

Lower Merion School District



Options

April 4, 2016

**Special Meeting of the
Lower Merion Board of School Directors
Facilities and Enrollment Growth Update**

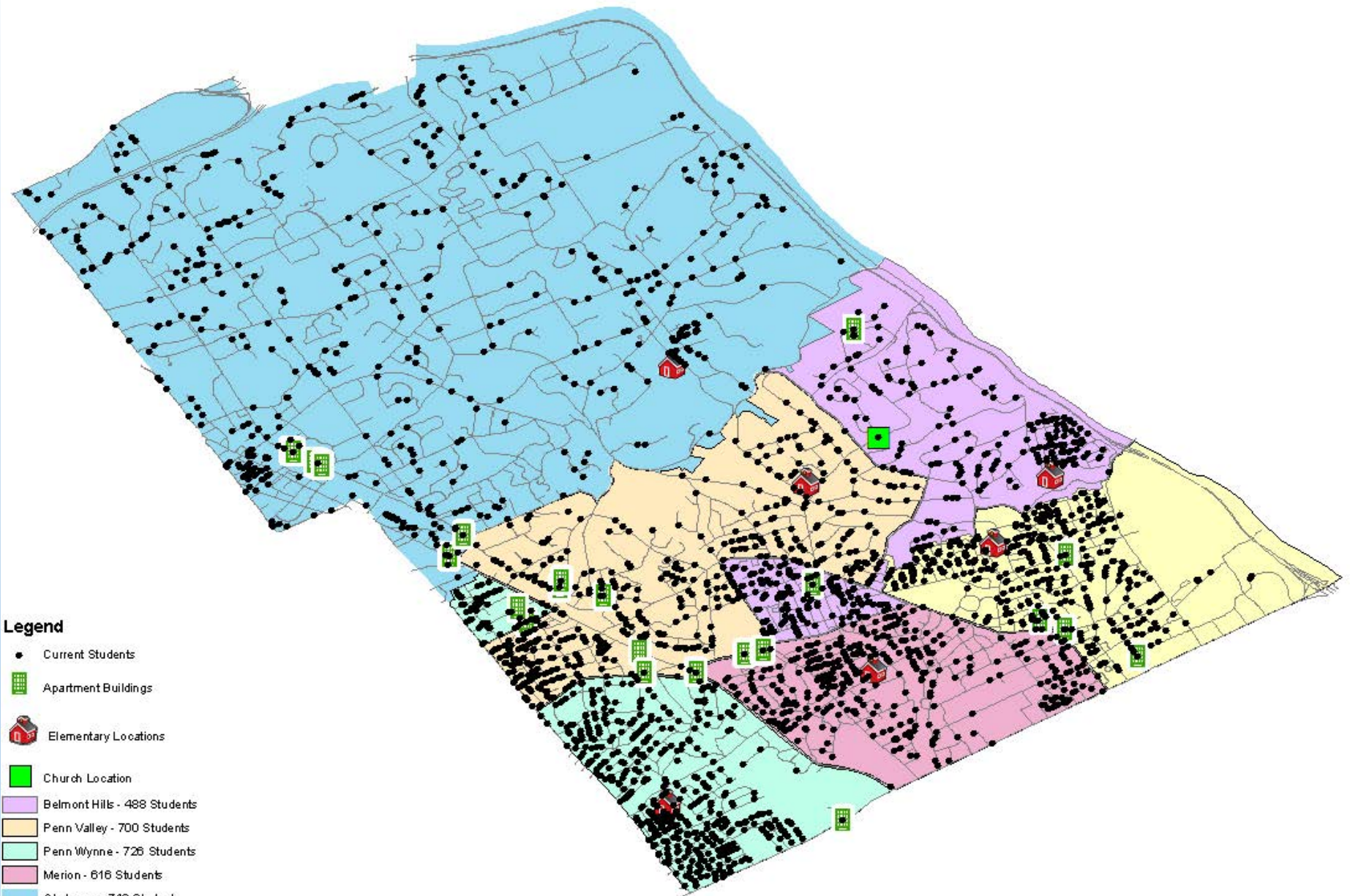
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Four Broad Approaches

- Redistricting
- New School – Redistricting
 - Kindergarten Center
- Neighborhood Stabilization
- Increased Class Size

LMSD Current ES Boundaries with Current Student Counts



Legend

- Current Students
- 🏢 Apartment Buildings
- 🏠 Elementary Locations
- 🏡 Church Location
- Belmont Hills - 488 Students
- Penn Valley - 700 Students
- Penn Wynne - 726 Students
- Merion - 616 Students
- Gladwyne - 740 Students
- Cynwyd - 563 Students

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Redistricting

- Build classrooms onto Merion and Penn Valley
- Transfer students from Penn Wynne to Merion and PV
- Merion has tight neighborhood area
- May need more core space to build onto Merion
- May need expansion of core space onto PV - issues with impervious also at PV
- Might solve BCMS problem
- Split elementary school feeder pattern

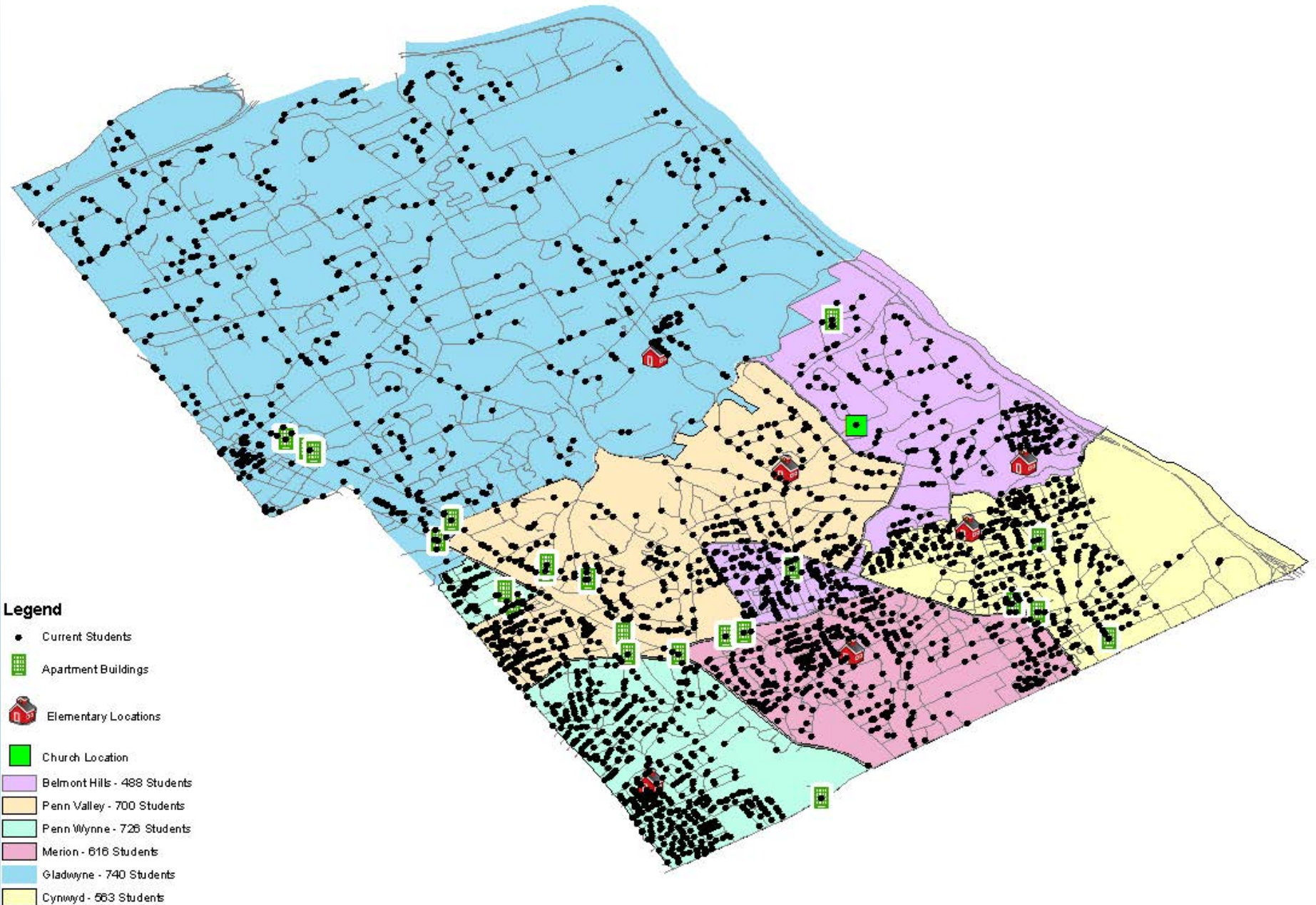
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New School

- Enrollment is finite at about 550
- May still require some building
- Cascading redistricting
- Costs 40 million +
- Solves BCMS problem
- Less hoping/more control

LMSD Current ES Boundaries with Current Student Counts



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Neighborhood Stabilization

- Build onto PW now
- See how Partner Schooling works (BH, PV,CY)
- Cost is less than new school
- Incremental build
- Long(er) term use of modular
- Creates need for BCMS modular classes

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LMSD Elementary School Class Size Guidelines

Grade	Class Size
Kindergarten	20
1 st	22
2 nd	22
3 rd	23
4 th	25
5 th	25

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Effect of Changing Class Size Guidelines

2016-17					2017-18				
	# CR Avail	N+1	N+2	N+3		# CR Avail	N+1	N+2	N+3
BH	22	22	21	20	BH	22	24	23	22
CN	25	25	25	20	CN	25	26	25	22
GL	33	32	32	30	GL	33	33	30	30
MR	27	27	27	25	MR	27	26	26	24
PV	30	31	31	29	PV	30	31	30	28
PW	31	32	30	30	PW	31	35	32	31
	168	169	166	154		168	175	166	157

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Effect of Changing Class Size Guidelines

2018-19				
	# CR Avail	N+1	N+2	N+3
BH	22	24	24	22
CN	25	26	25	22
GL	33	33	31	30
MR	27	27	26	26
PV	30	31	30	29
PW	31	34	34	32
	168	175	170	161

2019-20				
	# CR Avail	N+1	N+2	N+3
BH	22	24	23	23
CN	25	26	25	23
GL	33	34	32	30
MR	27	27	26	25
PV	30	29	29	27
PW	31	34	33	33
	168	174	168	161

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Effect of Changing Class Size Guidelines

2020 - 21				
	# CR Avail	N+1	N+2	N+3
BH	22	24	23	23
CN	25	26	26	23
GL	33	34	33	31
MR	27	27	26	25
PV	30	29	29	27
PW	31	34	33	33
	168	174	168	161

* Formula Rounds Every Grade Level Up – this could be 25

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Increase Class Size

- At the elementary level between 80 and 100% of classes are mainstreamed
- Class size can be mitigated with additional In-Class Support
- High School class sizes can be increased
- Low class size is a Lower Merion Brand

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Secondary Schools

- We have time!
- Harriton can handle the growth (1600) and has room to expand if necessary
- LM can handle the growth (1900) using DAO
- BCMS needs portables or redistricting
 - Program needs may arise 2017-18!
- WVMS can handle the growth but...
- Only if BCMS doesn't get redistricted

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Recommendation - Neighborhood Stabilization Moderation

- See impact of Partner Schooling
- Modular buildings at Penn Wynne will help stem the growth there
- Build at Penn Wynne
 - Distance from other schools will be a problem
 - Core space is currently a problem not solved
- After 10th Day enrollment look at other schools
- Build with prudence (modular only solution)
- Go to N+2
- Assign new housing as needed
- Redistrict as a last resort

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Comparative Summary

- Pro
 - Allows Decision-Making Closest to Available Data
 - Less Costly
 - Supports LMSD Core Values
- Con
 - Less Proactive More Reactive
 - Larger Schools

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Timeline:

- May 2016 – Approval of Penn Wynne Design
- October 2016 – Updated Demographic Report
- November 2016 – Approve Final Penn Wynne Design
 - Review Projections for Belmont Hills, BCMS, Penn Valley
- January 2017 – Bid Penn Wynne Project
- February 2017 – Approve any Modular Projects
- March 2017 – Award Penn Wynne Project