

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 14, 2020
FROM: Steven A. Sparks, AICP
Robert McCracken
TO: Middle School Boundary Adjustment Advisory Committee
SUBJECT: January 16, 2020 Committee Meeting

Meeting Expectations

The January 16, 2020 committee meeting will be a continuation of the second phase of the boundary review project with the committee reviewing test maps that staff have prepared in response to information and data requests made by the committee. As noted below, there are eight (8) test maps for the committee's review for the January 16th committee meeting. Our goal for this meeting is for the committee to narrow the ideas for future consideration so that there will be no more than three (3) working maps at the next committee meeting (January 30).

At the conclusion of the January 16th committee meeting, staff will seek consensus of the committee on which ideas will move forward as working maps. Committee members may propose mapping ideas at the meeting; however, those mapping ideas will be moved forward if a majority of the committee agrees to do so.

Meeting Materials

Staff have prepared maps in response to information and data requests made by the committee at the January 9th committee meeting. There are seven (7) boundary Test Maps attached to this memorandum. The Test Maps contain SY 2021 and SY 2025 enrollment projections for each of the boundary ideas. Demographic and transportation data are not provided due to the number of boundary ideas. The maps are labeled as follows:

Test Map 3. This map is the same map considered at the January 9th committee meeting. What has changed is the location of the Rachel Carson and SUMMA programs. These changes are noted in yellow highlight in the enrollment projection table.

Test Maps 5 and 6. These maps are variations on Test Map 4 that was considered at the January 9th committee meeting. The maps also assume that Stoller MS SUMMA students will be located in the Timberland area middle school. This change is noted in blue highlight. Test

Map 6 has Aloha Huber Park being moved to Mountain View MS and Rock Creek elementary boundaries being moved to Five Oaks MS.

Test Maps 7, 8, and 10. The maps are a variation of Staff Test Map - Utilization of Capacity that was considered at the January 9th committee meeting. Test Maps 7 and 8 propose the same attendance boundaries and propose different locations for the Rachel Carson and SUMMA programs, also noted in blue highlight.

Test Map 9. This map is a public proposal that the committee requested to be evaluated.

Test Map 11. An additional Test Map (#11) is being evaluated at the time of this report being published. The additional map will be sent to the committee before the January 16th meeting.

Accompanying the Test Maps is a table which shows a side-by-side comparison of utilization of building capacity for each of the Test Maps. The table also shows a side-by-side comparison of middle to high school feeder patterns.

Board Objective #2

As the Committee is aware, the Board has established an objective for the middle school boundary adjustment project of:

“Adjust the attendance boundary for Stoller MS to provide a projected student population of approximately 90% of the permanent capacity of Stoller MS.”

The permanent capacity of Stoller Middle School is 1,081 students and 90 percent of the permanent capacity of Stoller MS is approximately 970 students. A question was raised at the January 9th committee meeting of at what time is the approximately 90 percent supposed to be attained. The objective is to be met for School Year 2021-22.

Meeting the objective is critical to the project as is understanding the potential long term implications of meeting the objective. Staff have provided the committee with middle school enrollment projections to SY 2029-30. The purpose of providing the projections is to understand the enrollment trends and the potential impacts to the middle schools by the boundary ideas being reviewed by the committee. SY 2025-26 was chosen as another measuring point due to the size of that projected enrollment. While “approximately 90 percent of the permanent capacity” is not a measuring point for SY 2025-26, it is important that the committee’s action include adequate analysis of boundary locations so as to not require additional boundary adjustments in the near future. A recommendation that will result in an under or over enrollment in the future for any middle school which does not allow for an equitable learning environment will not be acceptable.

Transportation

Bus Route Averages

As stated in the staff memorandum dated January 7, 2020 prepared for the January 9th meeting, the median MS bus route for SY 2019-2020 is approximately 22 minutes and 5 miles. The committee requested information on the average MS bus route. The average MS bus route data was provided to the committee at the January 9th committee meeting. The Transportation Department memorandum dated January 8, 2020 summarizing SY 2019-2020 Middle School Route Data identifies the number of bus riders, miles, and time for each middle school bus route. The data is provided for morning and afternoon routes. The average MS bus route riders, miles, and times for the entire district are:

Morning:	57 Riders	4.5 Miles	20:59 (Time)
Afternoon:	57 Riders	5.4 Miles	25:29 (Time)

Walk Zones

There were also a number of questions about walkability; how is it defined and how is it mapped?

For middle schools, the walk zone is 1.5 miles from a student's home to a student's school. The distance is measured along paved walking trails and sidewalks. The distance is not a straight-line measurement, rather it is a path of travel measurement.

The Walk-To-School Areas map illustrates the middle school walk zones. This map does show current middle school attendance boundaries. However, the illustrated walk zones are not attendance boundary specific, rather the zones are school specific. Therefore, the map represents all current walk zones, regardless of attendance boundary.

There may be some questions about specific walk zones. Transportation staff will be available at the January 16th meeting to answer any questions. Please note that students will be bussed across arterial streets. For example, students living in the Aloha Huber attendance area will be bussed to Mountain View because of Farmington Road. Examples of arterial roads that form walk zone boundaries include, but may not be limited to, Barnes Road, Cornell Road, Farmington Road, Hall Boulevard, Murray Boulevard, Scholls Ferry Road, and Walker Road.

Public comment has been provided on the District not including THPRD trails in the walk zone map. The recently completed trail segment along the powerline corridor southwest of Stoller MS is included. The potential THPRD trail in the Bronson Creek area is not included because THPRD does not have funding or a design for the future community trail in this area. Washington County has a number of road projects in eastern Washington County which will improve pedestrian access. Once these features are in place and open to public use, the walk zones will be reevaluated.