

REDISTRICTING STEERING COMMITTEE

Final Redistricting Proposal

Respectfully submitted to the
West Chester Area School District
Board of School Directors -
Combined Pupil Services and Education Committee

June 2020

Redistricting Steering Committee Members

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Gary Bevilacqua	Justin Matys
Adam Bidegary	Alice McVeigh
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Jeff Bryant	Christina Morley
Kevin Campbell	Dante Mucci
Maria Chavez	Gerri Okolosi
Stefanie Cherup	Elisha Ozer
Cindy Chok	Carly Pilotti
Michel Comstock	Michele Porco
Alexis Cooper	John Purcell
Kate Coulter	Leigh Ann Ranieri
Danielle Crilley	Kristin Ray
Christine Cucinotta	Michael Reese
Rebecca Davis-Awan	Jason Ritter
Kristin DeFrancesco	Erin Rodgers
Cynthia Dieckmann	Donna Ryan
Jason Duhan	Jim Scanlon
Rebecca Eberly	John Scully
Meghan Edwards	Bob Sokolowski
Kevin Fagan	Heather Stewart
Kimberly Fallon	Lisa Stoddard
Tammi Florio	Leah Tasca
Anthony Froio	Mark Thompson
Deanna Gabe	John Timko
Mary Gadaletto	Kerri Turner
Brian Gallen	Laura Turner
Hope Gilman	Jeff Ulmer
Joanna Gool	Peggy Upton
Christina Gotro	Joe Vaccaro
Crystal Grace-Green	Nicole Verbos
Laura Harris	Tony Wadyko
Lynda Hennigan	Michael Wagman
Lynda Hickey	Steve Werner
Camille Holstein	Will Wood
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INTRODUCTION

The West Chester Area School District will be changing school attendance boundaries for the 2021-2022 school year, a process known as redistricting.

Our district population has seen a lot of change. Our 2019-20 enrollment is at 12,079, an all-time high. In addition, 3,200 new housing units have been approved within district boundaries, and we project our enrollment to approach 13,000 students over the next seven years. These enrollment projections have been carefully calculated with the help of experienced demographers who specialize in school enrollment and take into consideration which kinds of housing units tend to bring school children and what percentage of families choose public schools.

We will begin the process in the fall of 2019 by assembling a committee to analyze attendance boundaries and identify issues to consider. It will be comprised of school administrators, Board members, teachers, transportation staff, and parents. The committee will consider current school enrollments and projected enrollments. They will also develop scenarios that will shift attendance boundaries to balance our school enrollments.

The process of redistricting is one of the most emotional and difficult that any school district goes through. Unfortunately, in order to operate in a sound manner and provide enough space, we must shift our attendance boundaries to match enrollment. We are extremely careful about the way in which we analyze attendance boundaries and make decisions. Every effort will be made to ease transitions for students and to move as few students as possible. We are very sensitive to the difficult nature of this process and we will do our very best to be fair.

In reviewing enrollment numbers and building capacities in our schools, it became apparent that some redistricting would be necessary to balance out our enrollment numbers. The administration created the following parameters: administration began working on parameters that would be included in the plan. Those parameters were:

- Schedule buildings to between 90% and 98% of capacity – Many of our schools are operating beyond the current capacity and we have been using modular classrooms and band rooms for classroom space. We want buildings to be below their capacities to recapture that space.
- Maintain middle school-high school feeder patterns (Fugett MS->East HS, Peirce MS->Henderson HS, Stetson MS->Rustin HS)
- Schedule buildings with free and reduced lunch rates within 8 percentage points of the district average of 17.4%. We believe in maintaining diverse populations in our schools.
- Include transition plans for changes. Our committee will work to address transition plans for students who will need to move from one to school to another.
- Allow all high school students (9-12) to finish their current feeder pattern.

- Consider eliminating the split feeder pattern at Fern Hill. Fern Hill students attend Peirce & Fugett, and can be a point of anxiety for students moving from 5th to 6th grade. We may be able to address this concern.
- Consider ways to move as few students as possible. We always want to minimize disruption, but we do need to provide relief to some of our crowded schools and place more than 500 students in the new elementary school.

ROLE OF STEERING COMMITTEE

- Help to minimize impact on students. Are there areas, issues we need to consider as we look at attendance boundaries?
- Provide help developing transition plans:
 - Grandfathering
 - Bus transportation topics
 - Orientation for students and parents
 - Other topics
- Help with Community feedback meetings

ASSUMPTIONS FOR THIS PROCESS

1. We estimated number of students projected to come from developments not yet completed.
2. We will schedule projected enrollment from developments already approved and under construction.
3. Crebilly Farms enrollment will need to be addressed with additions to Hillsdale and Starkweather. We won't add those students until the development is approved.
4. Capacities assume the removal of all modular classrooms, however modular classrooms will not be removed until after implementation of new boundaries.
5. Consideration must be given to allow students in areas from the 2014 redistricting plan, to complete the feeder pattern they started in 2015.

SUMMARY OF PROCESS

The steering committee met on November 12, 2019, January 14, 2020, and March 3, 2020. Boundary maps were reviewed and the committee provided thoughtful feedback.

A list of “Frequently Asked Questions” that were addressed during the process along with the minutes of those meetings can be found at the end of this report.

The revised school boundary maps were presented to the community during a public meeting in February. Due to the coronavirus and the closure of PA schools, the second community meeting in March was cancelled. The revised maps were posted on the redistricting webpage and a virtual meeting was held via ZOOM on May 21, 2020.

The maps were presented at the May Combined Pupil Services and Education Committee meeting. The final report will be presented and voted upon at the June Pupil Services and Education Committee meeting. If the committee approves the redistricting plan, the plan will be placed on the Regular School Board Meeting Agenda for a full board vote at the June 22 board meeting.

Click on the links below to view:

- [Final proposed boundary maps](#)
- [List of neighborhood changes](#)

FINAL FREE & REDUCED LUNCH POPULATIONS BY SCHOOL

School	Total Student Count	Free/Reduced Students	%
East	1,384	182	13%
Henderson	1,331	207	16%
Rustin	1,362	148	11%
Total High School	4,077	537	13%
Fugett	1,025	135	13%
Peirce	1,090	157	14%
Stetson	948	142	15%
Total Middle School			
East Bradford	3,063	434	14%
East Goshen	469	74	16%
Exton	553	74	13%
Fern Hill	588	63	11%
Glen Acres	452	94	21%
Greystone	492	92	19%
Hillsdale	583	89	15%
Mary C Howse	564	97	17%
Penn Wood	499	50	10%
Sarah Starkweather	510	67	13%
Westtown-Thornbury	787	93	12%
Total Elementary School	577	92	16%
Total District	6,074	885	15%
	13,214	1,856	14%

TRANSITION PLAN

The final recommended map moves 30 current high school students (.07%), 25 current middle school students (.08%), and 877 current elementary school students (22%). Greystone Elementary school will receive 583 students; 446 current students (51% of students being moved) and 137 new students. We have established transition plans for students impacted by the redistricting in 2021 as well as plans for the upcoming 2020-21 school year.

The following is the transition plan for students impacted by Redistricting in the fall, 2021:

- **All High school students in 9th grade or higher and in the current high school as of fall 2021** will be permitted to finish that high school (no transportation provided)
- **All 8th grade students finishing at Peirce MS in 21-22 year** may finish at Peirce MS but will then attend East HS in fall, 2022. (no transportation provided) *OR*
- **Any middle school students changing feeder pattern and is in 6th grade by fall, 2021 may** finish the feeder pattern at Peirce MS and Henderson HS if they are in 6th grade in fall, 2021. (no transportation provided)
- **All 5th grade students finishing their current elementary schools** may finish their schools (no transportation provided)
- Any student on **Apple Drive (section D)** who was attending Peirce MS in fall, 2019 may finish the feeder pattern (transportation provided). Since fall, 2019 this area has been transitioning from Henderson HS to East HS feeder. All new residents have been enrolling in Exton ES/Fugett MS/East HS feeder pattern.

The following is the transition plan for the 2020-21 school year:

- **Newly enrolled students changing feeder patterns** may enroll in the following schools in fall, 2020 rather than wait until fall, 2021: East Bradford ES, East Goshen ES, or Fugett MS. (*transportation provided*)
- **Newly enrolled students changing feeder patterns** may not enroll in the following schools in fall, 2020: Greystone ES, Fern Hill ES, Exton ES.
- **All 5th grade students at Fern Hill ES changing the feeder pattern from Peirce MS to Fugett MS** may enroll at Fugett MS in 6th grade in fall, 2020 rather than wait until grade 7 in fall, 2021. (*transportation provided*)
- **Students from elementary schools (Mary C. Howse, Fern Hill, Glen Acres, Exton, and Hillsdale) moving to a new school in fall, 2021** will be transitioned together during the 2020-21 school year, so transition will be easier in fall, 2021.
- **Parent/Teacher Organizations** may allocate some money for startup funds for Greystone (Mary C. Howse, Fern Hill)
- **We will be sure to have special orientations** for families switching schools, and we welcome feedback on making the transitions.
- **An Elementary Buddy System** will be set up for students in the spring and fall.

- **Open houses will be scheduled during the spring and summer, 2021** for students and parents to meet staff, other students and to visit schools.
- **Transition plans** will be conducted with any student with a special need.

TIMELINE

The redistricting timeline follows:

<i>DATE</i>	<i>ACTIVITY</i>
Monday, June 10, 2019	Presentation to Education Committee regarding the process for redistricting
July & August 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration conducts analysis of housing projects • Estimated enrollment numbers targeted for each school building based on operational capacity
September, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redistricting parameters developed • Board approves redistricting parameters • Email sent to community with update and timeline • Estimated number of students projected from various developments, and logged into transportation software. • FAQ's posted on the district website
October, 2019	Form Steering Committee
November 12, 2019	Steering Committee Meeting – Spellman, 6:30 pm
December 3, 2019	Steering Committee Meeting – Spellman, 6:30 pm
January 14, 2020	Steering Committee Meeting – Spellman, 6:30 pm
February 4, 2020	Community Update Meeting - Stetson MS, 6:30 pm
March 3, 2020	Steering Committee Meeting – Spellman, 6:30 pm
March 31, 2020	Community Update Meeting - Stetson MS, 6:30 pm
April and May 2020	Final report prepared for school board.
May 11, 2020	Final report presented to Education Committee – Spellman, 6:30 pm
June 22, 2020	Board votes on redistricting plan – Spellman, 7:00 pm
September, 2020	Administration works on transition plans
November, 2020	Principal of Greystone ES named
January, 2021	Staff transfer process begins
April, 2021	Staffing assignments completed
July, 2021	Bus stop assignments and bus schedules completed
August, 2021	Opening of Greystone Elementary School

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – DEVELOPED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROCESS

1. Why do school districts change or “redistrict” their attendance boundaries?

As neighborhood demographics change over time, schools often see shifts in enrollment. Some schools may become crowded while others may have empty classrooms. It's up to each school district to carefully monitor and evaluate when it's time to change attendance boundaries to accommodate these changing populations.

2. Why is West Chester going through the process of redistricting?

Our district population has seen a lot of change. Our 2019-20 enrollment is at 12,079, an all-time high. In addition, 3,200 new housing units have been approved within district boundaries, and we project our enrollment to approach 13,000 students over the next seven years. These enrollment projections have been carefully calculated with the help of experienced demographers who specialize in school enrollment and take into consideration which kinds of housing units tend to bring school children and what percentage of families choose public schools.

As we have been renovating, we've been placing additions on some of our schools and using modular units to accommodate growth. However, the growth has exploded and in 2018, our School Board authorized the construction of a new elementary school, Greystone Elementary in northern West Goshen Township. It is set to open in fall 2021.

3. When will we start the redistricting process?

We will begin the process in the fall of 2019 by assembling a committee to analyze attendance boundaries and identify issues to consider. It will be comprised of school administrators, Board members, teachers, transportation staff, and parents. The committee will consider current school enrollments and projected enrollments. They will also develop scenarios that will shift attendance boundaries to balance our school enrollments.

Information will be sent to parents and staff asking for volunteers to be part of the committee. The superintendent will evaluate requests to ensure there is a balance of representation from all schools and all parts of the district. An email address will be set up for residents to provide input, all of which will be shared with our committee and School Board. The committee is expected to present a report to the Board in June 2020.

4. What enrollment criteria will be used to develop new attendance boundaries?

Our goal is to bring all schools into 90-98% of their enrollment capacity. This provides adequate space for anticipated growth and is considered a 'best practice' in the public school industry. We will also strive to balance our school populations so that the number of students who qualify for free and reduced lunch at any school is within eight percentage points of the district average of 17.4%. "Free and reduced lunch" is a federal program to help qualifying families offset the cost of lunches. Our

School Board is committed to balancing these numbers so that we don't inadvertently create some schools with much higher rates of lower income students.

5. Will my school be impacted by the redistricting?

It is likely that most, if not all, of our elementary schools may face some redistricting. Many of our elementary schools do not have any room for expansion, and are expected to see enrollment growth with their current attendance boundaries. We will need to reduce student populations in some schools in order to provide space, and therefore some students in each of the following schools will most likely need to be redistricted:

- a. Glen Acres
- b. Mary C. Howse
- c. Fern Hill
- d. Exton
- e. Hillsdale
- f. Peirce Middle School

In addition, some students in the other elementary schools in the district may also need to be redistricted in order to accommodate enrollment shifts.

However, we will do this with the utmost of care and try to "grandfather" as many students as possible through transitions so that students who are nearing the end of their time in a school are not moving to a different school.

6. The thoughts of my child having to switch schools is very upsetting. My child has formed friendships and made connections at our school. We even purchased our home based on our attendance boundaries. Is this process fair?

The process of redistricting is one of the most emotional and difficult that any school district goes through. Unfortunately, in order to operate in a sound manner and provide enough space, we must shift our attendance boundaries to match enrollment. We are extremely careful about the way in which we analyze attendance boundaries and make decisions. Every effort will be made to ease transitions for students and to move as few students as possible. We are very sensitive to the difficult nature of this process and we will do our very best to be fair.

7. What other transition plans are you considering?

We will be sure to include transition plans for changes, so that students who will be moving from one school to another will have an opportunity to meet teachers, the principal, and other students in the new school before they move at the beginning of the school year.

We will allow all high school students (grades 9-12) to finish at their current school so long as they can find transportation to/from school.

We will maintain middle school-to-high school feeder patterns (Fugett MS sends to East HS; Peirce MS sends to Henderson HS; Stetson MS sends to Rustin HS.)

We will consider eliminating the split feeder pattern at Fern Hill Elementary School (Fern Hill students attend both Peirce and Fugett middle schools).

We will consider reducing the number of elementary schools that service the borough of West Chester. The borough of West Chester covers one square mile. Currently we send students who live in the borough to six of our 10 elementary schools. If we can reduce that number, and send students to a school that may be closer to their neighborhood, we will consider doing so.

8. Will high school students who are being redistricted to a different feeder pattern be allowed to finish at their current high schools?

Yes, any student who has started in 9th grade by the fall of 2021 will be able to finish in their current high school as long as they can find transportation to and from school.

9. Will elementary and/or middle school students who are being redistricted to a different school be allowed to finish at their current schools?

In the past, we have allowed students to finish the last grade level in their respective schools such as fifth grade, and eighth grade. Due to the rapid number of students enrolling in the district, buildings may not have the capacity for us to be able to do that.

A decision will be made at the conclusion of the redistricting report.

10. When I hear that our schools are crowded, I'm concerned about class sizes. Are our class sizes getting larger?

Class sizes are not getting larger, and with rare exception, we have maintained our class size guidelines, which are:

K – First Grade: Maximum of 25 students

Grades 2 – 3: Maximum of 27 students

Grades 4 – 5: Maximum of 30 students

Middle and High School Classes: Scheduled at an average of 25 students

On the rare occasion that class sizes exceed our guidelines we have added a classroom aide to help with instruction and class management.

11. How will you keep me informed?

Community updates will be provided via email, website, as well as public meetings. An email will be set up to provide input. All input will be shared with our committee and School Board.

APPENDIX A - STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Steering Committee met from November 2019 to March 2020. The meeting minutes follow:

Redistricting Committee Minutes-November 12, 2019

In attendance: Anupama Anne, Michael Arnold, Adam Bidegary, Wayne Birster, Leigh Ann Bradley, Jeff Bryant, Maria Chavez , Cindy Chok, Michel Comstock, Alexis Cooper, Kate Coulter, Danielle Crilley, Christine Cucinotta, Kristin DeFrancesco, Cynthia Dieckmann, Jason Duhan, Rebecca Eberly, Meghan Edwards, Kevin Fagan, Kimberly Fallon, Tammi Florio, Anthony Froio, Deanna Gabe, Mary Gadaletto, Brian Gallen, Hope Gilman, Joanna Gool, Christina Gotro, Crystal Grace-Green, Lynda Hennigan, Lynda Hickey, Camille Holstein , Bobby Jacob, Kellie Keenan, Sriram Kudaravalli, Mike Marano, Justin Matys, Alice McVeigh, Andrew Mease, Richard A Mitchell, Christina Morley, Dante Mucci, Elisha Ozer, Carly Pilotti, Michele Porco, John Purcell, Jeyanthi Ramadurai, Leigh Ann Ranieri, Kristin Ray, Michael Reese, Erin Rodgers, Donna Ryan, John Scully, Bob Sokolowski, Heather Stewart, Lisa Stoddard, Mark P. Thompson, John Timko, Kerri Turner, Laura Turner, Jeff Ulmer, Joe Vaccaro, Nicole Verbos, Tony Wadyko, Michael Wagman, Steve Werner, Will Wood, Jasmine Worrell Dutton, Kevin Yearing, Shalene Zaucha

Minutes

The first meeting of the redistricting committee took place on Tuesday, November 12, 2019, 6:30 pm in the Spellman Education Center. Superintendent, Jim Scanlon opened the meeting with comments about the task at hand for the committee. With more than 4000 apartment and home units approved, or soon to be approved, the school district is anticipating an additional 1,197 students over the next five years. The school board approved the construction of a new elementary school to open in fall, 2021.

The following information was presented:

1. The role of the steering committee was discussed and include:

- Help to minimize impact on students – Are there areas, issues we need to consider as we look at attendance boundaries?
- Provide help developing transition plans:
 - Grandfathering
 - Bus transportation topics
 - Orientation for students and parents
 - Other topics
- Help with Community feedback meetings

2. Parameters for the process were discussed and include:

- Schedule secondary buildings at 90%-95% of capacity
- Schedule elementary buildings at 93% to 98% of capacity
- Maintain middle school/high school feeder patterns (Fugett MS/East HS, Peirce MS/Henderson HS, Stetson MS/Rustin HS)

- Schedule buildings with free and reduced lunch rates within 8 percentage points of the district average of 17.4%
- Include transition plans for changes
- Allow all high school students (9-12) to finish their current feeder pattern
- Possibly reduce or eliminate split elementary school at Fern Hill (Fern Hill ES attends Peirce & Fugett.)
- Consider ways to move as few students as possible.

Building capacities were reviewed and the following table demonstrates the enrollment capacities calculated for each building. Already removed from the calculations are rooms such as music, art, band, library, gym space, special education classrooms, and rooms for small group instruction such as Reading, speech, and English Language Learners.

Elementary Schools

School	enrollment
East Bradford	458
East Goshen	583
Exton	611
Fern Hill	554
Glen Acres	554
Greystone	611
Hillsdale	554
Mary C. Howse	554
Penn Wood	554
Starkweather	633
Westtown-Thornbury	611*
Total students	6278

Middle Schools

School	enrollment
Fugett	926
Peirce	926
Stetson	879
Total	2731

High Schools

School	enrollment
East	1425
Henderson	1493
Rustin	1309
Total	4228

* (assumes 4 room addition by 2021)

The 2014 Redistricting Plan was reviewed and a history of redistricting going back to 1971 was provided. The 2014 plan included a section called “Future Considerations.” That section outlined five areas of the district that are typically moved during a redistricting process. The report noted if redistricting took place before these children finished their feeder pattern that consideration be given to them to finish the school feeder pattern they started.

Current boundary maps were reviewed and the location of the new Greystone Elementary School, in West Goshen Twp. was shown. Neighborhoods around the new school will be attending the new school. Because the 590 home development behind the school will not be built out by the time the school opens, space will need to be

allocated to allow for growth in this building, thus it will not open with its maximum capacity of 611 students.

Assumptions for the process were reviewed. Those include:

1. We are working on estimated number of students projected to enroll for developments not completed yet.
2. We will schedule projected enrollment from developments already approved and under construction.
3. Crebilly Farms enrollment will need to be addressed with additions to Hillsdale and Starkweather. We won't add those students until the development is officially approved.
4. Capacities assume the removal of all modular classrooms, however, modular classrooms will not be removed until after implementation of new boundaries.
5. Consideration must be given to allow students in areas 4, 6, 18, 22, and 26 from the 2014 redistricting plan, to complete the feeder pattern they started in 2015.

Questions from the committee included:

1. **Can we consider neighborhood schools, particularly in the borough of West Chester?** *This was a parameter established in 2014, and the last committee was able to reduce the number of schools servicing the borough from ten to six. While we can look at that again, it is not a parameter established by the school board.*
2. **Have we spoken with the townships about the number of developments being approved?** *Yes, our last update was done in September. Our Business Office and Facilities' Office have been updating these lists since spring, 2019.*
3. **Will we consider creating attendance boundaries for people who want to move away from the Sunoco Pipeline, but remain in their current feeder pattern?** *No, this was not a parameter established by the board, however when the boundaries are drawn, it may create those opportunities.*
4. **When will we begin to review a boundary map?** *The first map will be reviewed at the December 3 meeting. It will start with carving out the Greystone boundary and placing the expected students from developments into existing schools.*

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday December 3, 6:30 p.m. at the Spellman Education Center – 782 Springdale Drive, Exton.

Redistricting Committee Minutes-December 3, 2019

In attendance: Anupama Anne, Natalie Aquila, Michael Arnold, Gary Bevilacqua, Adam Bidegary, Wayne Birster, Brittany Brown, Jeff Bryant, Kevin Campbell, Stephanie Cherup, Cindy Chok, Michel Comstock, Alexis Cooper, Kate Coulter, Danielle Crilley, Christine Cucinotta, Rebecca Davis-Awan, Kristin DeFrancesco, Jason Duhan, Rebecca Eberly, Meghan Edwards, Kevin Fagan, Kimberly Fallon, Tammi Florio, Anthony Froio, Deanna Gabe, Mary Gadaletto, Brian Gallen, Hope Gilman, Joanna Gool, Christina Gotro, Crystal Grace-Green, Bobby Jacob, Jasmine Jones, Sriram Kudaravalli, Mike Marano, Phil Matilla, Justin Matys, Alice McVeigh, Sara Missett, Christina Morley, Dante Mucci, Elisha Ozer, Carly Pilotti, Michele Porco, John Purcell, Leigh Ann Ranieri, Kristin Ray, Michael Reese, Jason Ritter, Erin Rodgers, Donna

Ryan, Jim Scanlon, John Scully, Bob Sokolowski, Heather Stewart, Lisa Stoddard, Mark Thompson, John Timko, Kerri Turner, Laura Turner, Jeff Ulmer, Peggy Upton, Nicole Verbos, Tony Wadyko, Michael Wagman, Will Wood, Jasmine Worrell Dutton, Joanne Yarnall, Kevin Yearing, Shalene Zaucha

Minutes

The second meeting of the redistricting committee took place on Tuesday, December 3, 2019, at 6:30 pm in the Spellman Education Center. Superintendent, Jim Scanlon opened the meeting with a review of the parameters. He then reviewed the enrollment by building with neighborhood moves projecting out to the year 2025. Dr. Scanlon reviewed 15 possible moves to change attendance boundaries to place the projected 13,047 students in schools.

The committee then broke into groups to provide comments and questions for each area.

Section B (Northside of Goshen Rd. from Rt. 100 to Phoenixville Pike (North Hills)
If my child is in 4th or 5th grade at FHE the year Greystone opens, will the child be allowed to finish at FHE?

Section D (Ryers Hunt Dev; Dunwoody Dev);

Section F (East & West side of Phoenixville Pike from Boot Rd. to King Rd., inc. village of Shannon & Mary Jane Lane)

Section L (East & West side of Phoenixville Pk., from Greenhill Rd. to Boot; including Hamlet Hills Dev.)

- Great that we were able to keep all of the Exton children remaining in the EHS feeder pattern!
- Overall redistricting (at this time), does not impact a very large amount of existing students (except at Exton school)
- Half of the population at Exton will change with those proposed map.
- Taking "solid" neighborhoods (Ryers Hunt, VOS, Hamlet Hill) that are foundational and trading for more transient areas.
- Could we consider moving a neighborhood like Exton Station (so just one neighborhood) instead of three different ones impacted?
- Should we consider the H area to go to EGE (instead of FHE, are they closer to EGE?) and the moving one of the other areas that you proposed to move to FHE.
- Wondering if there is a diversity break down for each of the schools with proposed changes?
- Wondering if there is a percentage of single-family homes, apartments, etc. for each school with the proposed changes? Is this important information to have?
- Wondering if 5th graders and 8th graders will be able to stay in current school?
- Wondering if any lower grade children will be able to stay in current school (if parent provides transportation), especially if older sibling is in 5th grade and choosing to stay?)

Section F (East & West side of Phoenixville Pike from Boot Rd. to King Rd., including village of Shannon & Mary Jane Lane)

- Do we need to take both sides of the road? Take only Shannon side?
- If we consider moving students to East Goshen would that put EGE over capacity?

- Wants to see overlay of ES/MS/HS

Section E (Borough – East of High; South of Goshen Rd.; West of Montgomery; North of Market)

- All going to new elementary school (Greystone)
- Will maintain feeder pattern (HHS)
- 77 students from FHE to Greystone
- Wondering will 4th and 5th graders at FHE have the option to stay at FHE?

Section G (Southside Shoen Rd. @ Whiteland West Dev (Apple Drive))

- Wondering what will happen to siblings when one is grandfathered in and the other is not. Will there be options for them?
- Wondering for Apple Drive neighborhood, what happens to those with a Shoen Road address?
- Wondering for Apple Drive neighborhood, if they have to move, could the bus route be safer by having kids not cross Shoen Road?

Section H (Northside of WC Pike from Five Points Rd. to Strasburg Rd. intersection)

Concern: GAE is concerned that losing Area H to Fern Hill would decrease the diversity at GAE. Specifically, losing Goshen Terrance and WG Mobile Home Park would decrease the Indian/Asian (55) and Hispanic (15) populations at GAE.

Question: Could less diverse apartment complex or community be re-districted from GAE into another elementary school so that GAE could maintain its diversity.

Observation: It is clear to see that students need to come out of GAE. While this proposal may have an immediate impact on the school's diversity, it is important to note that the entire district will only continue to become more ethnically and economically diverse.

Section I (Eastside of Rt 322 from Lafayette to Hoopes Park/Parke Hollow to West of High St.)

- Moving existing students out of HDE to EBE to make room for students (Darlington Ridge) who do not live in the district yet, and have no affiliation to an elementary school.
- Darlington Ridge is located closer to SWE at a defined boundary point.
- Put Darlington Ridge development at EBE and do not move 68 kids out of HDE
- Moving 68 students out of HDE – these are all borough children. Borough areas are consistently disrupted for redistricting
- Crebilly – again, giving preference to students who don't exist yet and moving our children for their sake

Section I (Eastside of Rt. 322 from Lafayette to Hoopes Park/Parke Hollow to West of High St.); **Section K** (Darlington Ridge); **Section M** (Copeland School Rd. – South of Boot Rd. to Harmony Hill Rd.)

- Eliminate letter I, M to prevent displacing two groups of students from their current schools which are not projected to be overcrowded (EBE and HDE)
- Darlington Ridge students (Section K) will attend EBE, or Hillsdale, NOT Starkweather

The next committee meeting will take place on January 14, 2020, 6:30 pm at Spellman.

Redistricting Steering Committee Meeting
January 14, 2020
6:30 pm

In attendance: Anne Anupama, Michael Arnold, Gary Bevilacqua, Wayne Birster, Jeff Bryant, Stafanie Cherup, Kate Coulter, Danielle, Crilley, Christine Cucinotta, Kristin DeFrancesco, Cyd Dieckmann, Rebecca Eberly, Mary Gadaletto, Hope Gilman, Joanna Gool, Christina Gotro, Kellie Keenan, Sriram Kudaravalli, Phil Matilla, Justin Matys, Alice McVeigh, Andrew Mease, Christina Morley, Dante, Mucci, Carly Pilotti, Michele Porco, John Purcell, Leigh Ann Ranieri, Kristin Ray, Michael Reese, Jason Ritter, Erin Rodgers, Donna Ryan, John Scully, Bob Sokolowski, Heather Stewart, John Timko, Kerri Turner, Nicole Verbos, Steve Werner, Will Wood, Kevin Yearing.

Minutes

The third meeting of the redistricting committee meeting took place on Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at 6:30 pm in the Spellman Education Center.

Dr. Scanlon, Superintendent, opened the meeting by sharing community email comments. There were 19 comments received from October – January. Comments included questions about the transition plan, whether certain neighborhoods would be moved, if grandfathering is an option as well as specific concerns and suggestions.

The transportation department shared revisions to the map presented at the previous meeting. Map revisions were made based on neighborhood proximity to schools, balancing building capacities and changes to meet the free and reduced lunch parameter. The list of those moves by area is posted on the redistricting webpage.

The preliminary map will be presented publicly at the Community Update Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 4, 6:30 pm at Stetson MS.

Redistricting Steering Committee Meeting
March 3, 2020 Meeting
6:30 pm

In attendance: Anupama Anne, Michael Arnold, Gary Bevilacqua, Wayne Birster, Michel Comstock, Danielle Crilley, Christine Cucinotta, Rebecca Davis-Awan, Jason Duhan, Rebecca Eberly, Meghan Edwards, Kimberly Fallon, Anothony Froio, Mary Gadaletto, Brian Gallen, Joanna Gool, Christina Gotro, Bobby Jacob, Kellie Keenan, Phil Matilla, Alice McVeigh, Andrew Mease, Christina Morley, Carly Pilotti, John Purcell, Leigh Ann Ranieri, Kristin Ray, Michael Reese, Jason Ritter, Donna Ryan, Jim Scanlon, John Scully, Bob Sokolowski, Heather Stewart, Jeff Ulmer, Tony Wayko, Michael Wagman, Will Wood

The fourth meeting of the redistricting committee took place on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 6:30 pm in the Spellman Education Center.

Dr. Scanlon, Superintendent reviewed the revised maps and suggestions for transition plans were discussed.

The committee reviewed several changes and questions to be addressed:

- Based on the initial data that we have there appears to be open seats at: EGE, EBE, FHE, SWE, WTE, PWE
- Should we keep things consistent across the school district? For example, if there is no space at FHE and new K students cannot start there this coming year (20-21), should we allow the other schools? Should we keep this consistent? Or is it fairer to permit families to do this if we have the option to decrease the amount of students who would then need to start at two different schools?
- If we do allow Kindergarten students, what if they have an older sibling – do they get to go to new school early? Or is this idea for only for new K students?
- If we allow 5th graders to stay (which we think we should!), will the district provide transportation?
- If we grandfather MS and HS students into their feeder pattern, can we look at grandfathering that entire family if they have younger children?
- You mentioned that you would allow the existing middle school students to stay in their middle school, are they then grandfathered into their high school too.

Transition Thoughts/Ideas:

- We like the idea of reaching out to the impacted schools feeding into schools (so current FHE → GREY, EXE & GAE → FHE, MCH → EBE (less important since less kids) to start forming a PTO so that Greystone has events, activities, resources up and running the first year.
- Will ALL principals make sure that redistricted students are in the same class next year (20-21)? The FHE and GAE principals were present, but there are other schools which will be impacted (EXE, MCH, HDE). We feel this will be very important in the transition process. Also, looking at EXE – some students are going to EGE and some are going to FHE, so being sure those students are placed with the students going to the right school.

Dr. Scanlon reviewed the recommended changes to the boundary lines.

Review Changes:

Section H. Copeland School Road – Back to EBE

Section I. East side of Montgomery Avenue – Back to HHS but go to Greystone ES

Other Areas:

Section A. Wrangley Court – 14 homes from HHS to EHS

Section C. Indian King – MCH to Greystone ES

Section K. King Road – dividing line between EXE & FHE

Section L. Dunwoody – change
In transition – put section in report about “community” comments

Comments

1. Why pass other schools to get to a school?
2. Can we grandfather 5th?
3. Can we grandfather ALL middle school?

Transition Plan

1. Grandfather 5th Grade
2. Where do we have a problem for many kids in fall, 2020

The committee discussed which schools might have space to accept students in fall, 2020, rather than wait until fall, 2021

- Space for K-5 in EGE & EBE, possibly Exton for K only
- For ES, 5th graders get priority over K or siblings
- 5th Graders = most changing: EXE, MCH FHE
- SEC F. ok to move early
- SEC G. NO to move early
- J & K ok
- Do we want two PTO's at FHE, MCH, EXE during the 20-21 school year because students will move to Greystone in fall, 2021?
- Percent of money from fundraising determined by one PTO in the above three schools.

The committee discussed which schools might have room to accept students in fall, 2020 rather than fall 2021:

From K to new feeder school 20-21-

- EBE has room
- FHE does not have room
- EGE has room
- Administration needs to do deeper analysis of this

Fifth Grade to be allowed to stay in school to finish for 21-22

- GAE? Hopefully, but renovations might be an issue, should have an extra room.
- EXE – Should be able to accommodate
- MCH- Should be able to accommodate
- Administration needs to know breakdown of students

-Middle School students should have a grandfathering option (at least in grade 8)

-Having a PTO early makes sense to help with fundraising, welcoming events and transition.

-Involve School Based transition: Principals, teachers, and Counselors sending and receiving.

-Question: Will busing be provided for students who will be grandfathered?
Administration needs to review this request.