

## Rockville Schools Report

by R. Schrack

The table on Page 2 is extracted from school data available on the Montgomery County Board of Education website in "Schools at a Glance 2010-2011". It shows the great diversity that now exists in the elementary schools that serve Rockville. The table covers an array of data about the schools. More complete information can be had by referral to the website:

[/www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/regulatoryaccountability/glance/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/regulatoryaccountability/glance/)

A study of the table is helpful in understanding the geography of poverty in the city. Also note where poverty is high and student ability is low, the student teacher ratio is low. The county makes an effort to put more resources where it is needed.

On Friday, October 15, the Washington Post reported on a study of Montgomery County Schools done by Heather Schwartz of the Century Foundation. It showed how students from poverty backgrounds did better in school when they made up a minority of the student body. To quote from the article: *"After seven years, the children in low poverty schools performed 8% higher on standardized math tests than their peers attending higher poverty schools - even though the county had targeted them with extra resources"*. Unfortunately, in Rockville schools the opposite is usually the case – the students that could profit most are in schools where ethnic minority students are in the majority. A map is included that shows the location of the schools. Also shown are the locations of schools that have been closed. Note that Farmland Elementary is not on the map. It is south of Montrose Road but gets 50% of its students from Rockville.

In general the schools west of route 270 have lower levels of ethnic minorities and students qualifying for free lunch. While much of the Ritchie Park student area is west of 270, there is an area east of 270 that takes in a low income area. The inclusion of this area east of 270 probably accounts for the difference that Richie Park shows from the other schools located west of 270.

A comparison of the 2009-2010 report and the 2010-2011 report shows a decline in every school in the fraction of white students and an increase in ethnic students. While this may increase the difficulty of the educational task, it reinforces the need for support of the schools of Rockville.

The future of Rockville is dependent on our future employee pool. Even though the county has direct control of Rockville schools, the city needs to exercise a continuing commitment to the education of our younger citizens. We are becoming increasingly dependent on high technology. Our future citizens must be adequately prepared to compete successfully for future jobs to maintain the city earning power and thus the quality of life of all citizens of Rockville.

## School Characteristics

School	% R	S 2010	C 2010	D 2010	PC 2010	O % 2010	O % 2015	F%	ESOL %	G2	AA%	AS%	H %	W %	S/T	\$/S	Clus
Beall	100	707	526	181	8	1.34	1.59	24.	15.4	84	14.4	26.3	17.	34.7	14.1	5500	RM
College Gar.	80	790	670	120	2	1.12	1.24	11.5	12.8	80	15.2	25.4	11.8	40.5	15.8	4100	RM
Fallsmead	70	545	574	-29	0	1	1	7.3	9.7	79	5.9	33.2	4.0	46.8	14.2	5200	TW
Farmland	50	579	617	-38	0	.94	.89	7.3	25.2	93	4.5	33.7	8.6	49.1	14.5	5500	WJ
Lakewood	30	614	569	45	0	1.07	.95	2.4	10.7	92	6.6	40.1	7.0	45.6	15.7	5200	TW
Maryvale	90	565	570	-5	1	1.01	1.12	41.1	25.7	66	23.5	7.8	32.2	26.7	12.1	6100	R
Meadow Hall	100	391	344	47	2	1.14	1.28	49.9	23.8	71	14.8	8.4	45.3	26.3	9.9	7400	R
Ritchie Park	80	516	387	129	5	1.34	1.48	13.6	10.3	80	10.5	20.7	17.6	46.9	14.1	5500	RM
Twinbrook	80	558	541	17	4	1.05	1.16	64.	52.5	49	11.6	17.4	54.7	11.5	10.7	6800	RM

% R - The fraction of the students that come from the Rockville part of the schools boundaries

S 2010 - Number of students in the 2010-2011 school year

C 2010 - Core capacity of school

D 2010 - Deficit, number of students greater than the core capacity. Negative values indicate school has capacity for more students.

PC 2010 - number of Portable classrooms currently

O % 2010 - “overcrowding” ratio is S2010 divided by C2010

O % 2015 - Projected “overcrowding” in 2015. These number are probably underestimates.

F % - Percentage of students that receive Free And Reduced price Meals (FARMS). Child’s family must earn less than 60% of the median income.

ESOL % - Percentage of students for which English is a Second Language.

G2 - Grade 2 composite index of grade 2 Terra Nova basic skills.

AA % - Percentage of students that are Afro-American.

AS % - Percentage of students of Asian heritage.

H % - Percentage of students of Hispanic heritage.

W % - Percentage of non- minority students

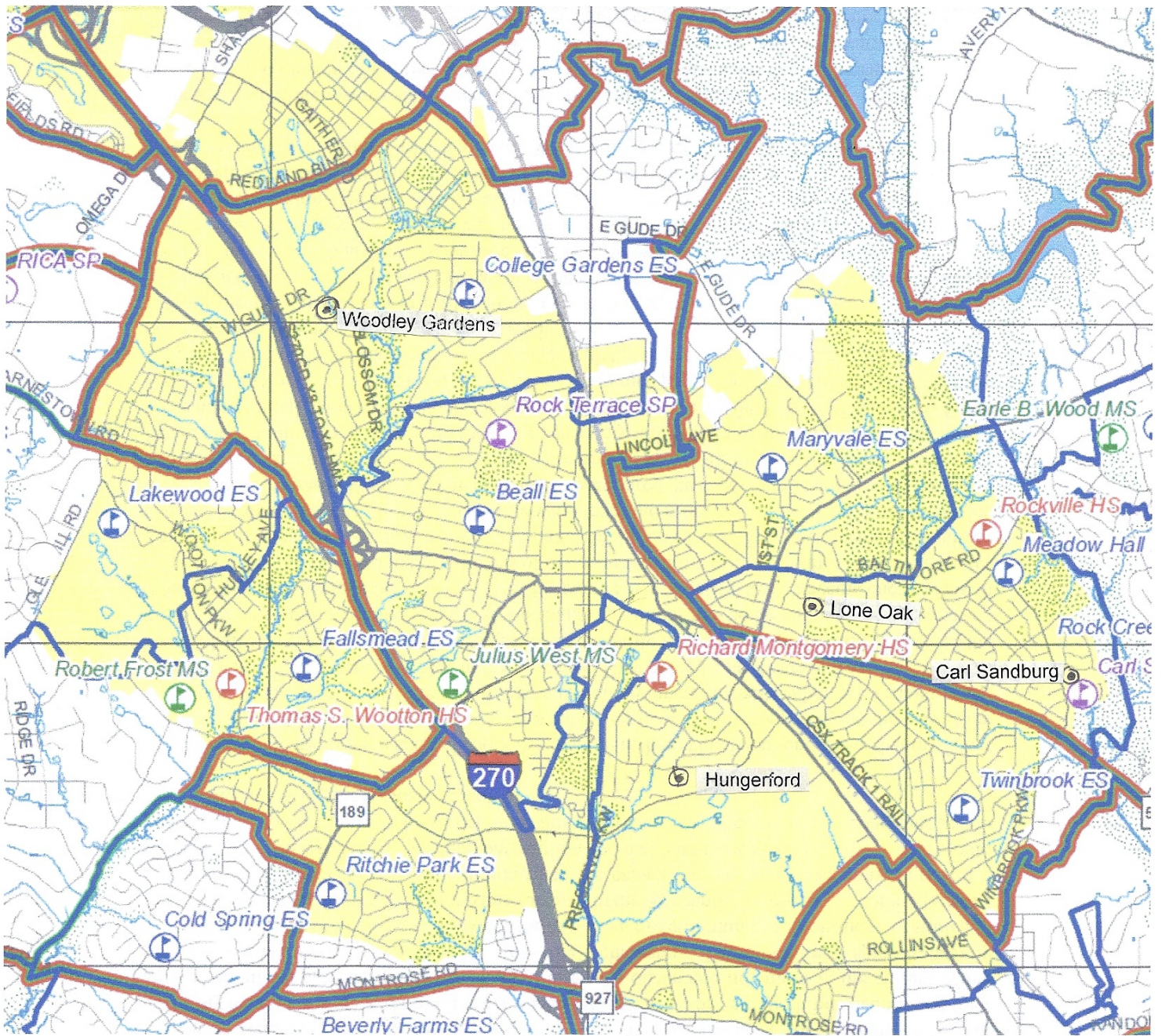
S/T - Number of students divided by number of teachers ( the student-teacher ratio)

\$/S - Number of dollars spent on each student per year. This is the total professional salary divided by the number of students. Rounded to hundreds

Clus - The high school cluster to which this elementary school belongs. This determines the middle school and high school the student will attend.

RM - Richard Montgomery, TW - Thomas Wooton, WJ - Walter Johnson, G - Gaithersburg, R - Rockville

## Rockville Schools



• Farmland.

Woodley Gardens Elementary is now the Rockville Senior Center  
 Lone Oak Elementary now houses a number of non-profit agencies  
 Carl Sandburg Elementary is now Carl Sandburg Learning Center for children with Multiple Disabilities  
 Hungerford Elementary is now the Children's Resource and Referral Center. There are plans to build a new elementary school at this location.  
 Park Street Elementary was torn down in the building of the new Richard Montgomery High School.