

BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Brandon M. Scott
Mayor, City of Baltimore

Linda Chinnia
Chair, Baltimore City Board
of School Commissioners

Dr. Sonja Brookins Santelises
Chief Executive Officer

February 11, 2021

Dear Lockerman Bundy School Community,

As shared last month, at its meeting on January 12th, the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners voted to close Lockerman Bundy at the end of the current school year in June 2021, and to return the school building (“surplus”) to the City of Baltimore in summer 2021.

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware that today, the Board issued a written report that documents this decision. In making its determination, the Board considered the CEO’s rationale, testimony provided at public hearings and submitted in the written contents of the official record, and the 8 factors required by COMAR and listed in Board policy FCA Closing of Schools (student enrollment trends, age or condition of school buildings, transportation, educational programs, racial composition of student body, financial considerations, student relocation, impact on community and schools which students would relocate). As described in the notice on the back of this letter (which also appeared this morning in the Baltimore Sun newspaper), members of the public can appeal the Board’s decision in writing to the Maryland State Board of Education within 30 days of today’s date.

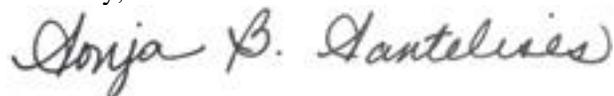
Both Lockerman Bundy Elementary School and nearby Mary Ann Winterling Elementary School at Bentalou have experienced declines in enrollment over the past several years and there is not enough student enrollment to sustain two separate schools long-term. The Mary Ann Winterling Building is in better shape and combining the two small elementary schools into one program will improve students’ chances for success by enabling them to attend a school with the capacity to have increased per-student funding to sustain rich, robust, and varied educational programs.

Beginning in the 2021-22 school year, Lockerman Bundy Elementary School students will join Mary Ann Winterling Elementary School students to create one school community. The Mary Ann Winterling zone will be expanded to include the Lockerman Bundy zone and the expanded zone will be adjusted for future students so that it does not cross Route 40.

Existing students currently enrolled at Lockerman Bundy do not have to take any actions to enroll in the combined school, including current students who live north of route 40. Students will be automatically enrolled at the end of the year for the 2021-22 school year. For students and families interested in exploring other options for next year, representatives from the Office of Enrollment, Choice, and Transfers are available to provide consultation and support. To schedule a virtual appointment, please email Enrollment@bcps.k12.md.us. You may also call the district office at 410-396-8600 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday to Friday, to speak with an enrollment staff associate.

In the coming months, staff will work with you on creating a shared identity for the newly combined schools and making the transition as smooth as possible. Please let Principal Hill-Miller know if you would like to be part of the transition committee. Please watch for more information about the schedule of events. You can contact Angela Alvarez or Lindsey Anderson in the Office of New Initiatives via email at portfoliorecommendations@bcps.k12.md.us or by phone at 410-396-8550.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sonja Brookins Santelises
Chief Executive Officer, Baltimore City Public Schools
Secretary, Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners

NOTICE OF THE BALTIMORE CITY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS' DECISIONS REGARDING SCHOOL CLOSURES, SCHOOL RELOCATIONS, AND BUILDING SURPLUS

At a public meeting on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners (“Board”) voted on recommendations regarding school closures, school relocations, and disposition of unused school buildings (“surplusing”), in Baltimore City Public Schools. Written reports, compiled in the School Closures, Building Surplusing and School Relocations book, of the Board’s decisions have been issued and the compilation is available at the Baltimore City Public Schools website, www.baltimorecityschools.org, or by contacting City Schools at 410-396-8550. Copies of written reports are also available for inspection at each of the closing schools named below. The Board’s decisions are summarized as follows.

Closure of traditional schools and building surpluses

Alexander Hamilton Elementary School: The Board voted to close Alexander Hamilton Elementary School effective June 2021 and surplus its building to the city of Baltimore in summer 2021. Students in grades pre-k to 2 will be rezoned for James Mosher Elementary School, and students in grades 3 to 8 will be rezoned for Calverton Elementary/Middle School. The James Mosher, Calverton, and Alexander Hamilton zones will be merged into one zone, with all students in grades pre-k to grade 2 rezoned to James Mosher Elementary School; and all students in grades 3 through 8 rezoned to Calverton Elementary/Middle School.

Guilford Elementary/Middle School: The Board voted to close Guilford Elementary/Middle School effective June 2021 and surplus its building to the city of Baltimore in summer 2021. Students will be rezoned to Walter P. Carter Elementary/Middle School. The Walter P. Carter Elementary/Middle School zone will expand to include the Guilford Elementary/Middle School zone.

Lockerman Bundy Elementary School: The Board voted to close Lockerman Bundy Elementary School effective June 2021 and surplus its building to the city of Baltimore in summer 2021. Students will be rezoned to Mary Ann Winterling Elementary School. The Mary Ann Winterling Elementary School zone will expand to include the Lockerman Bundy Elementary School zone and will be adjusted for future students so that it does not cross Route 40. Future students on the other side of Route 40 will be rezoned to Harlem Park Elementary Middle School.

Relocation of a separate public day school with building surplus

Lois T. Murray Elementary/Middle School: The Board voted to relocate the Lois T. Murray program to its specially designed space in the Walter P. Carter Elementary/Middle School building in summer 2021 and surplus the building to the city of Baltimore in summer 2021.

Relocation of a separate public day school with grade band expansion and surplus

Sharp-Leadenhall Elementary School: The Board voted to relocate the Sharp-Leadenhall Elementary School to its specially designed space in the Harford Heights building in summer 2021, to reconfigure the grade bands from serving students in grades 1 through 5 to serving students in grades 1 through 8 beginning in school year 2021-22, and to surplus the building in summer 2021.

Additional building surplus

Harriet Tubman building: The Board voted to surplus the Harriet Tubman building to the city of Baltimore effective summer 2021, once the building is no longer required for educational use.

William C. March building: The Board voted to surplus the William C. March building to the city of Baltimore effective summer 2021, once the building is no longer required for educational use. Per the 21st Century School Buildings Plan, the building will be demolished, and City Schools will retain use of the land.

The Board will vote on additional building surpluses for the West Baltimore building and Winston Building on March 9, 2021. An additional legal notice will be issued with these decisions.

RIGHT TO APPEAL: An appeal to the Maryland State Board of Education may be submitted in writing within thirty (30) days after February 11, 2021, the date of issue of the Board's written decision. The appeal should be sent to Office of the Attorney General, Maryland State Department of Education, Attn: Jackie La Fiandra/State Board of Appeals, 200 St. Paul Place, 19th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202