

On July 8, 2019, the WGSD School Board approved the following motion:

The District Administrator is designated to create a committee that will study and review all current elementary school attendance areas with attention to the WGSD strategic plan, established Board criteria, historical enrollment trends, future enrollment projections and building capacity. The committee shall create up to three recommendations for the Board of Education on changes to the elementary school boundaries. These recommendations are all to be viable options from the committee's perspective and are measured relative to the established Board criteria. The committee will serve as key communicators to parents and community members about the process.

Criteria to be considered in developing long-term boundary change options for consideration by the Elementary Boundary Advisory Committee

Best interests of ALL students in our district - Consider what's best for students and families in order to maintain ideal building enrollments in each school and equity of educational opportunities among all schools.

Anticipate the projected enrollment and the program/current capacity of each elementary school building - using current information and data, plan for anticipated enrollments in each elementary school building

Efficient building utilization - In general, the rule of thumb for an ideal building enrollment is about 80% of the building's capacity to accommodate yearly fluctuations in enrollment, maintain appropriate class sizes, provide space for possible curriculum changes, and allow for flexible learning spaces.

Duration of boundaries / Minimize impact on students - Where possible, attendance areas should be stabilized to limit the number of boundary changes experienced by students. In established areas with little or no demographic change projected, boundaries should be planned to last for a significant period of time.

Neighborhood unity - Where possible, boundaries should be structured to maintain a neighborhood within one school's attendance area. Neighborhoods should not be split between two schools. A neighborhood is defined as the smallest division of a subdivision and/or an area that can be subdivided by a natural line of demarcation, such as a stream or major traffic way.

Transportation (distance, transportation time, and routing) - Efforts should be made to ensure an efficient system of school bus transportation. Make every effort to account for school bus and parent commuting patterns when determining a boundary adjustment. Use major roads and natural boundaries whenever feasible to define attendance zones. Minimize the amount of students that need to cross major roads or other barriers such as railroad tracks, which maximizes the safety and security of students.

Maximize walkability - whenever possible, assign students closest to their home school to maximize the number of students who can safely walk to school. This minimizes transportation cost.