

Great Falls Public Schools, Montana
Board of Trustees Progress Report on Boundary Adjustment Process
November 21, 2017

Prior work completed by the committee

The committee met on September 12, 2017 to kick off the process.

- At this meeting, the boundary committee evaluated planning tools that will be used to make boundary adjustment scenarios
- An overview of the process, timeline, and boundary adjustment criteria were reviewed
- The committee broke into 3 small groups to review maps of planning blocks and current boundaries.
 - Planning blocks are the building blocks for making boundary adjustments. They are small areas of communities (smaller than elementary attendance areas) that are determined to move together with the goal of creating boundary scenarios that best meet the overall objectives and criteria for the process.
- The committee was informed on the communications process for the study, including the location of the boundary adjustment study web-page on the GFPS website.
 - The committee was informed that all materials shared with the committee will be posted online for the public's review and benefit.

Since the last board update, the committee has met two more times (October 10th and November 7th).

- Committee has continued to provide invaluable input regarding potential options to recommend.
 - Started process with 2 options for committee review. Up to November 7th, the committee has reviewed a total of 4 options for consideration.
- Public has been actively following the process.
 - Meadow Lark community has been very vocal in opposition to leaving Meadow Lark.
 - Options send western parts of Meadow Lark to West ES.
 - Black Eagle communities have expressed opposition to moving to a school south of the river.
 - Options send areas east of Hwy 87 from Riverview ES to either Whittier ES or Morningside ES.

Current work by the committee

The committee meets for the 4th time on November 28th.

- 2 additional DRAFT options (Options 5 and 6) will be shared with the committee at this meeting.
 - These DRAFT options are built off of ongoing feedback from the committee and public.
 - The committee will be reminded that everything is DRAFT through the entire process and any map is subject to change. Nothing is finalized until the Board of Trustees approve a plan at the end of the process.
- The main objective of the November 28th meeting is for the committee to narrow down to 3 or fewer options for the December 12th public information session.
- The committee will do this review work in small group sessions as well as full group discussion.
- As with every meeting, all materials will be posted on the GFPS boundary adjustment web-page. This enables any member of the public to follow the process and review the same materials that the committee is studying as they continue their work.

Future meetings and notes are as follows:

The committee, staff, and consultants will host a public information session on December 12th, 2017.

- At this public information session, the committee will share a series of options that they feel best meets the overall objectives and criteria for the study.
- The meeting in December will begin with a presentation, followed by a 'gallery walk' type format to review maps and data. The committee, staff, and consultant will be present around the maps to discuss questions from the public as well as listen to their concerns.
 - The main objective of the public information session is to have the public complete an online survey related to the boundary adjustment process.
 - The format of the December public meeting isn't an 'open mic' style, although the public will have the opportunity to ask the committee, staff, and consultants questions around the maps.

The committee will meet again after the new year, on January 9th and January 30th.

- Objectives of these meetings are to review public input and finalize their recommendations for the Board of Trustees

The presentation of committee recommendations is planned to occur on February 12th, 2018

- The committee will be asked to provide a single recommended plan, but the board will be briefed on the top options considered leading into the December 12th public information session.



2017 Elementary School 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
Data Collection															
Data Analysis / Assimilation															
Internal Logistics Planning with GFPS															
Committee Application Development															
Committee Application Review / Member Selection															
Background Report Development															
Baseline Options Development															
Public Information Session #1 : Present Project Process, Criteria, Timeline, and Boundary Adjustment Objectives to Community. Information meeting to public, without public comments.										Sept. 11					
Committee Meeting 1										Sept. 12					
- Orientation, Review Background Data											Oct. 10				
Committee Meeting 2															
- Introduce Baseline Options, Obtain feedback															
Committee Meeting 3															
- Options Development															
Committee Meeting 4															
- Options Development															
Public Information Session #2 : Present DRAFT Boundary Adjustment Options to Community for Comment/Feedback													Dec. 12		
Committee Meeting 5															
- Review public input, Continue Options Development															
Committee Meeting 6															
- Finalize Recommendations															
Presentation of Final Recommendations to the Board of Education															

