



Informational Memo Redistricting 2020 Update

TO: School Board

FROM: Superintendent Trisha Kocanda

October 22, 2019

Background

An imbalance in elementary school enrollment among the three elementary schools necessitated a review of school attendance areas in 2016. At that time, the community experienced the widest disparity in elementary school student enrollments in over 50 years. Crow Island educated 45% of K-4 students in the District and was deemed over capacity. Greeley was under capacity and Hubbard Woods near optimal capacity. Due to this disparity in elementary enrollment, anticipated future enrollment levels at each elementary school, and a commitment to equitable educational programming and services, a shift in school attendance boundaries is required.

Redistricting alone does not ensure equitable programming. School facilities also influence how and when programming is offered. Therefore, the School Board expanded the enrollment balancing initiative to include a facility review. With a recently approved Educational Master Facility Plan, the District now has a commitment to maintain the neighborhood school model with (3) K-4 schools and (1) 5-8 school campus and are able to re-engage in the redistricting work to find the best possible solution to a complex and emotional challenge.

The School Board also adopted Guiding Principles to guide the redistricting decision, informed by best practice, community feedback, and focus groups. A realtor group has also been regularly updated and solicited for feedback as well.

Goals of September 24, 2019 Board Meeting

- Approve new attendance boundaries for the elementary schools.
- Approve a student “phase-in” plan for Redistricting implementation.

Summary of District Commitments:

- Commitment to neighborhood schools
- Commitment to returning Kindergarten to Crow Island in 2020
- Commitment to equitable access to services and programming at all three elementary schools
- Commitment to developing safe routes to/from school and home
- Commitment to ensuring that all children and their families are welcomed into their new school community in the most thoughtful and inclusive ways
- Above all else - doing, in the long-term, what we believe is best for our students for years to come

Guiding Principles, Objectives & Superintendent Charge

Approved June 2019

The School Board has retained Cropper GIS Consulting to facilitate and co-manage the redistricting project with administration. The charge to the Superintendent and Administrative Advisory Team is as follows:

- Create a long-term plan to efficiently manage District facilities and resources while upholding our commitment to equitable educational programming for all students and responsible financial stewardship of the District’s assets.
- Plan for optimal capacity and utilization at each elementary school. Return kindergarten to Crow Island School in 2020-21, providing a K-4 grade configuration at all elementary schools.

Wherever possible...

- Minimize overall number of students and households impacted, inclusive of those impacted by short-term kindergarten plan.
- Optimize use of facilities and balance enrollments to maximize human resources, programming and physical amenities.
- Maintain class size guidelines.

Overview of Options

The following options were originally presented by Cropper GIS at the August 26, 2019, school board meeting. Superintendent Kocanda updated the options after reviewing

updated demographic projections and listening to community/realtor feedback. Below is a narrative description of all three options which were under consideration.

Option 2 - Superintendent Recommendation

Option 2 impacts Crow Island and Greeley Elementary Schools. This option moves both sides of Linden Rd., up to Oak St., and all other roads east within the Crow Island attendance boundary, from Crow Island to Greeley Elementary School. The result of this creates a balance of utilization among all three schools, and impacts the fewest number of students among all three options that are being presented (61 students). This option includes the following addresses: Indian Hill 1-16, 19; 1-4 Golf Ln.; & 830, 835 Hill Rd. The following addresses are no longer included in the redistricting zone per the Superintendent recommendation: 790 Sunset Rd., 787 Sunset Rd., 800 Mt. Pleasant Rd., 790 Mt. Pleasant Rd., 785 Mt. Pleasant Rd., 785 Willow Rd., 790 Ash St

Option 2a

Option 2a impacts Crow Island and Greeley Elementary Schools, but moves a different area than Option 2. Option 2a moves area south of Willow Rd, and both sides of Chestnut, including all roads east, from Crow Island to Greeley. The result of this creates a balance of utilization among all three schools, and impacts the second fewest number of students among all three options that are being presented (68 students). This option includes the following addresses: Indian Hill 1-16, 19; 1-4 Golf Ln.; & 830, 835 Hill Rd. The following addresses are no longer included in the redistricting zone per the Superintendent recommendation: 815 Alles Rd., 844 Sunset Rd., 825 Mt. Pleasant Rd.

Option 2b

Option 2b impacts Crow Island, Hubbard Woods, and Greeley Elementary Schools. Option 2b includes the same moves that have been described in Option 2a, but also moves the south side of Pine Rd. from Crow Island to Hubbard Woods School. This option creates a balance of utilization among all three schools, but does impact the greatest number of students among all three options (77). This option includes the following addresses: Indian Hill 1-16, 19; 1-4 Golf Ln.; & 830, 835 Hill Rd. The following addresses are no longer included in the redistricting zone per the Superintendent recommendation: 815 Alles Rd., 844 Sunset Rd., 825 Mt. Pleasant Rd.

Guiding Principles/Priorities Addressed

| | Proximity to Schools (<i>maintaining a distance under 2 miles</i>) | | | Number of Homes in Zone (adjusted) | Number of Students in Redistricted Zone | | | | Achieves Optimal Capacity (90-110%) (# of years over or under) | | |
|------------------|---|----|----|------------------------------------|---|----|----|-------|---|----|----|
| | CI | GR | HW | - | CI | GR | HW | TOTAL | CI | GR | HW |
| OPTION 2 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 314 | 61 | 0 | 0 | 61 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| OPTION 2a | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 302 | 68 | 0 | 0 | 68 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| OPTION 2b | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 347 | 68 | 0 | 9 | 77 | 0 | 3 | 3 |

*Numbers above reflect data as of August 2019 (include students younger than age 5 - for which we have data- through those attending 3rd grade in the 19/20 School year)

Superintendent Recommendation

At its October 22, 2019, regular meeting, it is recommended that the School Board approve Option 2 Map as the new K-4 attendance boundaries beginning October 23, 2019, for any new registrants and August 2020 for any currently enrolled children (exception of students offered a phase-in option).

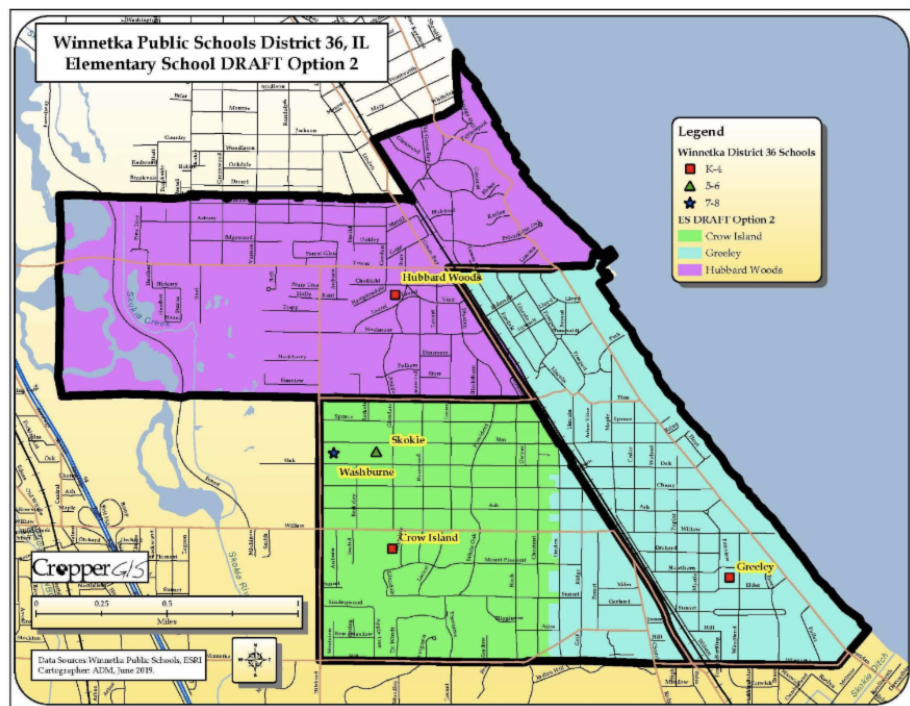
Option 2 moves both sides of Linden Rd., up to Oak, east to Greeley. This also includes homes 1-16 & 19 Indian Hill Rd, as well as 1-4 Golf Ln, and 830, 835 Hill Rd.

Crow Island students shift to Greeley; no change to Hubbard Woods.

The result of this move places all three schools within the 90%-110% optimal capacity range, and impacts the fewest number of students (61).

Total Households: **314 (reduced by 7)**; **recommend to remove 7 homes west of Linden**: 790 Sunset Rd., 787 Sunset Rd., 800 Mt. Pleasant Rd., 790 Mt. Pleasant Rd., 785 Mt. Pleasant Rd., 785 Willow Rd., 790 Ash St.

*Estimated Impact ~61 students
Less 13 voluntary transfers*



Superintendent Rationale

The updated (September 2019) Cropper GIS enrollment forecasts provide information that demonstrates Option 2 best aligns with the board-approved Guiding Principles. Option 2 provides longevity with achieving better balance and alignment with school capacities. It also disrupts the fewest families, yet captures 12 more homes assigned to Greeley than option 2a. Class size guidelines will continue to be utilized. It is important to note that these guidelines are flexible, affording the District opportunity to balance the number of sections and capacity at each school. Projections also assume Hubbard Woods will self-correct its higher capacity over time, with a few years near/slightly over 110% optimal capacity. Option 2 does not disrupt Hubbard Woods' current attendance boundaries.

Phase-In Discussion

At its meeting on September 24, 2019, the School Board also continued discussions on "phasing-in." Phasing-in allows a subset of students to remain at their current school AFTER new boundary lines go into effect. The Board gained consensus on phasing-in the following students who reside in the redistricted zone (representing 2020-2021 grade levels):

- All 4th graders
- 2nd and 3rd graders who attended D36 Kindergarten
- 2nd and 3rd graders who did not attend D36 Kindergarten
- 1st graders who attended D36 Kindergarten with an older sibling who attends Crow Island

Students that will not be given phase-in consideration are as follows:

- Any newly enrolled students (even those with siblings already attending Crow Island)
- 1st graders who attended D36 Kindergarten with no older sibling at Crow Island

Next Steps

October 22, 2019

- Board Approval of new K-4 attendance boundaries going into effect beginning October 23, 2019, for any new registrants and August 2020 for any currently enrolled children (exception of students offered a phase-in option).
- Board Approval of Phase-In Plan.

By October 30, 2019

- Communication to families impacted

- Communication to families with choice via Phase-In Plan

October - Spring 2020

- Continued planning with Village for safe routes to/from school

Attachments:

[Redistricting 2020 September 2019 Presentation](#)

[*Link to message that went to over 100 realtors in Winnetka with a Redistricting 2020 update
\(larger real estate firms were also called to ensure awareness of impending Board decision\)*](#)

[*Link to letter that will go to the impacted residents in the redistricted area*](#)