Elementary Boundary Committee

Wednesday, March 7, 2018
EBC Meeting #5
EPS Community Resource Center
5:30pm – 7:30pm

Meeting Minutes

The following list represents all of the Boundary Committee Members. The list is comprised of parents, community members, Everett Public Schools Administrators, Snohomish County support and Everett Public Schools Support. The highlighted names represent those members that attended the January 10, 2018 Elementary Boundary Committee Meeting (EBCM).

Boundary Committee Facilitator	**Email Address**
Jim Dugan (253.278.8105)	jdugan@parametrix.com
Nicole Brown	nbrown@parametrix.com

Boundary Committee Members

Parents & Community Members

Sheena Bailey (SF)
Christa Bicket (MO)
Alisha Crawley-Davis (FV)
Karl Garreis (SL)
Alla Glotov (SL)
Jen Hirman (CW)
Fatima Lopez (WO)
Adam McKnight (MC)
Jennifer Neeleman (PC)
Jacob Sand (SL)
Kristin Dickert
Sarah Smoldon
Eric Solis (CW)
Courtney Thomas (JE)
Alice Beal
Justin Tidwell (MC)
Susan Warner (WO)
Geoff Weatherbie (FV)
Brooke Yule

Everett Public Schools Administrators

Katie Stone
David Jones
Larry Fleckenstein
Betty Cobbs

Darren Larama
Kristin Dickert
Maggie Heater
Kim Brenner
Mica Harasek
Elizabeth Nunes

Snohomish County Support

Steve Toy
Ikuno Masterson

Everett Public Schools Support

Mike Gunn
Darcy Walker
Chuck Booth
Gerard Holzman
John Pike
Nancy Brown
Pete Dronzek
Senja Yakovleff
Paul Edwards
Daniel Natividad (CW)

Overview

The Boundary Committee is comprised of members from each of the nine south end elementary schools. With the addition of Elementary School No. 18, located on 180th Street SE and scheduled to open in the fall of 2019, boundaries need to be understood, analyzed and adjusted to accommodate the new elementary school as well as balance student populations in all other nine south end elementary schools.

The Boundary Committee was established to work monthly over the next six to seven months, culminating in May 2018 with boundary revision recommendations for consideration by the Superintendent. The Boundary Committee meetings are held monthly on Wednesday evenings between 5:30 PM and 7:30 PM. Boundary Committee Meetings that are complete are noted in yellow below. Future Boundary Committee Meetings (BCM) are noted in green below.

Meeting	Date	Location
BCM #1	November 8, 2017	Gateway Middle School
BCM #2	December 6, 2017	Gateway Middle School
BCM #3	January 10, 2018	Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center
BCM #4	February 21, 2018	Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center
BCM #5	March 7, 2018	Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center
BCM #6	April 11, 2018	Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center
BCM #7	May 9, 2018	Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center

In addition to the monthly Boundary Committee meetings described above, Everett Public Schools conducted two evening Community Forums, the first at Heatherwood on February 26, 2018 and the second at Gateway on February 28, 2018. Both took place from 6:30pm – 8:00 pm. The Community Forum shared the Boundary Committee work to date, a DRAFT boundary map, and the challenges and complexities of the work. The Community Forums captured all feedback for a report and consideration by the Elementary Boundary Committee.

The committees work is only to recommend. The Superintendent followed by the Board of Directors will make all final decisions regarding boundary adjustments to accommodate Elementary School No. 18.

Boundary Revision Process – Guiding Principles

In BCM #2, Mr. Dugan asked the committee if there were any follow-on/additional clarifications or questions regarding the work done in BCM #1 to develop the Boundary Revision Process Guiding Principles.

No comments or requested clarifications, corrections or additions were received. The Boundary Revision Process Guiding Principles were therefore adopted for the purposes of the Elementary Boundary Committee process and are posted below for ease of reference:

Boundary Revision Process

Guiding Principles

Everett Public Schools

Elementary School No. 18

On Wednesday, October 18, 2017, the Everett Public Schools Capital Facilities Advisory Committee developed and ranked the following Boundary Revision Process Guiding Principles. The guiding principles come from the Everett School District 2016-2021 Capital Facilities Plan.

The first section summarizes "Required" principles – no exceptions taken. The second section summarizes "Additional" principles – listed in no particular order but representative of additional values and principles to be considered when considering changes to the current school boundaries.

The Boundary Revision Committee selection process is in progress now. Committee members will be selected by the end of October. The first Boundary Committee meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2017. One of the first actions for the Committee will be to review and revise and prioritize this document as needed.

REQUIRED GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. ***CARE**: The potential impacts, both positive and negative, of any proposed boundary change shall be carefully evaluated.*

2. ***INCLUSION**: Boundary changes should only be implemented after appropriate input and discussions with affected parties and careful consideration of alternative solutions.*

3. ***SOLUTIONS**: Boundary changes should be made in the context of long term solutions. Short term solutions not addressing long term issues should be avoided.*

4. ***PREPARATION**: Conclude the Boundary Revision Process with enough lead time to allow families and the school system to plan and prepare for the implementation of the proposed changes.*

ADDITIONAL GUIDING PRINCIPLES

5. ***NEIGHBORHOODS**: It is important, especially at the elementary school level, to ensure students are able to attend schools located within close proximity to their own neighborhood, and if possible, all students living in a neighborhood should attend the same schools.*

6. ***BARRIERS**: Natural or manmade barriers to safe and efficient routes should be taken into consideration. This applies to pedestrian walkways as well as vehicular transportation. Safe walking routes for all schools. Goal – whenever possible, those that walk to school now should be able to walk to school with the proposed boundary changes*

7. ***INEQUITY**: Boundary changes should be made only after studying where inequities might lie in current boundaries and potential boundary changes. Changes that create new or perpetuate existing inequities within the district should be avoided.*

8. ***FLEXIBILITY**: When considering boundary changes, extended day care facilities used by our families must be a consideration of the boundary decision process.*

9. ***CONTINUITY**: Feeder school continuity is an important consideration. When developing boundary revision options, consideration must be given to the importance of student continuity from elementary school to middle school to high school – where this is possible.*

10. ***EFFICIENCY**: Transportation efficiency and effectiveness should be maintained to ensure that a student's time on a bus or in a car is limited – and time at home and at school is maximized.*

11. ***VALUES**: School boundaries should encourage, and not detract from, our community values, including, but not limited to, small class sizes and access to neighborhood schools for our children with special needs wherever possible – thus targeting equitable opportunities and high quality levels of service.*

12. ***OPPORTUNITY**: School boundaries should provide every student with access to a rigorous comprehensive curriculum that is rich and diverse – equitable distribution of opportunity.*

Boundary Committee Meeting #5 Agenda

Welcome

Community Engagement Forums

- *Boundary Committee Member Comments*
- *Key Themes/Areas that Need Attention?*

Elementary Boundary Committee #5

- *Time to fine tune*
- *Use the Forum base map*
- *Work on the key areas that need attention*
- *Prepare for EBC #6 and a final map solution for recommendation*

Boundary Work Session

Group Discussion – *Work Session Feedback*

Next EBC Meeting

- *April 11, 2018 at CRC*

Closing Comments

Welcome

Mr. Dugan kicked off the evening by explaining the materials on the tables. Included were copies of the maps from the public meetings plus printed copies of all the feedback gathered to date. He explained that the maps included light blue circles which indicated some of the reoccurring themes from the public feedback. Mr. Dugan spent some time giving further explanation of those themes.

Mr. Dugan then went on to explain that tonight's work will take place in two sections. The first section will be to hear about the public meetings and identify themes. The most prevalent themes will be identified and then one theme will be assigned to each table to work on it and report out.

The second half of the work section will be more like the previous regular work sessions where the groups will take all the input they have heard and received, prioritize the information, and incorporate this data into the map recommendations. At the end of second work section, we will have a report out from each group to see how the map recommendations have been further refined.

Work Session #1

Dr. Holzman and Mr. Dugan led an activity where the Boundary Committee members that had attended the public forums were to share the feedback they had gathered and the reoccurring issues that they thought were important to the public from the forums and the reviewed notes. Approximately 50% of the EBC members had attended at least one public outreach session. At the end of the report out, Mr. Dugan asked for any other comments from committee members, even if they had not attended the sessions, but that they may have gathered during other activities.

The comments on the forums brought forward were as follows:

- Concern of socio-economic status equality; Monroe's change was identified as an example.

- Concerns about how the elementary re-boundary is going to affect the flow through to middle and high school. Mike Gunn indicated that the district was not currently looking to change middle school and high school boundaries.
- Transfers for current students and siblings
- What will programs be in ES No. 18
- Mill Creek, Penny Creek splits to middle schools
- Cedar Wood currently does not have any apartment buildings; are there others?
- Equity in percentage of free/reduced lunch at each school
- Noted lack of participation from the central area of the district because it was thought it would not impact the Eisenhower feeders. Perceived lack of education and communication to parents in that area, though they have representation on committee.
- Should we have next public meeting in the central area to make sure we include them in future?
- Boundaries over busy roads (Bothell-Everett Hwy., 132nd, 35th Ave SE) consistencies
- Move as few students as possible

Taking into account both the written comments and the comments above, the entire committee agreed on the following key themes that needed committee attention:

- Confirm Monroe/Jefferson boundaries watching equity change
- Mill Creek/Silver Lake and Mill Creek/Penny Creek north boundaries cut through neighborhoods
- Tambark neighborhood (between 40th Ave SE and Sunset) feels strongly connected with Cedar Wood and concerns about Sunset safety
- Socio-economic equality (Make sure high density living areas are disbursed among schools)
- High Volume roads (Bothell-Everett Hwy., 132nd, 35th Ave SE) as boundaries

Each table then took on one of the key themes and tested it against the proposed boundary map. These discussions lasted 45 minutes and there was some good discussion between tables when themes overlapped. The report out from the key theme discussions is as follows:

- Confirm Monroe/Jefferson boundary: Team did some refinement which included reverting areas of proposed boundary change back to their current schools (Jefferson area 1 and Monroe area 3). By making this change, fewer students are disrupted and enrollment numbers work. Return to prior Emerson boundary with no new changes.
- Mill Creek/Silver Lake: Team proposed keeping some of the recommended boundaries due to free/reduced lunch equity. Mill Creek enrollment is a little over and Penny Creek is little low. Looking at transportation, the committee recommended a redraw of some of the corner boundaries with Penny Creek which is reflected in the map onion skin.
- Cedar Wood/Tambark: The team looked at whether it made sense for the Tambark neighborhood to stay at Cedarwood. They determined that the entrance to the new school is off of Sunset at 174th and that all the houses face onto Sunset as well. The team recommended that the Tambark neighborhood west of Sunset stay at ES No. 18 as proposed.

- Socio-economic equality (Make sure apartments are disbursed among schools): Team decided to focus on F/RL as the equality indicator. By taking the southernmost section of Woodside and moving them to nearby Cedarwood, it makes things more equitable between Woodside, Cedarwood and ES #18. Did not get a chance to look at the central part of the district but were glad to hear the Mill Creek/Silver Lake group looked at this.
- High Volume roads as boundaries: Examined Sunset vs 35th and determined 35th makes most sense as a boundary. Sunset goes through neighborhoods. Regarding 132nd, it cannot be a hard boundary because there are too many kids south of 132nd for the elementary schools that are there. Team recommend keeping two sections of students proposed to leave Mill Creek at Mill Creek because of the road configurations through the neighborhoods.

Work Session #2

Mr. Dugan kicked off Work Session #2 by advising the teams that now was the time to fine tune their recommendations. He instructed them to use the Forum base map and to work on any key areas that needed further attention. He asked the groups to focus their efforts this month as an opportunity to iron out any sticky areas and to provide thoughtful solutions to challenging areas. This work will prepare the committee to formulate their final map solution for board recommendation in next month's session.

At the end of the work session, Mr. Dugan asked each group to post their maps, on the wall, side by side. The groups were then asked to give a brief explanation of their work. There was a consensus that many of the maps were very similar and had made similar recommendations.

Below is a picture of the team maps side by side:

Next Steps and Closing Comments:

Mr. Dugan thanked the committee for their difficult and thoughtful work. He said the next steps would be to vet the recommendations by verifying population, F/RL, and transportation numbers with the District. He indicated that where the District runs into questions or difficulties with the boundary proposals, they will let transportation guide their decisions. They will also look at Special Education and Highly Capable programs and make sure they still work as well.

Next month the District will come back with all the data they have collected from the different departments for the committee's consideration. This is the beginning of the vetting process. The goal of the EBC is to finalize their recommendations in the next 2 meetings.

Next Meeting

The next EBC meeting will be April 11, 2018 at the Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center from 5:30pm – 7:30pm.

Adjournment

Boundary Committee Meeting #5 adjourned at approximately 8:15 PM.

Note: If the content of this summary is incorrect or if there is any information shared but not incorporated, please contact me by email and advise accordingly. I will incorporate the requested changes in the minutes of the next regularly scheduled planning team meeting.