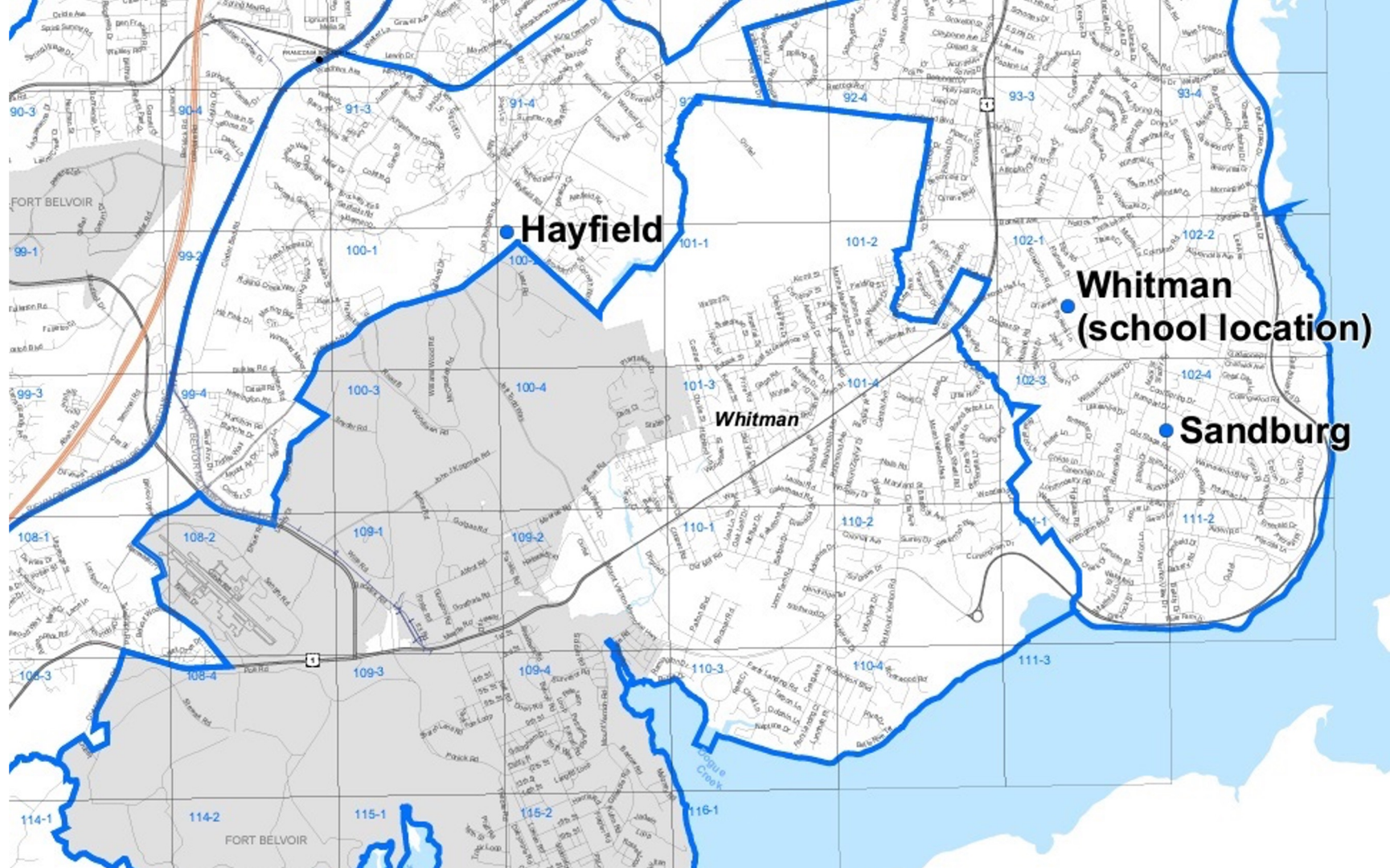
Objective: All students should be allowed to attend their local schools.

Context: 16 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, and 3 high schools

Effects:

- Divided communities
- Long bus rides
- Inequitable access to athletic programs and extracurricular activities





Rationale for School Boundary Changes

2. Eliminate Split Feeders

Definition: (i) An elementary school where students attend different middle schools or (ii) a middle school where students attend different high schools.

Objective: All students should be allowed to attend their local schools.

Context: 31 elementary schools and 6 middle schools

Effects:

- Divided communities and student cohorts
- Long bus rides
- Inequitable access to athletic programs and extracurricular activities

Rationale for School Boundary Changes

3. Eliminate Overcrowding

Context:

- 15 elementary schools, 1 middle school, and 4 high schools with significant overcrowding (115%+ of capacity)
- 45 elementary schools, 12 middle schools, and 8 high schools that are under-enrolled (less than 84% of capacity)

Effects:

- Larger class sizes / Teachers on carts
- Inequitable access to athletic programs and extracurricular activities

Rationale for School Boundary Changes

4. Eliminate Trailers and Modulars

Objective:

- Ensure the safety and security of our students
- Provide all children with modern classrooms and modern equipment

Context:

- 598 classrooms in trailers and 310 classrooms in modulars
- Trailers and modulars are used where enrollment exceeds capacity.

Rationale for School Boundary Changes

5. Ensure Prudent Capital Investments

Objective:

- Renovate school buildings every 20-25 years
- Provide all students with modern equipment and facilities

Context:

- Deferred maintenance backlog of \$530 million
- Infrastructure replacement backlog of \$379 million
- 55% of playgrounds, 54% of environmental systems, 46% of structural systems, and 44% of health/safety systems are past their life expectancy.

Rationale for School Boundary Changes

6. Geographic Proximity / Travel Times

Objective:

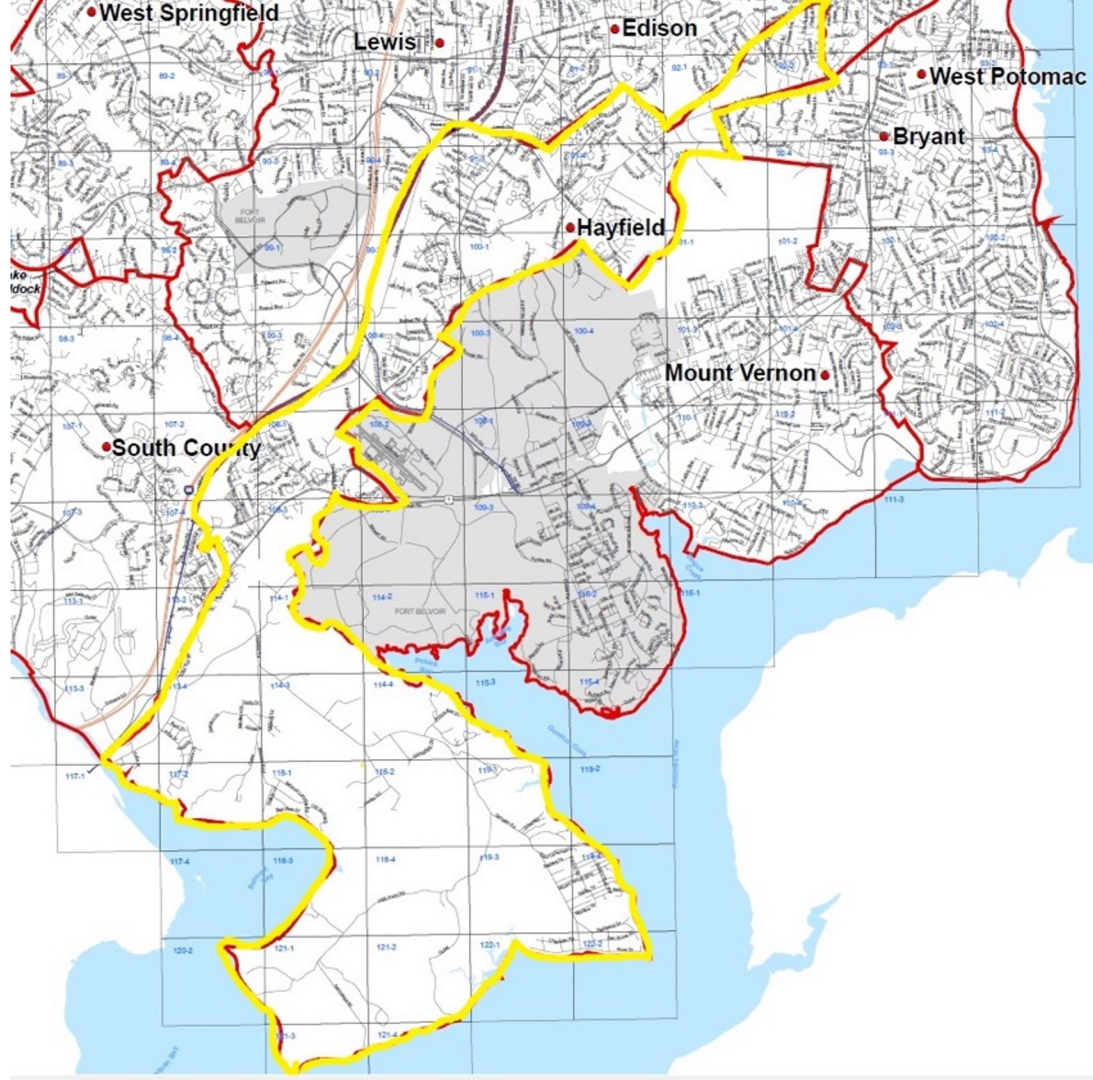
- Enable more children to bike or walk to school
- Minimize bus rides

Context:

- Approximately 25% of students travel in excess of 30 minutes to school, and a significant percentage travel in excess of 45 minutes each way.

Effects:

- Long bus rides



School Boundaries

Related Advocacy:

- Adopt new procurement methodologies to expedite construction/renovation projects and reduce construction/renovation costs
- Explore public-private partnerships to increase available funding, expedite construction/renovation projects, and manage school buildings and infrastructure
- Explore purchase of office buildings for school purposes
- Reduce leasing expenses for FCPS buildings
- Expand fleet of electric school buses

Questions?

Meet Your Mount Vernon Pyramid Secondary Schools

Walt Whitman Middle School:
Principal John Flowers & Assistant
Principal: Lachelle Williams



Mount Vernon High School:
Principal Cary Dimmick





Walt Whitman Middle School

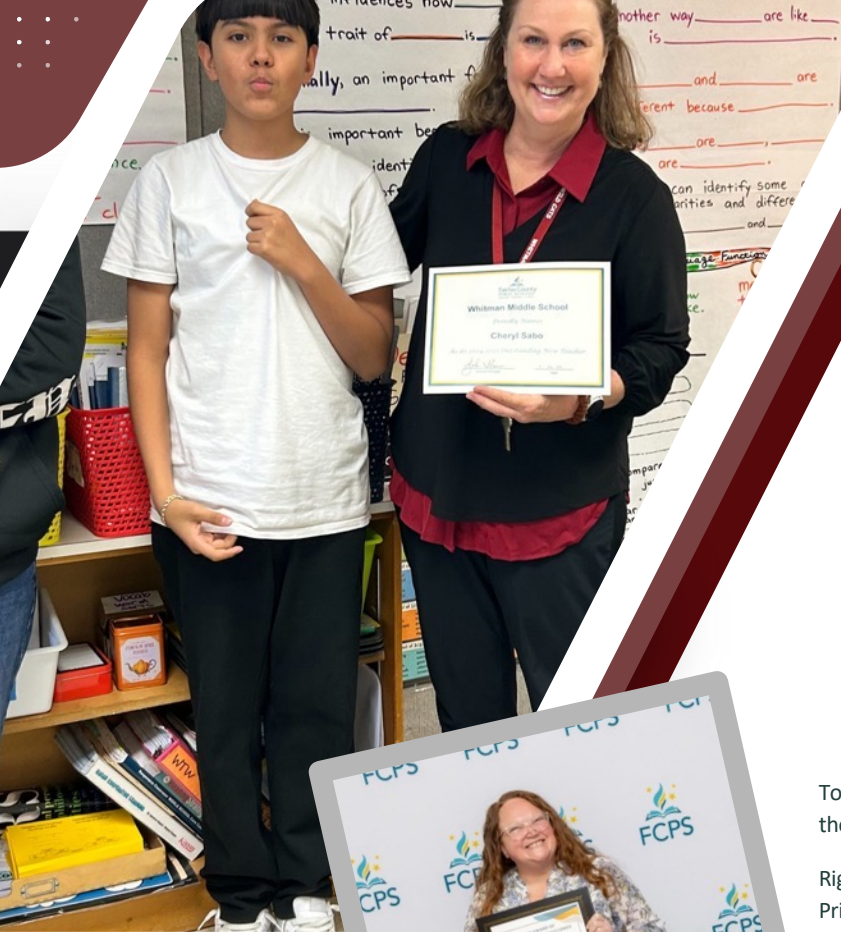
IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A WILDCAT

whitmanms.fcps.edu

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PROFESSIONALLY RECOGNIZED STAFF

► From teachers, to instructional support staff, to our principal, Whitman students are supported by award-winning staff

Top Left: **Cheryl Sabo** - FCPS Region 3 New Teacher of the Year

Right: **John Flowers** - FCPS Region 3 Outstanding Principal

Bottom Left: **Harmony Tahy** - FCPS Communications Excellence Award winner for the Whitman website and social media



International Baccalaureate (IB)

MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME (MYP)



As IB-MYP learners, all students at Whitman engage in:



Inquiry-based
instruction through
conceptual units



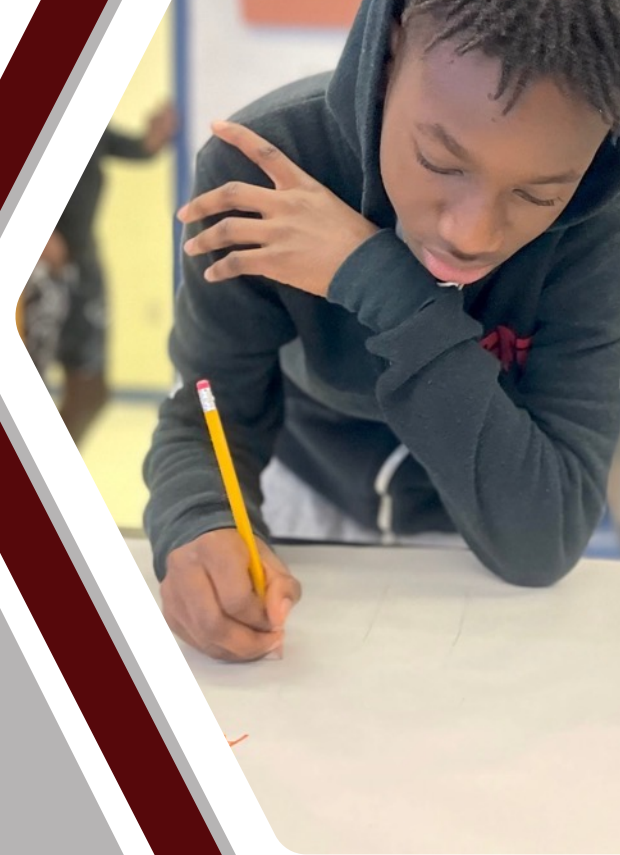
Interdisciplinary
learning



Performance-based
assessments



Service learning
projects



ADVANCED ACADEMICS PROGRAM (AAP)

Full-time AAP services within our AAP Cohort

Our full-time AAP Cohort offers Whitman students Level IV AAP curriculum at their local school instead of being bused to an AAP center. This means our AAP Cohort students will continue to attend school with their elementary peers and transition to high school with their middle school peers.

AAP Cohort @ Whitman

- Students are found eligible through the FCPS central screening process
- Students access advanced curriculum for English, Social Studies, and Science. Mathematics placement is based on readiness.
- Students remain with their academic peer group of other eligible AAP students
- AAP trained teachers differentiate to meet students' academic needs





ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID)



What is AVID?

AVID is a college readiness program that helps students succeed in college-preparatory courses

AVID Skills

These courses teach students skills like note-taking, time management, and organization. Students also participate in study groups with peers and AVID-trained tutors.

The Goal

The goal of the AVID program is to help students become aware of the importance of higher education and the opportunities it can provide

WORLD LANGUAGES

French

French 1 Part A, French 1 Part B, French 1

German

German 1 Part A, German 1 Part B

Spanish

Spanish 1 Part A, Spanish 1 Part B, Spanish 1,
Spanish for Heritage Speakers 1A, Spanish for Heritage Speakers 1B, Spanish
Immersion 1, Spanish Immersion 2

World Language Credit by Exam

Whitman offers this exam to assess linguistic proficiency in languages other than English. Students may earn up to 3 high school world language credits and fulfill the world languages requirements for the Virginia Advanced Studies Diploma



OUR AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM



DJ Club



Fashion Club



Photography Club



Drone Videography

The Whitman After-School program is an extension of the school day where students can both receive academic support for teachers and participate and explore their interests and hobbies with their peers. From music, to art, to technology, to sports, our program offers a wide range of activities for students to enrich their minds and discover new ideas.



Walt Whitman Middle School

STUDENTS COMMUNITY SUCCESS

whitmanms.fcps.edu



wwhitmanms



wwhitmanms



Mount Vernon High School



Mount Vernon Majors achieve and thrive together with purpose and pride, working to build trusting & collaborative community partnerships.

What MVHS Offers - High Level Academics

Mount Vernon HS proudly offers a wide-array of high-level academic programs, including:

- International Baccalaureate (IB) [DP & CP options]
- Dual Enrollment
- AVID
- Governor's School
- FCPS Academies [at Edison HS]
- MCJROTC & other amazing CTE Programs

Our IB Programmes



Middle Years Programme
All 9th and 10th graders



Career-Related Certificate
11th and 12th grades
Can pair with Dual Enrollment and Academy courses & can earn up to a semester of college credit through their IB exams.



Diploma
11th and 12th grades
Depending on each college and university, our full Diploma students, through their IB exams, earn an avg. 25+ college credits.

International Baccalaureate (IB)

Diploma & Certificate Programs

- Diploma Program Seniors: **21** / Diploma Program Juniors: **29**
- Certificate Program Seniors: **47** / Certificate Program Juniors: **52**
- **210** students registered to take an IB exam this year

NOTE: some exams are at the end of one-year courses, and some are at the end of two- year courses

- **590** students sitting in at least one IB class.

Dual Enrollment

- **127** students in DE (out of 169 available seats)

International Baccalaureate (IB)

➤ Mount Vernon IB scores above FCPS high school averages:

○ English Language & Literature HL	MV: 4.90 FCPS: 4.83
○ Spanish AB SL	MV: 5.00 FCPS: 4.37
○ Spanish B HL	MV: 5.29 FCPS: 4.77
○ Environment Sociology SL	MV: 4.84 FCPS: 3.39
○ Geography SL	MV: 3.47 FCPS: 4.42
○ Biology HL	MV: 3.90 FCPS: 3.72
○ Chemistry HL	MV: 3.90 FCPS: 3.86
○ Math Applications SL	MV: 4.00 FCPS: 3.78
○ Visual Arts HL	MV: 4.50 FCPS: 3.87

Almost all of our IB test scores are within 1.0-1.5% points from average

Colleges & Universities

American College of Greece: Athens

Brigham Young University

Brown University

College of William & Mary

Cornell University

Duke University

Florida State University

Georgetown University

Harvard University

Howard University

James Madison University

Johns Hopkins University

Miami University

Morgan State University

NC State

Penn State University

Princeton University

Stanford University

United States Naval Academy

United States Air Force Academy

University of Pennsylvania

University of North Carolina: Chapel Hill

University of Notre Dame

University of Virginia

University of Wisconsin: Madison

University of Wyoming

Virginia Commonwealth University

Virginia Tech

Colleges & Universities

Institution	Acceptance Rate	IB Diploma Acceptance Rate
MIT	7.2%	23.1%
Stanford	4.65%	17%
Harvard	5.1%	12.2%
Cal- Tech	8%	28.3%
Princeton	6.5%	17.2%
Cornell	14.1%	47%
Johns Hopkins	11.4%	46%
U of Michigan	28.6%	70.8%

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<https://www.fcps.edu/staff/mateo-dunne>

Tune in to **Channel 99** for School Board meetings or
Watch on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/user/FairfaxCountySchools



Mateo Dunne

**Mount Vernon District Representative
Fairfax County School Board**