



Dr. J. Scott Smith
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St. Mary's County Public Schools

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July 1, 2020

Dear Reader,

The Board of Education of St. Mary's County is pleased to submit this Educational Facilities Master Plan in accordance with Title 14, Subtitle 39, Chapter 2, Regulation 2 of the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR). The contents and format are as directed and requested by the rules, regulations, and procedures for the administration of the public school construction program dated September 1994 and revised in February 2017. The format is patterned after the required elements list issued by the Maryland Department of Planning.

The update of the plan has been somewhat of a challenge this year given the COVID-19 Pandemic. While we received inputs from many of our local partners, there were also many who were not able to provide updated data this year given current challenges. With that acknowledgement, staff has worked with available resources to produce the best document possible to represent our community and needs at this time.

This document details the educational facilities program and Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for St. Mary's County Public Schools. The Educational Facilities Master Plan must be submitted by July 1st of each year in accordance with the rules, regulations, and procedures for the administration of the Public School Construction Program and the Board of Education of St. Mary's County's policies and regulations. The school system and county data and information contained in this document are utilized for facilities planning decisions.

The CIP is updated annually for the current and next five consecutive years. This is a comprehensive plan that represents the capacity and infrastructure needs of the school system. It reflects the fiscal climate of the county and state, with respect to current revenues. The plan was revised in FY 2018 to shift the capital plan focus from new facility and capacity projects to systemic renovations and infrastructure needs for facilities with systems that were renovated or modernized in the 1900's and are now reaching the end of their useful lives. As we enter FY 2021, the enrollment projections continue to show a decrease in the rate of growth to the point that the construction of new capacity is not anticipated to be needed within the six-year CIP. Therefore, the capital program continues to focus more comprehensively on meeting the needs of our existing infrastructure. However, we will continue to monitor the enrollment trends and make adjustments to the plan as warranted. There will be a local K-12 capacity needs study completed in FY 2021 to explore future capacity options and determine future CIP capacity needs. This plan addresses student and facility needs as we determine them at this time.

The Board of Education of St. Mary's County has approved this master plan. Copies have been supplied to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and are available to all interested citizens. To request a copy of this plan or to express comments on this document or the St. Mary's County Public Schools' CIP, please contact:

St. Mary's County Public Schools
Department of Capital Planning
27190 Point Lookout Road
Loveville, Maryland 20656
(301) 475-4256, ext. 6

Sincerely,

Karin Bailey
Chairman, Board of Education

J. Scott Smith, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools

St. Mary's County Public School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, or disability in matters affecting employment or providing access to programs.