

Druid Hills Cluster Elementary Redistricting Community Feedback
Meeting 2 Online Survey

Option 1: Convert Briar Vista Elementary to the Briar Vista Montessori and Early Learning Center - **Pros**

Comment

Early learning Center

Fixes the over crowding issue at Laurel Ridge.

More students get to remain in LRE.

More options for Early Childhood Learning for community

Better choice for Fernbank diversity. Laurel Ridge PTA stays more intact. It will especially be good if instead of two separate programs, Briarvista offers an integrated Pre-K 3 year old to 5th grade Montessori program, priority acceptance offered to Druid Hills cluster students.

Creation of a Montessori school that is available to all DCSD families.

We get a montessori school option.

Fernbank would remain a title one school and retain socio-economic diversity

Early learning programs are a benefit to county

Integrates traditional track BVE students into the FB school community.

distance to schools is more even, does a better job of keeping sections of neighborhoods together than option 2, gives Fernbank a more permanent attendance area, the Early Learning Center is a huge plus and is needed, relieves LRE of several sections which will help offset the massive amount rapidly incoming high-density residential developments.

Reduced overcrowding and filling up the spaces should be done using School Choice vs forcing students to attend outside their districted home school

Able to serve 3-5 year olds with early learning center. Briar Vista does not seem to work as a Montessori PLUS regular school - this option will keep Montessori for those who want it but put regular education kids in a school totally focused on that.

The location and traffic is significantly more suitable for Briar Vista going into Fernbank.

Please see my post and consider an option 3

Gives BVE students a strong traditional public education alternative to the failing BVE traditional track.

Geographically desirable

There are the most pros with this option. This is the best way to insure all students receive the best possible education with the available resources.

Better for schools all around

Not sure.

Keeps more families at Laurel Ridge who are an important part of the school community. Provides an additional early childhood center for the area. Keeps the Valley Brook Estates and Lindmoor Woods communities at Laurel Ridge.

My preference would be option 1 because I think it would be good if we were redistricted to Fernbank, and Briar Vista continued to offer its Montessori programming, which I understand is quite strong. It also seems good to open up some early learning pre-k seats in the county.

Eliminates currently failing system

This option keeps the majority of our community (LRES) stays together and create a Montessori school for the area.

Adds early learning

Doesn't make such a drastic change to current Laurel Ridge population.

Keeps a lot of BV together at new school. Moves fewer kids from LRE, lessens impact on tightknit small school community. PLEASE allow some current students to stay at LRE. There will be extra seats once this process is complete. Let special needs (504/IEP) and rising 4th grade stay if they can provide transport, automatically like rising 5th grade.

Availability of an expanded public Montessori program and additional capacity for pre-K childcare spots.

Traffic would be much more manageable as people would be, for the most part, travelling south. In option 2 most of the new students going to Fernbank would be heading West along with most of the traffic at this time of day and could become gridlocked.

Moving a large group to single school. Montessori should be an optional school (school choice only) b/c its not the best method for every child.

Better alignment of neighborhood location to school assignment

Creates increased geographical area for Fernbank

Strengthens BVE as creating a unified philosophy for the school

Option 2 does nothing to provide an alternative for many of the students districted for BVE who would like a traditional public education. The traditional track at BVE fails to provide a reasonable level of education, so the best choice is one that eliminates the BVE traditional track and gives students an alternative.

I think it would be great if we were redistricted to Fernbank, and Briar Vista continued to offer its Montessori programming, which I understand is quite strong. It also seems great to open up some early learning pre-k seats in the county.

It gets rid of the traditional track at Briar Vista and creates much-needed pre-k spots. A greater number of students in failing schools are redistricted to a successful school.

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Option 1: Convert Briar Vista Elementary to the Briar Vista Montessori and Early Learning Center - **Cons**

Comment

Close Briarvista as Elementary school

Doesn't fix the over crowding issue enough.

Will Briar Vista will need bus transportation for people within a certain radius of the school.

Medlock is broken up

Splits Medlock park

Traffic at Briarcliff-Clifton intersection might get worse.

Briar Vista is no longer a neighborhood school.

Current Montessori families that rely on public transportation will not be able to stay and have to enroll in a traditional program.

Fernbank students are more spread out.

No transportation for any Montessori students means it is essentially another option for privileged parents in DCSD, does nothing to help parents in poor school zones who do not have transportation. EY program would be at the far edge of the district, at a distance from many of the families who might most need it.

I see that high rated schools will be diluted with students who will struggle to perform and bring down the academics unless you are part of the few who test as Gifted.

A lot of kids to move and those at the top end of the map will have to travel far to get to Fernbank.

Please see my post and consider an option 3

The students in the north corner of the BVE district would have a longer distance to travel to Fernbank if BVE is eliminated as their neighborhood school.

none

No significant con

This movement is not an even distribution of movement between the from/to transition. What is the rationale for this and how were the numbers determined.

It extends Fernbank zone up North into areas where homes are more expensive. We are currently renting a home in the Fernbank zone, and we are looking to buy. Option 1 would not allow us to stay in the same school zone.

Na

None I can see

Closes a much needed neighborhood school

Long commute for those in northern briar vista area to Fernbank

Splits LRE kids into 3 different schools-- this is a small school and the kids are very close. Change is devastating for some kids. Please let existing students have option to use some opened seats to continue at the school that feels like home to them. They will all finish within a few years and there will still be space for future students.

o This option is does not improve over capacity in District 2

o This option does not relieve the overcrowding problem because it doesn't add space for any new students at BE

o This option leaves three schools in the cluster over 90% utilization (McLendon at 94.7%) and the cluster as a whole at 93.1% utilization, and it does not get rid of a

Move of children further away to Fernbank ES.
The distance some students would have to travel.
Travel time for some areas
Will it make Fernbank ES overcrowded?
Can students in the BVE zone get preference over outside students (like The Museum School)?
Students in the north portion of Briar Vista's district are farther away from their districted school.