



THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

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To: School Board Members

From: Ken Marsh 

Date: January 13, 2012

Re: Public Hearing, January 17, 2012, 6:00 p.m.

Mrs. White has asked that the Boundary Advisory Committee provide a brief review of the redistricting proposal prior to opening the Public Hearing. The attached presentation will be delivered by Brian Dorn, the Heron Creek M.S. SAC Chair, and Stephanie Boynton, a Woodland M.S. parent.

Please alert me to any additional information you would like presented.

XC: Lori White, Superintendent of Schools
Scott Lempe, Chief Operations Officer

**BOUNDARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE –
HERON CREEK AND
WOODLAND MIDDLE SCHOOLS**



**Public Hearing
January 17, 2012**



Policy 5.20 [cont.]

- BAC Membership includes
 - Principals of affected schools
 - School Advisory Council [SAC] Chairs
 - Four parent representatives
 - One teacher representative
 - Long Range Planning staff facilitates
 - Other staff as needed

2011 Boundary Advisory Committee

- Was formed in September to address the 400-student disparity in current and future enrollments for the two North Port middle schools
- The process was conducted in accordance with Board Policy 5.20

2011 BAC Considerations

- Determine the number of students to move
- Ensure equity of school offerings
- Analyze the effect on
 - School bus transportation costs
 - Free/Reduced Meal Percentages
 - Test scores & School Grades
- Parent and community feedback

Policy 5.20

- Guidelines seek to
 - Keep neighborhoods intact
 - Allow for growth
 - Minimize the impact
 - Avoid redistricting students multiple times
 - “Grandfather” students with one year remaining

Data that was Considered

- Map of Elem. feeder patterns
- Middle School capacities
- Middle School mobility reports
- Imagine Charter School impact
- Charter schools forecast

Data Considered [cont.]

- Lamarque and Cranberry 5th grade enrollments
- Residential development trends
- Enrollment data for neighborhoods "on the border"
- Major roads and waterways to be used as natural boundaries
- Comments from the public

Estimated Impact

- Approximately **139-189** students would transfer to Woodland for next school year, depending on the number utilizing grandfathering
- By the 2013-14 SY, and without other factors, the yearly change would be **185**.

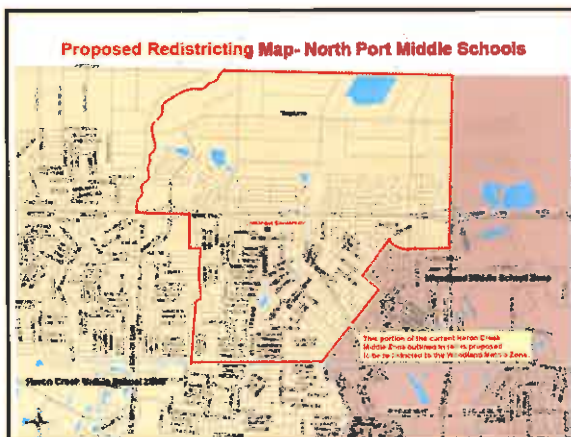
Proposal

- Redraw the Heron Creek and Woodland attendance zones as depicted, effective June 2012
- Allow current HCMS 7th graders and their 6th and 5th grade siblings *only* to remain, without school bus transportation
- Allow no School Choice for either school for the 2012-13 school year

Projected Enrollments

	Heron Creek	Woodland
2011-12	1049	657
2012-13*	1013	671
2012-13	824-874	810-860
2013-14	840	844
2014-15	828	856

* without redistricting



Unintended Consequences on Schools

- Based on analyses by the applicable department, we predict
 - No additional school transportation costs
 - Insignificant affect on FCAT scores
 - No affect on school grades
 - Insignificant affect on percentage of students on Free- or Reduced-Meal status

Communications Thru November

- Posting of all Agendas and Minutes to district home page
- Notification letters to
 - 82 5th graders' parents in the affected area
 - 162 6th and 7th graders' parents in the area
- Posting of proposal on multiple websites

Recent Grandfathering Practice

- Offered *without* transportation
 - 2010 redistricting of Taylor Ranch and Englewood zones
 - 2009 redistricting of Toledo Blade for the opening of Atwater
 - 2009 redistricting of Tatum Ridge and Brentwood zones

November 29th Public Forum

- Invitations mailed to 244 households, plus Connect-Ed notices
- Was attended by four parents and one City Commissioner
- Issues from the public
 - Lack of transportation for grandfathering
 - Enrollment impacts of charter schools
 - HCMS and WMS music programs

Final BAC Meeting

- A special, sixth BAC meeting was held January 2, 2012, to consider these issues raised by parents:
 - Transportation for grandfathered students
 - Expanding the new Woodland MS zone so as to provide a wider transportation area

Cost of Transportation for Grandfathered Students

	Students	
Yr 1	90	\$96,633.00
Yr 2	27	\$58,000.00
Yr 3	15	\$32,000.00
		\$186,633.00

Assuming three buses to cover the area now served by six.

Final BAC Meeting [cont.]

- The BAC voted unanimously to affirm the original proposal so as to
 - Comply with the past practice offering grandfathering without transportation
 - Comply with Policy guidelines regarding
 - Utilizing natural boundaries
 - Not splitting neighborhoods

Tonight's Public Hearing

- The Advertisement was in the Legal section of the south county edition of the Sarasota Herald Tribune on January 7th
- Letters were mailed January 4th to 244 households of 5th – 7th graders in the affected area