

## WOOTTON HIGH SCHOOL CLUSTER

Wootton H.S.; Cabin John M.S.; Robert Frost M.S.; Cold Spring E.S.;  
DuFief E.S.; Fallsmead E.S.; Lakewood E.S.; Stone Mill E.S.; Travilah E.S.

October 27, 2011

Dr. Joshua Starr  
Superintendent of Schools  
Montgomery County Public Schools  
Carver Educational Services Center  
850 Hungerford Dr., Room 112  
Rockville, MD 20850

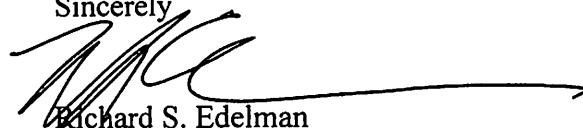
Dear Dr Starr

Unfortunately I was not able to attend the meeting you held with parents at Wootton High School on October 19. As one of the Wootton Cluster PTA/PTSA Coordinators I want to be sure that you are aware of a statement of principles adopted by all Wootton Cluster PTAs and PTSAs in two consecutive years in response to the continued overcrowding at Wootton High School and plans for additional development within and near our Cluster. A copy of that statement of principles is attached to this letter.

As is apparent from the statement, our PTAs and PTSAs oppose the addition of new students to our schools from large new communities within the boundaries of our Cluster, as well as addition of new students from communities from outside those boundaries while Wootton High School continues to be so overcrowded. I want to be clear that we do not generally oppose addition of students from new communities within Cluster boundaries, nor do we necessarily oppose addition of new students from outside our Cluster. We do oppose addition of students from new large communities within our boundaries or addition of new students from new or existing communities outside our boundaries so long as Wootton High School continues to be overcrowded as it has been for a number of years. Additionally, we strongly and jointly oppose any plan to move any existing Wootton Cluster community out of the Wootton Cluster in order to accommodate students from a new development/neighborhood/community regardless of whether the tract of land involved is currently within the present geographic boundaries of the Cluster.

Copies of our statement of principle were provided to the Board of Education, the City of Rockville and County Council last year. We want to make sure that you also have a copy of them. If you have any questions about these principles, or would like to discuss them with us, please contact me.

Sincerely



Richard S. Edelman

1400 Fallsmead Way, Rockville MD 20854  
301-217-0886 (home), 202-898-1707 (work)

The Wootton Cluster PTA's and PTSA's Have Agreed to the Following Several Principles:

1. We have serious concerns about assignment of students from substantial new developments/neighborhoods/communities (such as those over 1000 units) to Wootton Cluster schools which are overcapacity in their enrollment at such time. Of particular concern, is Wootton High School which has been overcapacity for many years and enrollment is projected to continue to be over capacity (without the addition of students from new developments) for the next fifteen years as per MCPS projections. Students from substantial new developments/neighborhoods should not be added to Wootton Cluster schools if they will increase student populations above current levels, regardless of whether the tracts of land involved are within the present geographic boundaries of the Cluster.
2. We strongly oppose any boundary change that would remove any established neighborhood/community from the Cluster in order to accommodate students from a new development/neighborhood/community regardless of whether the tract of land involved is currently within the present geographic boundaries of the Cluster. All Wootton Cluster PTAs and PTSAs commit to maintaining a unified position in support of all current Cluster communities/neighborhoods remaining in the Cluster in preference to addition of any new development/neighborhood/community.
3. These positions represent the affirmative views of the Wootton Cluster communities. We anticipate that our elected officials in the County government and on the Board of Education will support our viewpoint during the planning process before any building begins on any currently undeveloped tracts of land within or adjacent to the present the geographic boundaries of the Cluster.