

Elementary Boundary Committee

Wednesday, April 11, 2018

EBC Meeting #6

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 April 11, 2018 Elementary Boundary Committee Meeting (EBCM).

Boundary Committee Facilitator

Jim Dugan (253.278.8105)

Nicole Brown

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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

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.

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
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	No Meeting-Work Completed on April 11, 2018

In addition to the monthly Boundary Committee meetings described above, Everett Public Schools conducted two Community Forums, the first at Heatherwood on February 26, 2018 and the second at

Gateway on February 28, 2018. The Community Forum shared the Boundary Committee work to date, the challenges and complexities of the work and the goals. The Community Forums captured all feedback for report back and consideration by the 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 #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 #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 #6 Agenda

Welcome

Elementary Boundary Committee #6

- Additional community comments
- Share fine-tuned forum base map: aggregated EBC 5 Work
- Guiding Principles

- *EBC to review Proposed Boundary Changes for any additional modification and to finalize map solution for recommendation*

Boundary Work Session

Group Discussion – Work Session Feedback

Next EBC Meeting

- *May 9, 2018 at CRC (if needed)*

Closing Comments

Welcome

Mr. Dugan opened the meeting by introducing the latest aggregated map. He brought the groups attention to their maps from the last work session which he had posted on the wall behind the latest map. He asked the group to observe the common themes between the work group maps and then compare that to the latest map that they have at their tables. He indicated, that as promised, the District had vetted the proposals with confirmation of current enrollment numbers, projected enrollment numbers, free/reduced lunch percentages, and transportation.

Based on the group recommendation and the vetting process, we were able to not move the boundaries for three schools: Monroe, Jefferson and Emerson.

Transportation was able to clarify the questions about routes for the the southwest corner of the district within the current Woodside boundary.

Mr. Dugan instructed the group that tonight they should study this map and determine how they did. He asked the group to assess the work and decide whether the map in front of them was a good indicator of their work and their recommendation. If they were in a good place and comfortable with this map, with just a few changes, the work of the committee will be complete.

Fine-tuned Base Map

Dr. Holzman then took over the map explanation with some specific enrollment numbers. The current base map would move 1379 students. One of the drivers for this process was the opening of a new elementary school, therefore, 548 students would have moved just to populate that school. Then the boundaries of schools losing the 548 students would need to be modified to repopulate those schools in many cases. A total of between 1000-1100 students were moved just between those two events. Reviewing the current base map, the product of the aggregated EBC 5 teamwork, Monroe and Jefferson kept the same boundaries, reducing the need to move additional students. The other large driver for the committee was reducing the size of schools greatly over capacity.

Dr. Holzman shared the example of Silver Lake which is currently over permanent building capacity by nearly 300 students this year requiring 12 portables. This new boundary proposal moves out additional Silver Lake students, returning some students along the Silver Lake/Mill Creek border to keep neighborhoods intact and increasing the number of students moved in the initial proposal along the Silver Lake/Penny Creek border to ease the over-crowding.

The same has happened for other schools in the initial proposal equalizing the number of students over permanent capacity at each school. Transportation was able to clarify the questions about routes for the southwest corner of the district within the current Woodside boundaries and the proposed boundary has been adjusted with students divided between Cedar Wood, Woodside, and No. 18. The current base map adjusts the border of No. 18 and Forest View.

The current map proposal reduces or holds steady the percentage of students receiving free/reduced lunch at some of the schools with percentages in the 40's. Similarly the boundary proposal raises the percentage of some of the schools with lower percentages. Dr. Holzman says that a larger change in distributing free and reduced populations would require movement of more students farther from their neighborhoods around the district which does not follow our guiding principles of keeping elementary students closer to their home neighborhoods when possible.

Dr. Holzman said, in the proposal, the current enrollment projections provide a manageable student population, more equally distributed over permanent building capacity, at all south and central elementary schools through 2022, assuming the projections bear out. The current distribution of enrollment has a contingency factor allowing room for the student growth projected at the elementary level.

Dr. Holzman confirmed that the data and new boundaries has been vetted by transportation, SPED programs, categorical, and gifted programs.

Work Session

Mr. Dugan kicked off the work session by asking the groups to take some time and really study and absorb the aggregate map. He asked them to take into account the new comments received from the community and see how that fits into the map. He also instructed the groups to refer back to the Guiding Principles that were established in EBC #1 to help guide them in their analysis and final recommendations.

The groups were given 30 minutes to discuss and formulate any possible revisions.

Group Discussion-Work Session Feedback

Mr. Dugan opened the feedback session by asking the groups to consider where they are different today from when they started. He reminded them that this has been a process in which they have invested their time, intellect and emotions, and that because of that, they have come to this thoughtful place. He also said the committee should remember how hard they have worked to incorporate the feedback they have received, both from each other and the community. Every change we make now has a ripple effect, so changes should be considered carefully before incorporated by the majority.

The first group endorsed the map as presented with one small recommendation, they recommended that Highland Trails neighborhood remain at Mill Creek Elementary, again keeping neighborhoods intact when possible. Other groups said they share the same recommendation. This recommendation was accepted by the committee with unanimous committee consent.

There were a couple of other suggestions but they failed to gain traction with the group as a whole. At the end of the feedback session, each group felt they had been heard and were satisfied.

Next Steps and Closing Comments:

Mr. Dugan asked the groups if they felt that another work session or public community meeting was necessary, or if the group felt comfortable moving the current map, with modification above, forward to the Superintendent as their recommendation.

After brief discussion, the group agreed that their work was complete.

Mr. Dugan then thanked the committee for their exemplary work. He said the attendance, the focus, and the hard work, done respectfully, was the reason for such a healthy consensus. The group's consideration and thoughtfulness has been extraordinary.

Mr. Walker added that the District appreciates all the hard work, and that the committee should be proud of their efforts.

Dr. Holzman indicated that he would prepare a statement and flyer for the administrators to use for community outreach at their schools and on the district website. It will provide a systemized release of the information and boundary proposal for review.

The Elementary Boundary Committee recommendation will go to the Superintendent in May.

Next Meeting

No meeting. The work of the Elementary Boundary Committee is complete.

Adjournment

Elementary Boundary Committee Meeting #6 was adjourned at approximately 7:50 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.