

Recommendation for Declaration of Open Enrollment Schools to the BESD School Board

Submitted by: Megan Bushnell, *Director of Student Services*

Recommendation:

It is recommended that Century Elementary, Discovery Elementary, Fielding Elementary, Garland Elementary, Golden Spike Elementary, Lake View Elementary, McKinley Elementary, North Park Elementary, and Bear River High School be designated “closed”.

Recommended Motion:

I move that Century Elementary, Discovery Elementary, Fielding Elementary, Garland Elementary, Golden Spike Elementary, Lake View Elementary, McKinley Elementary, North Park Elementary, and Bear River High School *be designated as “closed”.*

Background:

Each year, Utah school districts are required to publicly announce which schools will be open to enrollment by students outside of a particular school’s established attendance area. Schools with an enrollment of at least 90% of the building’s core capacity can be closed to enrollment by students outside of the school’s attendance area.

Generally speaking, out-of-boundary students whose behavior and attendance are satisfactory can stay in a school once they have been admitted. However, the district does reserve the right to require out-of-boundary students to transfer back to their home schools based on student behavior, attendance, and/or overcrowded conditions.

The anticipated enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year identifies the following schools as being at or over the 90% threshold and thus closed to the enrollment of out-of-boundary students:

Century Elementary School, Bear River City	114% of capacity
Discovery Elementary School, Brigham City	114% of capacity
Fielding Elementary School, Fielding	115% of capacity
Garland Elementary School, Garland	109% of capacity
Golden Spike Elementary School, Brigham City	90% of capacity
Lake View Elementary School, Brigham City	145% of capacity
McKinley Elementary School, Tremonton	146% of capacity
North Park Elementary School, Tremonton	148% of capacity
Bear River High School, Tremonton	91% of capacity

Schools to Watch:

Box Elder High School, Brigham City	89% of capacity
Box Elder Middle School, Brigham City	88% of capacity
Three Mile Creek Elementary School, Perry	88% of capacity
Willard Elementary School, Willard	86% of capacity

In addition to closing entire schools to out-of-boundary students, specific grade levels can be closed in “open” schools due to student/teacher ratios or the lack of programs required by a specific child. During

the June 20, 2012, meeting the Board recommended that out-of-boundary students should not be accepted when enrollment at a grade level exceeded 10% of the state's median enrollment at that grade level during the previous year posted on the Utah State Board of Education's website.

Recommendation:

I recommend that this be changed to 10% less than the state's median enrollment to avoid overcrowding as most of our buildings are already at or over capacity. This allows room for DLI siblings and students moving in boundaries during the school year.

The state's median enrollment during the 2025-2026 school year is as follows:

Kindergarten	20	Third Grade	24
First Grade	22	Fourth Grade	24
Second Grade	22	Fifth Grade	25

Policy Implications:

There are no policy implications other than the grade level guidelines are in alignment with previous Board recommendations.

Financial Implications:

There are no staff implications at this time.

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There are no financial implications at this time.