

## **SACET response to lottery priorities recommended by the Grant Cluster BAC**

1. Recommendation: Grow Beaumont to 550 students through transfer, with priority to Grant cluster students.

Response: SACET was unanimous opposed to this recommendation for the following reasons:

- Increasing Beaumont transfers hurts the sustainability of other schools that have small middle grades, such as Irvington, Sabin and Woodlawn. The result is mediocrity across the Board.

- Data shows that about 2/3 of the transfer requests into Beaumont are from outside the Grant cluster. Increasing Beaumont transfers will set up more students for a difficult separation out of the Grant cluster at their most vulnerable transition.

- Recent history has shown that one-off transfer priorities weaken the overall system.

Instead of using transfers, SACET recommends that boundaries in the area be right-sized as the primary mechanism for stabilizing enrollment at Beaumont and nearby schools. They would like to see the boundary change looked at in the broader context of the region. Further, they suggest that, in addition to local community members, individuals from outside the school areas in question be a part of the community deliberation process, to ensure that outcomes are consistent with results that would stand across the district.

2. Recommendation: Where requested, Alameda students are guaranteed into Sabin for 1-2 years.

Response: This is a nice idea that probably would not work. The cited example was the Bridlemile guarantee that has existed for several years, but has not had a substantial impact on overcrowding at West Sylvan MS or underenrollment at Gray MS.

Lottery priorities should be offered only as a short-term fix, while working on a more permanent, long-term solution, and should only be done if the choice doesn't cause more problems at either the sending or receiving school.