

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 27, 2020
FROM: Steven A. Sparks, AICP
Robert McCracken
TO: Middle School Boundary Adjustment Advisory Committee
SUBJECT: January 30, 2020 Committee Meeting

Meeting Expectations

The January 30, 2020 committee meeting will be in start of the third phase of the boundary review project with the committee reviewing “working” maps that staff have prepared in response to direction from the committee. At the conclusion of the January 16th committee meeting, staff requested each committee member to select two (2) “test” maps to move forward for additional analysis. A clear majority of the committee selected test maps 8 and 9 to move forward. These two maps are now labeled as Working Maps A and B respectively. Staff have completed analysis of both working maps, the data on which is attached. Based on the committee's discussion on walkability, transportation costs, feeder patterns and requests for information on these subjects, staff have prepared a third working map labels as Working Map C. An analysis of Map C is also attached.

The goal for this meeting is for the committee to discuss the potential impacts identified in the analysis of each working map. Staff will be seeking the committee’s direction on potential adjustments to the working maps or dismissal of working maps. At the conclusion of the January 30th committee meeting, staff will seek consensus of the committee on which working map ideas will move forward for additional modification and analysis. 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. As noted by staff at the January 16th meeting, the committee may choose to return to other test maps if Test Maps 8, 9, or both are not satisfactory, and a majority of the committee chooses to consider another test map(s).

Given the amount of time required to process map proposals for the additional analysis, the committee will be limited to two maps for additional “working map” analysis.

Meeting Materials

As previously noted, the Committee will be reviewing Working Maps which have been subject to additional data analysis consistent with the factors contained in Policy JC. Those factors are:

- *Student body composition;*

This factor concerns demographic information such as race/ethnicity and socio-economic data.

- *Current and future availability of space at a school;*

This factor concerns building capacity and future enrollment projections.

- *Feeder patterns from elementary, middle to high school; and*

The factor concerns how boundaries will feed students to the next school.

- *Neighborhood proximity and accessibility.*

This factor concerns how students will access their school. Transportation data, including walkability, is data used to evaluate this factor.

Staff have evaluated each of the Working Maps reviewing race/ethnicity, free-reduced lunch eligibility, and feeder patterns from ES and to HS. Transportation data is still being developed. This information is to understand the potential impacts of each boundary map on each of the factors. The goal is to develop a recommendation that will balance potential impacts across the district.

Working Map A (formerly Test Map 8). As noted in the staff memorandum for the January 16th meeting, Working Map A is a variation of *Staff Test Map - Utilization of Capacity* that was considered at the January 9th committee meeting. No changes to the attendance boundaries have been made as a result of committee discussion at the January 16th meeting.

Working Map B (formerly Test Map 9). This map has been slightly edited from the map reviewed by the Committee at the January 16th meeting. Per the Committee's directions, the edits to the map were made as a result of the discussion had during the meeting. These changes include:

- Southern part of Sato ES (Pirate Park neighborhood) moved to Five Oaks MS attendance area.
- Eastern half of Oak Hills ES moved to Meadow Park MS attendance area.
- Southern portions of Elmonica ES and McKinley ES moved to Meadow Park MS attendance area.
- Moving Vose ES from Highland MS to Whitford MS.

The edits made to create Working Map B do not address previously identified walkability concerns for Mountain View MS and Stoller MS. Overcrowding issues remain at some schools. These remain as issues for the committee to discuss.

Working Map C (new map). In response to the committee's discussions on walkability and the committee now considering Policy JC factors, staff have prepared Working Map C with a focus on capacities, feeder patterns, and transportation concerns. Map C illustrates middle school boundaries in which walk zones are maximized (i.e. all attendance boundaries include all

existing and potential walkable areas) and proposes two high school boundary amendments to address feeder patterns. The map should be evaluated by the committee in the same manner as Maps A and B; the committee is not required to move Map C forward. A detailed analysis of transportation concerns is being developed at the time of preparing this memorandum. However, Map C was developed with the assistance of Transportation Department staff. The transportation analysis will be complete prior to the January 30th committee meeting.

A critical issue for the committee to note with Map C is the proposal to adjust the high school attendance boundary in two (2) locations. The identified changes appear to be sizable and are undergoing additional review. However, the changes to the high school boundaries will address MS to HS feeder patterns and result in a positive enrollment change at Westview HS. The first change is having all of Oak Hills ES feed to Sunset HS rather than split between Sunset HS and Westview HS. The second change is to move the Aloha HS boundary further east to Murray Boulevard between TV Highway and Walker Road. This would shrink the Beaverton HS attendance area. The majority of this area is non-residential and will impact a smaller student population than it may appear.

Based on current resident student count in the effected areas, the 9th-12th grade student shift that would occur at Westview to Sunset and Beaverton to Aloha if the boundaries were changed is anticipated to be:

SY 2019: Oak Hills ES students at Westview HS

- 240 total resident students;
- 20 resident students attend Options;
- 5 resident students attend another comprehensive HS;
- **215 total attend WHS**

SY 2019: Barnes ES students at Beaverton HS

- 103 total resident students;
- 17 resident students attend Options;
- 16 resident students attend another comprehensive HS;
- **70 total attend BHS**

The actual impact on high school student enrollment would depend on legacy decisions. Staff have identified these two amendments to high school attendance boundaries to better align feeder patterns as identified by the committee and the public. Further, the transportation department has identified potential benefits from bus routing.

A final boundary amendment is proposed in Map C by moving a portion of the Barnes ES attendance area to the Beaver Acres ES attendance area. This area is a single grid code that is located on the west side of 170th Avenue.

Transportation

The primary issue to consider for each of the working maps is the potential impacts to transportation concerns. Due to unanticipated conflicts, the transportation analyses of each working map are not complete at the time of publication of the meeting materials. The analyses will be provided to the committee as soon as they are available.

Walkability

Walkability has been a frequent subject raised by and to the committee in the past meetings. As noted above, Map C was developed in part to maximize walk zones and lower the use of bus transporting of students. Questions have been raised concerning the future improvement of pedestrian infrastructure throughout the District. Partner agencies have improved pedestrian infrastructure throughout eastern Washington County and continue to do so. Two frequent areas of pedestrian infrastructure improvement have been identified as:

- Saltzman Road - County Project

Washington County is in the initial stages of improving Saltzman Road from just north of Bayonne Lane to Laidlaw Road. This project will improve the road and sidewalk along Saltzman Road. However, this improvement will not make Stoller MS walkable from this portion of the Findley neighborhood. There is an approximately 200-300 meter segment of Laidlaw Road that is not walkable. There is a paved shoulder on the north side of Laidlaw Road, but the route is not considered safe for walking to school. The County has not identified a future project to improve this section of Laidlaw Road and fill the sidewalk gap. Because of the sidewalk gap, the current County road project will not affect this boundary project in terms of walkability to Stoller MS.

- Bronson Creek Trail - THPRD

THPRD does have a community trail identified in its 2016 Trails Plan along Bronson Creek located in the Findley ES attendance area. However, THPRD has not conducted the necessary planning to identify a specific route nor has identified a funding source for the trail. Any trail that may be constructed in the area is years away and will not affect this boundary project.