



A Community of Learners

Information Memo: Redistricting Monthly Update

TO: School Board

FROM: Trisha Kocanda, *Superintendent*
Administrative Team

April 23, 2019

Background

An imbalance in elementary school enrollment among the three elementary schools necessitated a review of school attendance areas in 2016. At that time, the community experienced the widest disparity in elementary school student enrollments in over 50 years. Crow Island educated 45% of K-4 students in the District and was deemed over capacity. Greeley was under capacity and Hubbard Woods near optimal capacity. Due to this disparity in elementary enrollment, anticipated future enrollment levels at each elementary school, and a commitment to equitable educational programming and services, a shift in school attendance boundaries is required.

Redistricting alone does not ensure equitable programming. School facilities also influence how and when programming is offered. Therefore, the School Board expanded the enrollment balancing initiative to include a facility review. With a recently approved Educational Master Facility Plan, we now have a commitment to maintain the neighborhood school model with (3) K-4 schools and (1) 5-8 school campus and are able to re-engage in the redistricting work to find the best possible solution to a very complex and emotional challenge.

At the November 27, 2018, school board meeting, the School Board reviewed and agreed to the proposed redistricting process and timeline. The administration committed to monthly School Board updates to monitor progress and uphold accountability to the timeline.

Redistricting Annotated Timeline with Updates

A redistricting update, in the form of a log of updates, will be included for all regular School Board meetings. See below for the March 2019 - April 2019 updates (most recent updates in **bold**).

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Plan</i> | <i>Update</i> |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------|
| October 23, 2018 | School Board approves EMFP - Commits to K-4; 5-8 grade configuration | Done |
| November - December 2018 | Review Enrollment Balancing Project materials and data, including enrollment projections and fall 2016 boundary scenarios | Done |
| | Update Cropper GIS with current enrollments - Analyze K-4 boundary scenarios (ex. review historical patterns to determine most reliable enrollment zones) | Done |
| | Update Village and Police officials with current status and review Enrollment Balancing Project materials and Cropper analysis; Examine <i>One Winnetka</i> potential impact | Done |
| | Update parents and community on planning; develop Redistricting Fact Sheet | Done |
| | Principals examine building schedule changes for projected enrollments (ex. When specials are offered, staffing needs, etc.) | Met and Ongoing |

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Plan</i> | <i>Update</i> |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| January - February 2019 | Evaluate K-4 boundary scenarios and projected enrollment impact with Village and Police for traffic considerations and safe walkways to schools; determine needed modifications (ex. Stop signs, walkway maintenance) for each plan and any incurred cost | The village will be providing safe routes to school for possible scenarios. Narrowed concepts with data related to safety, walkways, and demographics. |
| | Evaluate K-4 boundary scenarios with the bus company for routing and | Done |

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| | <p>needs</p> <p>Principals examine building schedule changes for projected enrollments (ex. When specials are offered, staffing needs, etc.)</p> <p>Evaluate data for permissive transfers and 2019-2020 Kindergarten registration to understand the impact on enrollment projections.</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing; reviewed all permissive transfer requests to date</p> |
| <p>March/April 2019</p> | <p>Review North Shore Transit's analysis of potential routing needs.</p> <p>Continue to design school schedules to accommodate the change in enrollment for fall 2020.</p> <p>Evaluate specific students and families based on impact (ex. Identify those impacted by short-term kindergarten plan).</p> | <p>Done</p> <p>Ongoing; principals are collaborating on schedule designs</p> <p>Students identified and specific impacts have been noted. Will continue to monitor.</p> |
| <p>April/May 2019</p> | <p>Review Redistricting impacts and considerations with new Board members.</p> <p>Determine range of impacted families/households</p> <p>Engage Cropper demographics for updated information given the current enrollment.</p> <p>Finalize timeline and process for redistricting community engagement.</p> | <p>Incoming School Board workshop held on April 12, 2019.</p> <p>Updated database of families impacted by short-term kindergarten plan.</p> <p>Held meeting with Cropper to refine process, timeline, and enrollment data on April 18, 2019.</p> <p>Updated Redistricting Fact Sheet for community access.</p> <p>Embed updated voluntary transfer data (36 students), approved by Board on April 23, 2019.</p> |

Next Steps:

The redistricting plan will be the primary focus of administration and School Board for the remainder of the school year. It is recognized that parents, community members,

and realtors are eager to find resolution to the plan. Redistricting has been a focus for incoming school board orientation to provide an informed transition. The May 21, 2019, School Board meeting will include a comprehensive presentation on redistricting.

May will also include the launch of a community-wide communication plan to share process, timeline, and plan specifics. This will include more detailed information about community engagement, milestones, and when to expect presentation of revised boundary options. The District will also re-engage the realtor group to keep informed and updated.

Attachments:

[Redistricting Fact Sheet](#) (updated April 2019)