

Superintendent's Recommendations to Board of Education

Monday, Feb. 13, 2012

High School Boundaries

- ▶ Students residing in the Wright Elementary School attendance center boundary will attend Washington High School. All other existing high school attendance boundaries will be maintained.

Middle School Boundaries

- ▶ Wilson School becomes a 6-8 facility
- ▶ Franklin Middle School feeders will be Arthur, Garfield, Kenwood, and Pierce
- ▶ Harding Middle School feeders will be Hiawatha, Nixon, Viola Gibson, and Wright
- ▶ McKinley Middle School feeders will be Erskine, Grant Wood, and Johnson
- ▶ Roosevelt Middle School feeders will be Cleveland, Hoover, Harrison, and Madison
- ▶ Taft Middle School feeders will be Coolidge, Jackson, and Truman
- ▶ Wilson Middle School feeders will be Grant, Taylor, and Van Buren

Elementary School Boundaries/Closures

- ▶ The Monroe Early Childhood Center will close and students will be assigned to their resident elementary schools (Erskine, Grant Wood, and Johnson elementary schools)
- ▶ Grant Early Childhood Center will become a K-5 elementary school
- ▶ Polk Elementary School will close and the school boundary will be divided into three elementary attendance boundaries (Arthur, Garfield, and Johnson elementary schools)
- ▶ Polk Elementary School will be repurposed by the District to house:
 - Alternative Education Center (AEC)
 - Secondary Classroom for Integrated Therapy and Education (CITE)
 - Secondary Interim Alternative Placement (SIAP) Program
 - Additionally, there is potential for partnership with City of Cedar Rapids
- ▶ Harrison Elementary School will remain open in an effort to support the City's flood recovery effort.
 - If neighborhood/residential enrollment at the school does not grow to at least 70% of building capacity within five years (2016-17 school year), the District will reassess its position on the future of Harrison Elementary School
- ▶ Madison Elementary School will remain open under current attendance center boundaries
- ▶ Van Buren Elementary School boundary area east of the railroad tracks shifts to Grant Elementary School
- ▶ The Hiawatha Elementary School boundary east of I-380 shifts to Nixon Elementary School
- ▶ Hiawatha Elementary School attendance boundary shifts to include Five Seasons Manufactured Home Community, Agin Court Apartments from Viola Gibson Elementary School
- ▶ The Nixon Elementary School boundary south of Blairs Ferry Road shifts to Wright Elementary School
- ▶ Wilson Elementary School closes and moves to Grant Elementary School

Financial Savings Summary

▶ Closing Monroe Early Childhood Center	\$471,683
▶ Closing/Repurposing Polk Elementary School	\$562,014
▶ Relocating off-site programming to Polk	\$119,932
Total Savings	\$1,153,629

Permits

- ▶ No new “permit out” applications will be considered unless enrollment at the assigned attendance center is at or greater than 70% of building capacity
 - Projected impacted schools: Cleveland, Harrison, Hoover Jackson, Kenwood, and Nixon
- ▶ Currently approved permits will be maintained and a sibling option permit process will be allowed
- ▶ NCLB transfer permits, as required by law, will be assigned at a later date

Elementary Seats Utilization

- ▶ 11,000 seats prior to recommended changes
- ▶ Closing Monroe, Polk, and Wilson Elementary results in a 920 seat reduction
- ▶ 10,080 seats after recommendation
- ▶ 72% utilization with 7,300 K-5 elementary students

Taylor Elementary School

- ▶ Maintain modified year school calendar for the 2012-13 school year
- ▶ Taylor Elementary School attendance boundary remains unchanged

Polk Elementary School Transition

- ▶ Families impacted by the closure of Polk may permit to any elementary school that is located east of both I-380 and the Cedar River (Erskine, Grant Wood, Johnson, Arthur, Kenwood, Garfield, Nixon, Wright)
- ▶ Modified Year Round Calendar permits to Taylor Elementary School

Attendance Area Transition Plan Adjustment

- ▶ Current Sixth grade students may choose to remain in their current middle school for seventh and eighth grades or attend their newly-assigned middle school

Conclusions

Superintendent recommendations address Board criteria:

- ▶ Ensures equity and access to programs
- ▶ Alleviates overcrowding and balances enrollments
- ▶ Allows for future development
- ▶ Addresses enrollment decline
- ▶ Reduces operating costs
- ▶ Establishes an elementary feeder system
- ▶ Creates uniform grade configuration (AK-5, 6-8, 9-12)
- ▶ Provides options for impacted families