

**Oakland Mills Community Association
Education Committee
July 5, 2016 Meeting Notes**

- Attendees:
 - Jonathan Edelson – Committee co-chair
 - Alan Romack –OMMS PTSA President & TSES parent
 - Lena Kennedy – SFES PTA/parent
 - Marcellino Bedolla – OM Resident
- The committee discussed potential format and topics for the upcoming **Board of Education candidates' forum**:
 - Format: All agreed that the last forum (September 2014) went well and we should retain that format. One change will be to set a firm cutoff for responses to questions provided in advance so that the responses can be provided to the community, via the OM website, prior to the event.
 - Topics (committee agreed to develop questions under these topics):
 - Elementary School Model
 - How do candidates feel about it?
 - Will candidates give time to evaluating it?
 - Will it be rolled out in other schools?
 - What changes would candidates make to it?
 - Should it be standardized across all participating schools or flexible to suit each school's needs/preferences?
 - Telehealth
 - School capacity
 - What are feelings about schools like West Friendship being far below capacity while schools in the eastern part of the county are above capacity?
 - For schools above capacity, what would candidates do to improve quality of portable classrooms and movement between the school building and the classrooms?
 - How would candidates consider capacity and demographics when faced with redistricting decisions?
 - Would candidates support considering pre-K students part of the school population for capacity purposes in schools with all day pre-K?
 - Universal Pre-K
 - Testing schedules
 - Wellness Policy
 - Since the meeting, the Oakland Mills Village Manager, Mrs. Cederbaum, has secured the co-sponsorship of all other Columbia villages and the participation of all candidates

- Mr. Edelson sent a note to each other village inviting them to send a representative to future education meetings to help plan the forum
- **Other items**
 - We know of one local teacher impacted by the Ellicott City flooding. A “gofundme” page has been established to help her and her husband with expenses.
 - Mr DiTomasso is participating on the redistricting policy committee. He attended the first meeting remotely and will provide an update when he returns.