



Fairfield Public Schools

Follow up BOE Questions

March 3, 2020



Question 1

Question: What is the racial balance at the Middle and High School levels? Do any of the scenarios cause an imbalance at the Middle and High School levels?

Answer: No middle and high schools would have racial imbalances under any of the four scenarios (details on following slides)



Question 1

Existing Racial Balance

Existing Racial Balance: Middle School

| School | 6-8 Total | Minority Students | Percent Minority | Absolute Imbalance | Racial Balance Status |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Fairfield Woods | 904 | 235 | 26.0% | 1.4% | |
| Roger Ludlowe | 845 | 138 | 16.3% | -8.3% | |
| Tomlinson | 663 | 221 | 33.3% | 8.7% | |
| Total | 2,412 | 594 | 24.6% | 0.0% | |

Racial Balance calculations are not based on the official State 2019-20 Racial Balance Report

Racial Balance calculations are based on October 1, 2019 Enrollment

- Currently, all schools at the middle and high school level are within 10% of the district minority average

Existing Racial Balance: High School

| School | 9-12 Total | Minority Students | Percent Minority | Absolute Imbalance | Racial Balance Status |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Fairfield Ludlowe | 1,500 | 287 | 19.1% | -4.8% | |
| Fairfield Warde | 1,437 | 416 | 28.9% | 5.0% | |
| Total | 2,937 | 703 | 23.9% | 0.0% | |

Racial Balance calculations are not based on the official State 2019-20 Racial Balance Report

Racial Balance calculations are based on October 1, 2019 Enrollment



Question 1

Scenario 1: Racial Balance

Scenario 1 Racial Balance: Middle School

| School | 6-8 Total | Minority Students | Percent Minority | Absolute Imbalance | Racial Balance Status |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Fairfield Woods | 806 | 247 | 30.6% | 6.0% | |
| Roger Ludlowe | 852 | 140 | 16.4% | -8.2% | |
| Tomlinson | 754 | 207 | 27.5% | 2.8% | |
| Total | 2,412 | 594 | 24.6% | 0.0% | |

Racial Balance calculations are not based on the official State 2019-20 Racial Balance Report

Racial Balance calculations are based on October 1, 2019 Enrollment

- All middle and high schools would be within 10% of the districtwide minority average under Scenario 1

Scenario 1 Racial Balance: High School

| School | 9-12 Total | Minority Students | Percent Minority | Absolute Imbalance | Racial Balance Status |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Fairfield Ludlowe | 1,577 | 330 | 20.9% | -3.0% | |
| Fairfield Warde | 1,360 | 373 | 27.4% | 3.5% | |
| Total | 2,937 | 703 | 23.9% | 0.0% | |

Racial Balance calculations are not based on the official State 2019-20 Racial Balance Report

Racial Balance calculations are based on October 1, 2019 Enrollment



Question 1

Scenario 2: Racial Balance

Scenario 2 Racial Balance: Middle School

| School | 6-8 Total | Minority Students | Percent Minority | Absolute Imbalance | Racial Balance Status |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Fairfield Woods | 926 | 255 | 27.5% | 2.9% | |
| Roger Ludlowe | 795 | 136 | 17.1% | -7.5% | |
| Tomlinson | 691 | 203 | 29.4% | 4.8% | |
| Total | 2,412 | 594 | 24.6% | 0.0% | |

Racial Balance calculations are not based on the official State 2019-20 Racial Balance Report

Racial Balance calculations are based on October 1, 2019 Enrollment

- All middle and high schools would be within 10% of the districtwide minority average under Scenario 2

Scenario 2 Racial Balance: High School

| School | 9-12 Total | Minority Students | Percent Minority | Absolute Imbalance | Racial Balance Status |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Fairfield Ludlowe | 1,504 | 310 | 20.6% | -3.3% | |
| Fairfield Warde | 1,433 | 393 | 27.4% | 3.5% | |
| Total | 2,937 | 703 | 23.9% | 0.0% | |

Racial Balance calculations are not based on the official State 2019-20 Racial Balance Report

Racial Balance calculations are based on October 1, 2019 Enrollment



Question 1

Scenario 3: Racial Balance

Scenario 3 Racial Balance: Middle School

| School | 6-8 Total | Minority Students | Percent Minority | Absolute Imbalance | Racial Balance Status |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Fairfield Woods | 842 | 238 | 28.3% | 3.6% | |
| Roger Ludlowe | 842 | 154 | 18.3% | -6.3% | |
| Tomlinson | 728 | 202 | 27.7% | 3.1% | |
| Total | 2,412 | 594 | 24.6% | 0.0% | |

Racial Balance calculations are not based on the official State 2019-20 Racial Balance Report

Racial Balance calculations are based on October 1, 2019 Enrollment

- All middle and high schools would be within 10% of the districtwide minority average under Scenario 3

Scenario 3 Racial Balance: High School

| School | 9-12 Total | Minority Students | Percent Minority | Absolute Imbalance | Racial Balance Status |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Fairfield Ludlowe | 1,500 | 312 | 20.8% | -3.1% | |
| Fairfield Warde | 1,437 | 391 | 27.2% | 3.3% | |
| Total | 2,937 | 703 | 23.9% | 0.0% | |

Racial Balance calculations are not based on the official State 2019-20 Racial Balance Report

Racial Balance calculations are based on October 1, 2019 Enrollment



Question 1

Scenario 4: Racial Balance

Scenario 4 Racial Balance: Middle School

| School | 6-8 Total | Minority Students | Percent Minority | Absolute Imbalance | Racial Balance Status |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Fairfield Woods | 909 | 266 | 29.3% | 4.6% | |
| Roger Ludlowe | 838 | 142 | 16.9% | -7.7% | |
| Tomlinson | 665 | 186 | 28.0% | 3.3% | |
| Total | 2,412 | 594 | 24.6% | 0.0% | |

Racial Balance calculations are not based on the official State 2019-20 Racial Balance Report

Racial Balance calculations are based on October 1, 2019 Enrollment

- All middle and high schools would be within 10% of the districtwide minority average under Scenario 4

Scenario 4 Racial Balance: High School

| School | 9-12 Total | Minority Students | Percent Minority | Absolute Imbalance | Racial Balance Status |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Fairfield Ludlowe | 1,519 | 314 | 20.7% | -3.3% | |
| Fairfield Warde | 1,418 | 389 | 27.4% | 3.5% | |
| Total | 2,937 | 703 | 23.9% | 0.0% | |

Racial Balance calculations are not based on the official State 2019-20 Racial Balance Report

Racial Balance calculations are based on October 1, 2019 Enrollment



Question 2:

Question: How many walkers would be impacted by each of the four scenarios?



Question 2

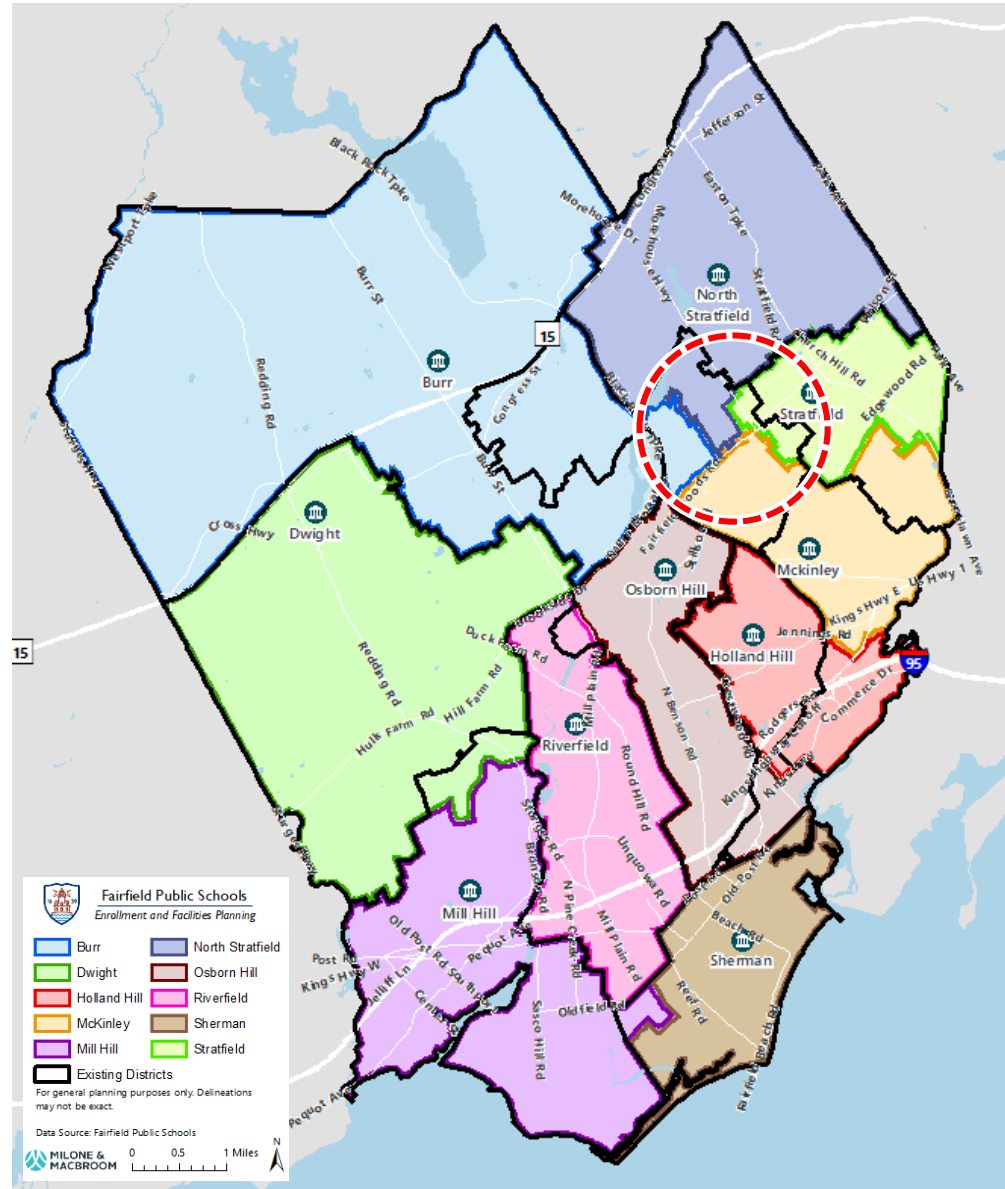
Scenario 1 Estimate of Walker Impacts

- Walkers currently attending Jennings are primarily impacted. Students redistricted to McKinley, Burr, North Stratfield, and Stratfield
- Closure of Jennings also results in greater impacts to walkers at Fairfield Woods Middle School

Scenario 1

| Grade Level | Impacted Walkers |
|--------------|------------------|
| Elementary | 186 |
| Middle | 104 |
| High | 20 |
| Total | 310 |

Source: Fairfield Public Schools





Question 2

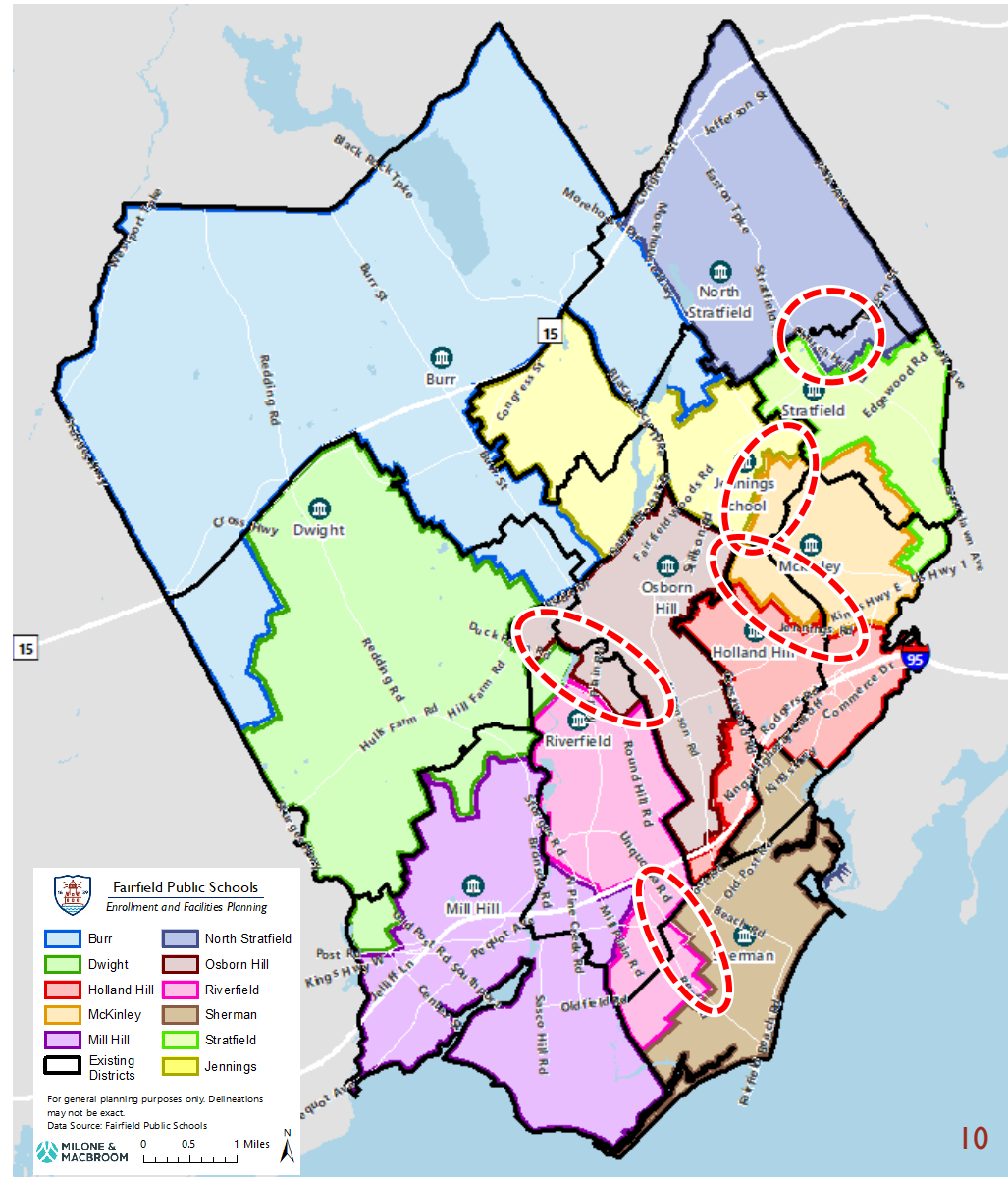
Scenario 2 Estimate of Walker Impacts

- Greatest walker impacts of the four scenarios
- Students currently attending Jennings, Stratfield, Holland Hill, Riverfield, and Sherman would be primarily impacted at the elementary level
- Limited impacts to middle and high school walkers

Scenario 2

| Grade Level | Impacted Walkers |
|--------------|------------------|
| Elementary | 281 |
| Middle | 29 |
| High | 31 |
| Total | 341 |

Source: Fairfield Public Schools





Question 2

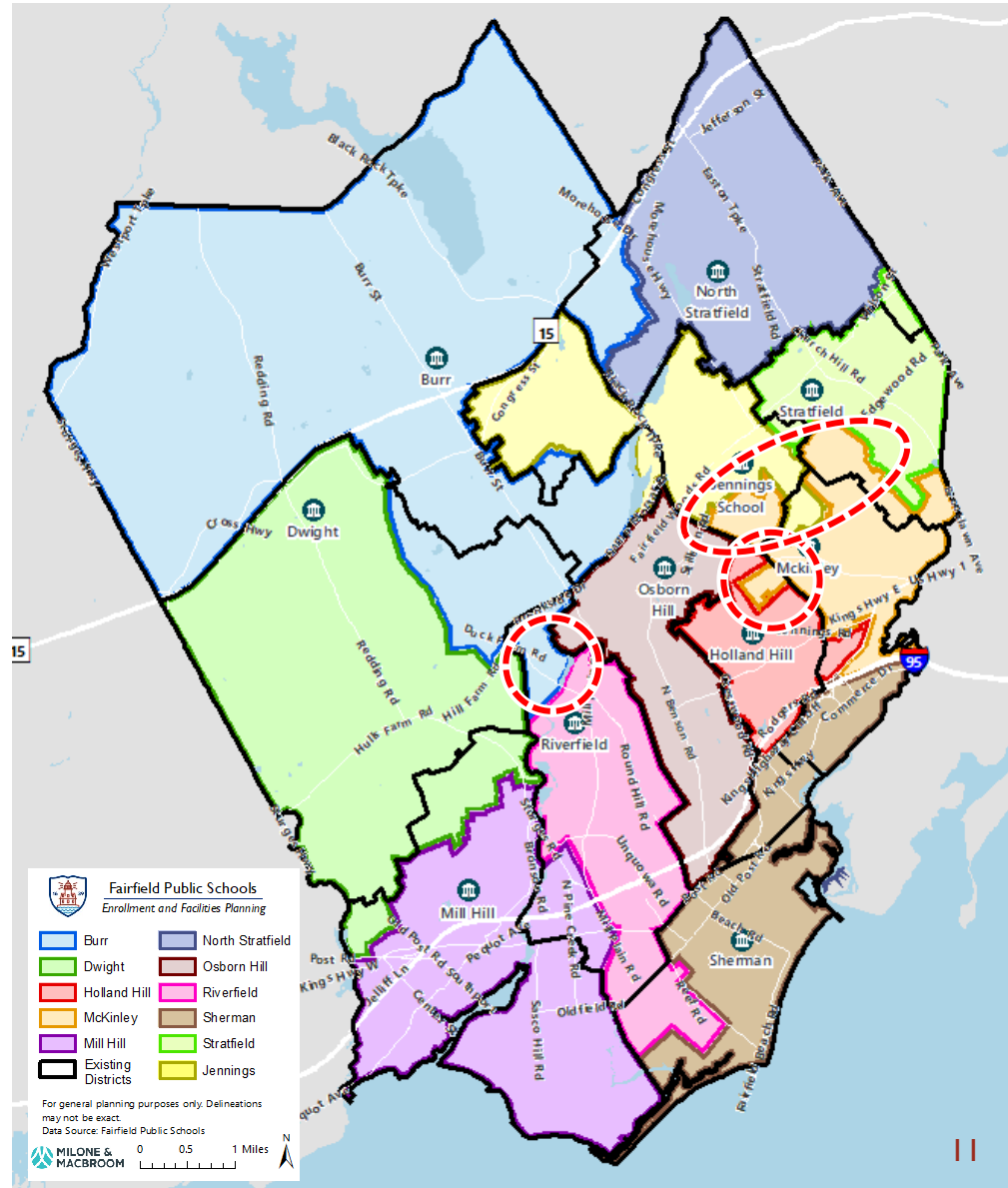
Scenario 3 Estimate of Walker Impacts

- Walkers currently attending Jennings, Holland Hill, McKinley, and Riverfield would be primarily impacted at the elementary level
- Limited impacts to middle and high school walkers

Scenario 3

| Grade Level | Impacted Walkers |
|--------------|------------------|
| Elementary | 187 |
| Middle | 51 |
| High | 33 |
| Total | 271 |

Source: Fairfield Public Schools





Question 2

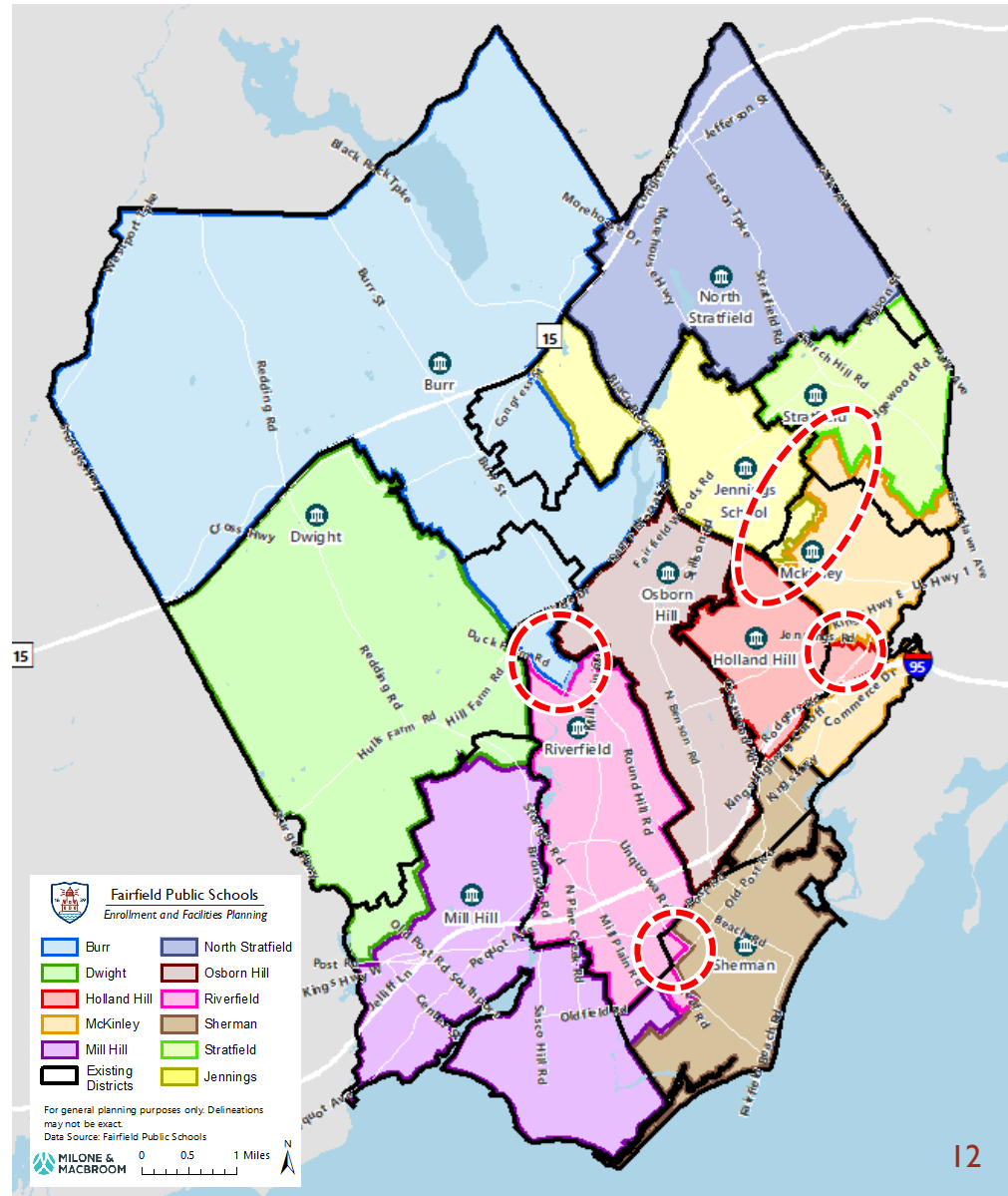
Scenario 4 Estimate of Walker Impacts

- Lowest walker impacts of the four scenarios
- Walkers currently attending McKinley, Sherman, and Riverfield would be primarily impacted in Scenario 4
- Limited impacts to middle and high school students

Scenario 4

| Grade Level | Impacted Walkers |
|--------------|------------------|
| Elementary | 137 |
| Middle | 14 |
| High | 30 |
| Total | 181 |

Source: Fairfield Public Schools





Question 3:

Question: If you factor in CLC classrooms, how does that impact the capacity and utilization of the elementary schools in Scenario 1?



Question 3

Educational Capacity

Educational Capacity factors in placement of districtwide programs that occupy full-sized classrooms.

Educational capacity assumes the following loading levels:

K-5 Instruction:

21 students per classroom

CLC:

8 students per classrooms



Question 3

Educational Capacity

Scenario 1 Educational Capacity

| School | Building Capacity | CLC Classrooms | Educational Capacity |
|------------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Burr | 504 | 2 | 478 |
| Dwight | 378 | 1 | 365 |
| Holland Hill | 504 | 0 | 504 |
| Jennings | Repurposed as ECC | | |
| McKinley | 504 | 0 | 504 |
| Mill Hill | 441 | 0 | 441 |
| North Stratfield | 504 | 0 | 504 |
| Osborn Hill | 504 | 3 | 465 |
| Riverfield | 504 | 1 | 491 |
| Sherman | 462 | 0 | 462 |
| Stratfield | 504 | 0 | 504 |
| Total | 4,809 | 7 | 4,718 |

1 CLC classroom from Jennings will need to be relocated

Loading Levels: Regular classrooms 21 students, CLC classrooms 8 students

- Educational capacity accounts for the placement of the 7 CLC classrooms (loaded at 8 students each). Assumes that these classrooms replace K-5 instructional classrooms.
 - Lowers overall capacity by 91 seats
- **Since Jennings would be repurposed as an ECC, 1 CLC classroom would need to be relocated**



Question 3

Scenario I: I-Year Snapshot

Scenario 1 Elementary Enrollment and Capacity

| School | K | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | K-5 Total | Educational Capacity | Percent Utilization |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Burr | 72 | 61 | 58 | 76 | 78 | 76 | 421 | 478 | 88.1% |
| Dwight | 43 | 34 | 47 | 46 | 50 | 65 | 285 | 365 | 78.1% |
| Holland Hill ¹ | 78 | 67 | 69 | 65 | 80 | 67 | 426 | 504 | 84.5% |
| Jennings | Repurposed as ECC | | | | | | | | |
| McKinley | 70 | 82 | 58 | 91 | 71 | 76 | 448 | 504 | 88.9% |
| Mill Hill ² | 54 | 68 | 54 | 64 | 63 | 68 | 371 | 441 | 84.1% |
| North Stratfield | 82 | 68 | 82 | 66 | 67 | 81 | 446 | 504 | 88.5% |
| Osborn Hill | 65 | 65 | 79 | 71 | 66 | 69 | 415 | 465 | 89.2% |
| Riverfield | 58 | 71 | 77 | 68 | 72 | 84 | 430 | 491 | 87.6% |
| Sherman | 65 | 53 | 63 | 74 | 77 | 58 | 390 | 462 | 84.4% |
| Stratfield | 61 | 74 | 63 | 72 | 71 | 84 | 425 | 504 | 84.3% |
| Total | 648 | 643 | 650 | 693 | 695 | 728 | 4,057 | 4,718 | 86.0% |

Educational capacity based on loading levels of 21 students per regular classroom, 8 students per CLC classroom

1. Based on the planned capacity from the new Holland Hill Ed Spec

2. Based on the planned capacity from the new Mill Hill Ed Spec

Based on October 1, 2019 Enrollment using Scenario 1 boundaries

- All schools under 90% utilization target with ranges between 78% and 89%
- Osborn Hill and Burr are approaching 90% utilization when accounting for CLC classrooms



Question 3

Scenario I: Elementary School Utilization

Scenario 1 Elementary Utilization

| School | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2026-27 | 2027-28 | 2028-29 | 2029-30 | Educational Capacity |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Burr | 88.1% | 87.0% | 87.0% | 85.6% | 87.0% | 88.5% | 87.0% | 87.9% | 87.4% | 88.9% | 90.6% | 478 |
| Dwight | 78.1% | 74.5% | 74.2% | 75.3% | 74.8% | 77.8% | 76.7% | 77.8% | 77.5% | 78.6% | 80.0% | 365 |
| Holland Hill | 84.5% | 85.5% | 85.5% | 87.7% | 89.3% | 90.7% | 89.7% | 90.5% | 91.1% | 92.7% | 93.7% | 504 |
| Jennings | Repurposed as ECC | | | | | | | | | | | |
| McKinley | 88.9% | 88.5% | 91.1% | 87.1% | 90.5% | 87.7% | 87.7% | 88.9% | 89.1% | 90.3% | 91.3% | 504 |
| Mill Hill | 84.1% | 80.3% | 80.0% | 79.1% | 80.3% | 78.9% | 81.0% | 81.9% | 82.1% | 83.2% | 84.6% | 441 |
| North Stratfield | 88.5% | 88.5% | 94.0% | 97.0% | 97.4% | 99.2% | 98.0% | 98.8% | 99.0% | 100.4% | 101.0% | 504 |
| Osborn Hill | 89.2% | 89.2% | 91.6% | 91.6% | 89.7% | 91.8% | 93.3% | 94.0% | 93.8% | 95.5% | 96.6% | 465 |
| Riverfield | 87.6% | 84.9% | 85.9% | 86.2% | 84.7% | 84.1% | 87.0% | 87.6% | 88.0% | 88.6% | 90.0% | 491 |
| Roger Sherman | 84.4% | 86.4% | 85.1% | 82.7% | 81.8% | 84.0% | 82.7% | 83.8% | 83.5% | 84.4% | 85.7% | 462 |
| Stratfield | 84.3% | 81.3% | 81.5% | 79.8% | 80.6% | 79.0% | 81.0% | 81.5% | 81.3% | 82.3% | 83.5% | 504 |
| Total | 86.0% | 84.9% | 86.0% | 85.5% | 86.0% | 86.5% | 86.7% | 87.6% | 87.6% | 88.8% | 90.0% | 4,718 |

Educational Capacity based on loading levels of 21 students per regular classroom and 8 students per CLC classroom

Source: 2019-20 based on Oct. 1 2019 enrollment. MMI projections.

- Overall utilization projected to increase to 90% in 2029-30 based on Educational Capacity
 - North Stratfield would exceed 100% utilization over the final two years of the projections and would exceed 90% each of the first eight years.
 - By 2029-30, six schools are projected to meet or exceed the 90% utilization target. Osborn Hill utilization nears 100% in the last two years of the projections once CLC classrooms are accounted for.



Question 3

Scenario 1: CLC Considerations

- Factoring in CLC classrooms (Educational Capacity) lowers elementary capacity by 91 seats
- CLC classroom at Jennings would need to be relocated
- Over the ten-year projections for Scenario 1:
 - Burr, Holland Hill, McKinley, North Stratfield, Osborn Hill and Riverfield each to exceed 90% utilization in one or more years
 - North Stratfield to exceed 100% utilization in 2028-29 and 2029-30
- If the district wishes to explore this Scenario in greater detail, adjustments could be made to address high utilization schools



Question 4:

Question: On page 9- what does by “Block Group” mean?

Answer: A block group is a geographic unit used by the U.S. Census Bureau that is used to assess information at the neighborhood level.



Question 5:

Question: The map for Racial Imbalance on page 9 shows areas of Impending balance with 15%-25% deviation. Since the average minority composition is approximately 26%, for those under, this would mean 11% or less variance. Yet on page 8 there is no school with less than 12.5% minority composition. How are those areas 11% or less if no school is below 12.5%? Also none are shown in any of the scenarios as being pending imbalanced.



Question 5:

Answer: The map shown on Slide 9 is based on Block Groups, which are census geographies roughly the size of a neighborhood. Most FPS elementary attendance zones cross two or more Block Groups. When aggregating individual student data up to the elementary school attendance zones, there are no districts with less than 11% minority students.



Question 6:

Question: Do any of the scenarios alter Title 1 status?

Answer: MMI cannot determine impacts to Title 1 due to data protections on Free/Reduced Lunch status.



Question 7:

Question: Do any of the scenarios alter the requirement for a bilingual education program at McKinley?

Answer: Currently, about 22% of McKinley students have limited English proficiency (LEP). Under each of the four scenarios, the percent of LEP students at McKinley would decrease to between 14% and 18% (details on following page)



Question 7:

Percent Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Students at McKinley and Holland Hill: 2019-20

| Scenario | McKinley | Holland Hill |
|------------|----------|--------------|
| Existing | 22% | 6% |
| Scenario 1 | 17% | 10% |
| Scenario 2 | 17% | 11% |
| Scenario 3 | 14% | 10% |
| Scenario 4 | 18% | 9% |

Source: Fairfield Public Schools PSIS. LEP student extract as of March 2, 2020

- McKinley has the highest concentration of LEP students at 22% of enrollment – McKinley’s LEP enrollments would decrease under each of the four scenarios to between 14% and 18%
- Holland Hill has the second highest concentration of LEP students – would increase to around 10% under each of the four scenarios
- No other elementary school exceeds 10% LEP students for any of the four scenarios



Question 8:

Question: Why were SDE reports not used when accounting for Racial Imbalance variances over time? SDE provides the reports back to the 2012-2013 school year. They used an enrollment look back for 5 years, when 8 years of actuals are available. The variances are greater when going back the 8 years than what they included. These are 10 year projections so the look back variance over the greatest time is the best available information. Most of them were correct or close, but where we have had and have Pre-K they were off.



Question 8:

Answer: In order to accurately evaluate racial imbalance for each scenario, we rely on address level information provided by FPS, rather than districtwide SDE reports. Our analysis uses address level information provided by FPS over the last five years. There may be slight differences between MMI's racial balance tables and the official SDE reported numbers.

Answer: SDE racial balance is calculated for like grades. Schools with Pre-K students are evaluated relative to the districtwide PK-5 minority composition. MMI's analysis only focused on K-5 students.



Question 9:

Question: I get that they aren't projecting racial imbalance or minority enrollment, but there is a statistical means to apply the look back going forward, that would at least provide an estimate based on historical actuals. Can they explain why such modeling and analysis cannot be conducted?



Question 9:

Answer: Enrollments for individual racial and ethnic groups cannot be accurately projected due to their small sample size and high margin of error. Additionally, there are many local, regional, and national drivers that cannot be projected accurately.

The historic lookback provides the best data source available. Racial balance at individual elementary schools can fluctuate significantly from year-to-year based on the composition of the incoming Kindergarten class and graduating 5th grade class. Applying the historic “trend” over the next ten years may not accurately account for this fluctuation or the complex external factors that will influence minority student enrollments in the future.