

Madame Chairman and distinguished members of the school board. I appreciate the opportunity to speak tonight in support of redistricting Map #9. My name is Courtney Schlieter and I am the parent of current 2nd and 3rd graders at Maury Elementary and have a rising Kindergartener who can't wait to join her sisters at Maury next year.

Map #9 is the culmination of more than a year and a half of collaborative work by parent representatives from every ACPS school. I appreciate the time and effort it has taken to get to this point and want to publicly thank the many School Board Members who have engaged with Maury Parents about redistricting over the past year. You gave of your time by attending the Maury PTA meetings, discussed with us in smaller open meetings and responded to concerns raised via email. We certainly appreciate your willingness to engage the Maury community to hear our suggestions and concerns. Thank you!

Map #9 upholds ACPS's ten redistricting criteria. Specifically for Matthew Maury Elementary, however, the school boundaries in Map #9 mean:

- **Instructional Capacity:** The existing Maury boundaries balance the number of live-in and enrolled students with available classroom and resource room space, as well as capacity for ELL, Special Education and TAG services.
- **Student Safety:** Map #9 ensures that our students in the neighborhoods west of Mount Vernon Avenue can continue to walk safely to school via well-defined routes and sidewalks, assisted by our existing crossing guards.
- **Transportation:** For our students in the neighborhood east of the Braddock Road Metro, this map option will continue to provide them with a safe means of getting to and from school.
- **Enrollment Capacity:** The existing Maury boundary, retained in Map Option #9, keeps the Maury live-in student enrollment at 107% -- well within the ACPS ideal target range of 90-110% utilization.
- **Class Size:** Retaining the existing Maury boundaries, as Map Option #9 does, would continue to support class size requirements within ACPS guidelines
- **Distribution of Special Programs:** Map Option #9 would require no diversion of additional special program resources.
- **Program Continuity:** Retaining the existing Maury boundaries would eliminate changes that would negatively impact our students. Maury Elementary prides itself on being a true community, and Map Option #9 ensures that our community will remain strong and whole.
- **Sensible and Fair Boundary Lines:** The Maury boundaries in Map Option #9 allows for sensible, neighborhood continuity. The neighborhood and families closest to the school remain part of the Maury community, without forcing walkers to cross dangerous intersections or require additional crossing guard resources. Map #9's boundaries, especially for the neighborhood closest to the school, genuinely reflects the community nature of the school.

◦**Diversity:** Map Option #9's retention of existing Maury boundaries allows the Maury community to truly reflect the rich diversity of ACPS and the City. Every one of our students and their families are part of this community, and the loss of any of Maury's planning blocks or neighborhoods would be as objectionable as it would be unnecessary. Our diversity is our strength.

We ask for your support of Map Option #9, and your continued support of the Matthew Maury Elementary community.