

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., inc. 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.