

GUIDE TO PRIMARY & SECONDARY SOURCES ON THE SUBURBANIZATION OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

FINDING AID

Montgomery County Public Schools

850 Hungerford Drive

Rockville, MD 20850

Telephone: (301) 2793853

Website: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org

Name of archive/collection/records: None

Date Range of archive/collection/records: 1950s-present

Language of archive/collection/records: English

Background Information: The first schools in Montgomery County date to the late 1700's. Various state acts were passed in the early 1800's, providing for schools in the county. However, it was not until 1860 that the General Assembly passed an act setting up a countywide school system in Montgomery County. As in other Washington area school systems, a large surge in enrollment occurred as a consequence of the federal governments' expansion during World War II, suburbanization, and the Baby Boom. Following the 1954 Supreme Court ruling in *Brown vs. Board of Education, Topeka, Kansas*, MCPS completed desegregation its schools in 1960.

Enrollment decreased in the 1970's and early 1980's as the Baby Boomers aged out of the system. However, beginning in the mid-1980's, immigration to the Washington region and a strong economy led to a new wave of enrollment growth that continues to this day. Enrollment has increased by 60,000 students since 1983 and stands at 151,289 this year. The student population is much more diverse economically and in race/ethnicity than very before. Non-Hispanic white enrollment is now only a third of total enrollment, while during the Baby Boom it represented 90 percent of enrollment.

An excellent history of MCPS up to 1965 can be found in, "From One Room to Open Space," by E. Guy Jewell.

Summary and scope of archive/collection/records: There is no specific archive of school system history. The Department of Facilities Management has fairly extensive files about school buildings. A Central Records operation may have additional historical information, as may the Board of Education office, and Public Information office. These documents might include planning documents, building designs, and histories of school leaders.

Format of materials in archive/collection/records: Paper, Digital Records, Maps, Photographs

Suburbanization Subject Terms within archive/collection/records: Biographical Records; Civic/Community Organization; Education; Government (Federal/State Local); Land Development; Maps/Atlases/Street Maps; Capital Improvement Programs; Facility Planning Documents

Special Collections: None.

Access and Use: By appointment only.

Contacts:

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