

# Boundary Recommendation

Presented to the School Board Dec. 2, 2025



### Guiding Principles for Boundary Changes

(Approved by the school board Sept. 30, 2025)

- Base decisions on the best interests of ALL district students.
- Ensure schools in the southern part of the district have capacity to meet current and future needs.
- Consider demographic make-up of the student body.
- Gather feedback from various stakeholders to provide insight.

- Provide for a safe and efficient transportation system within board policy and procedures.
- To the extent possible, keep the feeder system to middle schools.
- To the extent possible, keep neighborhoods together.
- To the extent possible, each elementary school will have a minimum enrollment of 400 students.

	Option A	Option B	Option C			
Estimated # of impacted students	135	39	39			
	Estimated Building Capacity 2026-27					
Afton-Lakeland	76%	86%	89%			
Bayport	78%	70%	70%			
Brookview	85%	85%	85%			
Lake Elmo	68%	66%	61%			



#### **Strengths of Proposals:**

- Preference to keep neighborhoods intact; move the fewest students; address long-term capacity needs
  - Most support for Option B
- Desire to minimize disruption; maintain community continuity; balance enrollment—especially where capacity is lowest

#### **Key concerns:**

- Adventure Club availability, transportation; alignment with enrollment timelines; specialist loss, student stress, and impacts on families with complex schedules
- Strong desire for longer-term planning; options for legacy students; and transition supports to reduce disruption



## ThoughtExchange Feedback



**Participants** 



Thoughts

264

#### **Boundary Changes Impact and Stability**

Side A

#### Option A Supporters

Supporters of Option A believe that the proposal makes the most geographic sense, keeping neighborhoods closer to their schools and supporting established community ties. They argue that this option offers a longrange impact with visionary goals and keeps affected schools above targeted minimum levels, leading to equitable classroom sizes. Some emphasize the importance of keeping parcels like 40/41 close to their current school, Lake Elmo, rather than moving them to Bayport which is less convenient for parents.

Common ground

#### Minimize Student Disruption

Both supporters of Option A and supporters of Options B and C agree that it is crucial to minimize disruption to the students. While they differ on which option achieves this goal best, they both highlight the importance of ensuring children's stability, maintaining close community ties, and reducing stress by minimizing the number of students who have to change schools.

Side B

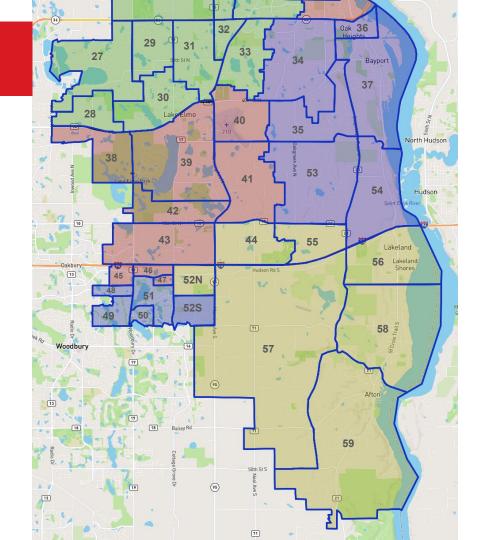
#### Options B/C Supporters

Supporters of Options B and C argue that these options impact the least number of students and therefore cause the least disruption. They stress the importance of minimizing changes and preserving community ties to reduce stress on children and families, Options B and C are seen as offering stability by disrupting fewer families, which includes fewer moves for children already struggling with transitions due to past boundary changes.

#### RECOMMENDATION



- Move Parcel 44 from Lake Elmo to Afton-Lakeland
- Move Parcels 53 & 54 from Afton-Lakeland to Bayport
- Split Parcel 52: Parcel 52N (currently in development) to Afton-Lakeland, 52S remains at Brookview





## Option A: Enrollment Estimate

	2026-27		2027-28		2028-29	
	Estimated Enrollment	% Capacity	Estimated Enrollment	% Capacity	Estimated Enrollment	% Capacity
Afton-Lakeland	382	76%	388	78%	386	77%
Bayport	467	78%	450	75%	430	72%
Brookview	554	85%	549	84%	548	84%
Lake Elmo	746	68%	790	72%	827	75%

# Recommendation: Option A

- **Solves longer-term capacity needs:** Ensures buildings can accommodate projected enrollment over the next 5 years.
- Balances enrollment: Creates consistency in schools and prevents both overcrowding and underutilization.
- Prepares for growth: Preserves space in areas with expected housing development and population increases.
- Minimizes future disruptions to families: Reduces the need for frequent boundary adjustments.



- **Legacy Students:** Current 4th graders will be allowed to continue as 5th graders at their current elementary school.
  - Transportation dependent on whether it can be offered in cost-neutral way.
     Details will be provided this spring.
- Student in grades K-3 may request to remain at current school by submitting an <u>Alternate Enrollment Request</u>.
  - Alternate enrollment decisions based on grade level capacity.
- Current Adventure Club students will have a guaranteed spot next year—regardless of which school they attend.

More FAQS: stillwaterschools.org/boundary



# QUESTIONS