

If the board approves Plan 3R, we will be redistricting again...

- **This plan does not equalize programs.** The point of redistricting is to equalize the programs at the two schools, not to equalize the number of bodies. Equalizing the number of students is a means to an end. This plan relies on “draw” programs that, by definition, are not creating equal schools.
- **This plan does not equalize the high school populations.** The families currently districted to Harriton were promised equal schools. This plan does not send enough students to Harriton. This plan sends Merion, Penn Wynne, Bala Cynwyd, half of Penn Valley, and some of Belmont Hills to Lower Merion. One can see immediately that this is much more than half of the district. Plan 3 did not send enough kids, plan 3R sends even fewer.

To make up for this shortcoming the administration is **relying** on choiceⁱ, and the new Penn State credit program. There is no reason to believe that the Penn State program will be approved, funded, and will draw students. This program has not even been presented to the curriculum committee. There is no reason to believe that once LM is finished families will continue to choose Harriton.

- **This plan does not equalize the middle schools and will cause overcrowding at BC.** Recall that the one of the non-negotiables was to equalize the size of the middle schools. Next year there will be 801 students at BC, and 810 at WVⁱⁱ. Both schools are described by parents and board members as “bursting”. While Welsh Valley may be able to assimilate an extra 22 kids over the next few years, has the board investigated how Bala Cynwyd will fit an additional 110-150 kids (depending on the projections) in the school? These projections do not take into account additional private school children joining the public schools due to changes to the economy or additional residential developments in progress.

	Bala Cynwyd	Welsh Valley
2009-10	801	810
2010-11	819	814
2011-12	851	831
2012-13	878	826
2013-14	910	832

- **This plan is designed to artificially create token diversity as Harriton by busing minority and low-income students away from their only local school. This will cost us all in legal fees.** From the current feeder pattern to the plan 3 feeder pattern, 204 kids are transferred to Harriton. Although kids on the school lunch program make up only 7% of the LMSD population, they make up 24% of the population being redistricted. Minority students make up 20% of the LMSD population but make up 41% of the population being redistricted. This plan has disproportion-ate impact; 3:1 on low income families, and 2:1 on minority familiesⁱⁱⁱ.

	# Students Redistricted	% of redistricted	% of LMSD population
White	120	59%	80%
Black	35	17%	10%
Asian	25	12%	7%
Hispanic	18	9%	3%
Amer. Indian	6	3%	<1%
School lunch	49	24%	7%

ⁱ See http://lmsd.org/documents/redistricting/081216_plan3.pdf for data.

ⁱⁱ See http://lmsd.org/documents/redistricting/080908_board_presentation.pdf and http://lmsd.org/documents/redistricting/081201_update.pdf

ⁱⁱⁱ Although these statistics are for plan 3, it is anticipated that plan 3R statistics will be even worse for disadvantaged groups. Data from http://lmsd.org/documents/redistricting/081124_presentation.pdf and http://lmsd.org/sections/schools/default.php?m=5&t=hhs&p=hhs_about_facts.