

Committee Meeting 4: Boundary Adjustment Study

Cropper GIS Consulting, LLC

November 28, 2017

6:00-8:00

Great Falls Public Schools: Our Kids, Our Community, Our Future

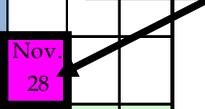
Tonight's Goals and Agenda

- 6:00 - 6:20 Review of updated materials and new DRAFT options 5-6
- 6:20 - 7:15 Committee members perform school-by-school exercise on an individual basis
- 7:15 - 7:45 Sticker exercise to narrow focus to 3 or fewer DRAFT options for the December 12th Public Information Session
- 7:45 - 8:00 Discuss Public Information Session logistics and adjourn

Boundary Adjustment Process Timeline

	Dec. '16	Jan. '17	Feb. '17	Mar. '17	Apr. '17	May '17	June '17	July '17	Aug '17	Sept '17	Oct '17	Nov '17	Dec '17	Jan '18	Feb '18
<i>Data Collection</i>															
<i>Data Analysis / Assimilation</i>															
<i>Internal Logistics Planning with GFPS</i>															
<i>Committee Application Development</i>															
<i>Committee Application Review / Member Selection</i>															
<i>Background Report Development</i>															
<i>Baseline Options Development</i>															
<i>Public Information Session #1 : Present Project Process, Criteria, Timeline, and Boundary Adjustment Objectives to Community. Information meeting to public, without public comments.</i>										Sept. 11					
<i>Committee Meeting 1 - Orientation, Review Background Data</i>										Sept. 12					
<i>Committee Meeting 2 - Introduce Baseline Options, Obtain feedback</i>											Oct. 10				
<i>Committee Meeting 3 - Options Development</i>												Nov. 7			
<i>Committee Meeting 4 - Options Development</i>													Nov. 28		
<i>Public Information Session #2 : Present DRAFT Boundary Adjustment Options to Community for Comment/Feedback</i>													Dec. 12		
<i>Committee Meeting 5 - Review public input, Continue Options Development</i>														Jan. 9	
<i>Committee Meeting 6 - Finalize Recommendations</i>														Jan. 30	
<i>Presentation of Final Recommendations to the Board of Education</i>															Feb. 12

We are here



Guiding Principles / Criteria

The Great Falls Public School trustees have unanimously approved a set of criteria/guidelines to follow when evaluating school attendance boundary line adjustments. These are rules to follow when considering any boundary adjustment.

The boundary adjustment committee will be oriented on these criteria and will follow them as best as possible as they consider boundary change options.

Guiding Principles / Criteria

1. Maximize safety of students by defining boundaries along major geographical features such as roads, rivers, and railroads. Try to minimize students' crossing over major roads if possible.
2. Balance building utilization by reducing overcrowding in schools based on functional capacity.
3. Maximize transportation efficiency and walkability whenever possible.
4. Contiguous boundaries: Analyze 'satellite' boundaries for practicality.



Guiding Principles / Criteria

5. Balance demographic diversity. Maximize the socio-economic diversity of schools with any redistricting change whenever possible.
6. Consider middle and high school placements.
7. Attempt to keep identifiable community entities intact (apartment and condominium complexes, trailer parks, subdivisions, MAFB. etc.)
8. Minimize the number of student moves, while considering redistricting goals.
9. Be proactive for future potential growth if all possible.

Updates since last meeting:

1. Planning block cuts have been made per committee suggestions
 - a) Planning block cuts made for northern parts of Sacajawea Elementary school to provide capacity relief.
 - b) Southern part of Meadowlark was further cut to provide more options per committee discussion.
 - c) Other cuts made per committee input (Longfellow cut along 6th Ave, as well as adjusting PB at 15th and 8th to align with RR Tracks).
2. Emails from the public have been received and shared with the committee. Most comments received so far are either from the Bel View area (opposition to moving from Meadowlark to West) and the Black Eagle area (opposition to moving to a school south of the river)
3. Online map now reflects all planning block adjustments and new options.
4. After review of potential Middle / High School options, GFPS has determined that the focus of this committee's work will be solely on elementary school changes.
 - a) Middle and High School adjustments create an imbalance in school utilization.

Updates since last meeting:

5. Options 5 and 6 have been developed, which include committee map markups. Both options were built off of Option 4.
 - a) Option 5 includes the following changes to Option 4:
 - i. Area formerly moved to Chief Joseph moved back to Mountain View ES.
 - ii. Southwest area of Meadow Lark ES to West ES (Bel View neighborhood remains at Meadow Lark).
 - iii. Northern part of Sacajawea ES moved to Morningside ES with goal of providing relief to Sacajawea.
 - iv. Southern part of Sunnyside moved to Mountain View ES to balance utilization between the 2 schools.
 - v. PB 13 (north of 8th Ave N) moved to Giant Springs ES.
 - b) Option 6 includes the following changes to Option 4:
 - i. Area formerly moved to Chief Joseph moved back to Mountain View ES.
 - ii. Meadow Lark ES reverted back to current boundary.
 - iii. Northern part of Sacajawea (unbuilt future housing area) moved to Riverview ES.
 - iv. PB 13 (north of 8th Ave N) moved to Giant Springs ES.
 - v. Area south of 6th Ave S. moved from Longfellow ES to Lincoln ES.

Individual School-By-School Exercise

- Committee members will work individually on a 'school-by-school' exercise, but are welcome to collaborate with other committee members during their work.
- The committee will choose which option best meets the overall criteria and objectives for each specific school.
- Some schools have the same boundary configuration for several options, which is noted in parentheses under the school name.
- Groups will have adequate time to review the options and complete the exercise.
- Results of school-by-school exercise could suggest creation of a hybrid option.

School Name
Chief Joseph ES (O1=O2, O3, O4) (O5=O6)
Giant Springs ES (O1=O2) (O5=O6)

Sticker Exercise

- The committee will perform a consensus building exercise called a sticker exercise.
- The purpose of this exercise is to determine if there is consensus on a smaller number of options to focus on as you work towards a recommendation.
- The outcome of this exercise will help to identify common thoughts among committee members on options that best meet the objectives and considerations



Sticker Exercise

- Committee members independently review materials and select 3 DRAFT options that **BEST** meets the study objectives and criteria for the Great Falls Public Schools.
 - Each member will be given 2 stickers
 - Place 2 stickers for the top options you feel **BEST** meets the objectives and criteria.
 - Committee members don't need to place all stickers if they feel only 1 option is best.
 - Each member should place only one sticker per option
- After about 30 minutes, the group will discuss the results and determine options that should be removed from consideration



Public Information Session Logistics

- The public will be invited to attend a Public Information Session on December 12th.
- The format of the Public Info Session is designed to collect feedback from a maximum number of respondents.
- Typical format does not allow for an 'open mic' approach, where public members openly voice their opinion in front of a microphone.
 - Reason is that this method only allows for a few voices to be heard
- Meeting opens with a PowerPoint presentation to review progress made to date.
- After presentation, public is invited to review wall maps of options, with committee, staff, and consultants around maps to discuss the work.
- Primary focus of the meeting is to listen to members of the public, but also to encourage them to participate in an online survey for the entire committee's benefit.
- Survey will remain open until the end of the year (Close on January 2nd).

**Public Information Session is
Tuesday, December 12th**

**6pm @ the Paris Gibson Education Center in the
Cafeteria**

**Committee members please arrive at 5:30 if
possible for a brief orientation**

Next committee meeting will be on January 9th



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