

What questions regarding the Summit Feeder Pattern School of Choice do you have for Mansfield ISD leadership?

Q: What options do the parents of high needs Special Ed students have?

A: We don't know what this will look like within the Summit Feeder Pattern schools yet, it will depend on the recommendations that this committee puts forward.

Q: Would the district allow similarly branded schools of choice across the district? The Summit Pattern was ripe for (& I understand one school requested the designation) a very good Fine Arts Feeder Pattern from CAE on through CTIS, Howard & Summit however a new schools far across the district were given the fine arts & STEM designation. At over 90 sq. miles there is no reason not to have multiple STEM, Fine Arts etc. The Summit Feeder pattern has a particular history of National Level Music Excellence and would be a good fit for this possibility. Summit has also been strong for many years in ACADEC. This system deserves high quality designations.

A: The district does not have a proposed plan or expectation in place for what the outcome will be, there are no "rules" on how many branded/choice schools can or should exist in the district. Ultimately, the recommendations that come out of this committee will drive the decisions for the Summit Feeder Pattern.

Q: When will a final decision be made? This school year? Summer?

A: We don't fully know; we anticipate that we'll take recommendations to the Board at some point in the Fall 2021. It depends on when the committee is ready to take recommendations forward.

Q: Are multiple schools in the Summit Feeder Pattern going to be schools of choice or just Summit HS?

A: Creating multiple schools of choice is a potential option.

Q: This is a small detail, but could this school complete portfolios instead of during grades? Could we be the school of choice with athletes?

A: We don't know yet; it will depend on the recommendations of this committee.

Q: At our last meeting, we talked about the results of our community survey. At this meeting, are we going to begin discussing possible schools of choice that we can add to our feeder pattern? Also, is it possible for us to have both an elementary and intermediate option that will grow into a junior high to high school possibility?

A: Yes, tonight we'll be talking about current branded schools and schools of choice, as well as brainstorming additional possibilities for the Summit Feeder Pattern. Creating multiple schools of choice at various levels may be an option, it depends on what this committee recommends.

Q: Are we creating a school of choice for this feeder pattern or trying to accommodate the fluctuations in registration, too little or too many, students per school? Or both?

A: Both. Enrollment is declining; however, we also know the importance of creating equitable opportunities for students and creating a school of a choice and/or branded school in the Summit Feeder Pattern provides more choice for students and families.

Q: Will the end result yield one option or is there a possibility for multiple School of Choice options to come from this committee?

A: Creating multiple schools of choice is a potential option.

What comments regarding the Summit Feeder Pattern School of Choice do you have for Mansfield ISD leadership?

- Thank you for taking the time to meet with all of us and addressing our concerns 1 on 1. I appreciate all the admin from Mansfield ISD.

- The most important item for long-term the Summit Feeder is re-zoning this part of the district particularly to adding the new neighborhoods near Cross Timbers & TA Howard currently zoned to Legacy to the Summit Pattern which will help with attendance stability over time. At a minimum, the Summit Line needs to be moved to Turner Way. Ideally it could take in much of the area N. of 287 attending Holt Elm. but zoned to Legacy. Potentially the South line could be moved to Debbie Ln in Mansfield for students zoned to Tipps. I know this is difficult but it has needed to be done for years. Comprehensive rezoning is likely on the table with Lake Ridge overcrowding & Timberview having room for more students. Board Members & Administration need to do what is right for the long run in this regard. Perhaps allowing MS & older students in a feeder pattern to remain in their current pattern would help with the negativity from parents.
- A good question to ask, might be to try and find out why parents are transferring their kids to charter or other schools outside of our district. I say this, because I don't think it is because of school of choice. I believe it is because other schools are an option outside of their designated home school. By the way, thank you for getting our community input. My neighbors have asked about the results of our meetings each time I am out walking.
- The Summit Feeder Pattern School of Choice seems like it should not progress into a "school of choice", but instead look at the real issues facing these schools- poverty. How can we address the overwhelming evidence that these schools are struggling due to the high rates of poverty and economic isolation. At the February school board meeting the audit addressed the school board, leadership, and parents stating that economically disadvantaged students have many social issues that must be addressed to make a real difference. Students at these schools are deprived of "models of learning". The main issue for the Summit Feeder is not race, or culture, it's poverty. If we made 1 school of "choice" in this area- how many students will this impact? What can we do to impact the WHOLE area? The Whole District? All the elementary schools that feed into the summit pattern are all above 60% and one is 90% of the student population receiving free and reduced lunch. Cross Timbers- is over 60% economically disadvantaged, TA Howard almost 70%, and Summit over 60%. All those students will continue throughout the Summit feeder pattern.

On the flip side the current Schools of Choice-
The Jerry Knight STEM Academy has ZERO.

The Frontier High School has LESS than the district average economic disadvantage at a little over 20%.

What is this telling us? A school of CHOICE does not address the underlying issues. Research shows that "free market choice"- if left up to parents tends to exacerbate segregation of economics. The inequalities are exacerbated.

Students living in low-income, disinvested, overcrowded, or less-safe neighborhoods are more likely to experience TOXIC stress from exposure to violence, homelessness, and economic insecurity. All these components interfere with emotional health and learning, as well as behavior challenges that affect the classroom environment for ALL students, staff, and teachers.

Follow the recommendations of the Equity audit, reduce class sizes to meet the needs of the students, provide social workers, and training for teachers regarding poverty, use evidence based teaching strategies, create programs to address the social needs of the community.

- I appreciate being able to be a part of this. My lack of participation in this one meeting is purely due to a previously scheduled obligation. I would appreciate more notification of when the next meeting will be. Two days before is not significant notice for those of us with busy lives and families.
- Thank you for coming to the campuses and conversing openly with the staff.