Good evening Superintendent Smith, President Evans and members of the Board, my name is Dominique King and I am PTA President of Great Seneca Creek Elementary School. On behalf of the Great Seneca Creek Elementary School community, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the MCPS Planning Division and Dr. Smith for recommending Option 11a for for the Upcounty Boundary Study. This recommendation ends the split articulation to Roberto Clemente and Kingsview Middle Schools, allowing all students to attend Kingsview middle school together. The Creek families are ecstatic and appreciative at the prospect of Great Seneca Creek staying together as one unit instead of being split for middle school and then reunited for high school. This recommendation is also beneficial for Seneca Valley HS because it lower their FARMS rate and makes their population more evenly balanced among all ethnicities.

We would also like to thank both the Board of Education and Dr. Smith for recommending an option that provides relief for both Northwest and Clarksburg High Schools. While we understand that capacity relief would be greater for Clarksburg, we worry there will not be enough of a reduction in enrollment at Northwest. Altering Option 11a to only include half of Germantown Elementary School means that enrollment at Northwest will only be reduced by about 100 students. This is not enough to make a significant difference. Thus, I would like to express my support for Option 11a as originally written, having all of Germantown ES articulate to Seneca Valley HS and not have them split between two high schools. As a parent at a split articulated school, I have seen the negative effects this has on children who know they will no longer attend school together in the future. While we are glad the split will be eliminated at our school we ask that you not create a new split at another school. Thanks you for your consideration.

Dominique King