

High School Boundary Adjustment Comment Form

Do_Not_Reply@beaverton.k12.or.us

Tue 10/4/2016 11:33 AM

To: BSD Boundary Adjustment Comments <Boundary-Adjustment-Comments@beaverton.k12.or.us>;

Name: Rebekah Beste

Email: nrbeste@frontier.com

Comment:

My name is Rebekah Beste and my residence is not affected at all by the boundary decisions. We will attend Westview and always have attended Westview. So my concern is not with my area. My concern with the current boundaries comes from the hardship that I see affecting the students residing in Area 1 – Aloha Huber and Area 4 Waterhouse. The district's current boundary proposal violates the proximity criteria for these schools. Waterhouse could actually walk to Sunset, yet they are being bused 5 miles to Aloha. Furthermore, the Aloha students that are within walking distance of Aloha and are being bused to the new high school located a great distance from their residence.

I was raised poor and homeschooled until 8th grade. When I finally was allowed to go to school I was a free/reduced lunch student. As an adult I am a big proponent of public schools. I love them, I love the teachers and I appreciate everything my children receive from their public education. When you bus children away from neighborhood schools to meet free and reduced lunch % criteria it creates a situation where the bused children do not get to participate in sports, or afterschool activities. It creates hardships for the parents as well. I understand that many people are going to have to drive further due to the choice of location for the new high school. However, these two areas in particular should not be used just to meet the free and reduced lunch criteria the district would like to have. I see no other reason that they are being moved. How many will not attend parent teacher conferences? How many will not be able to volunteer at all. Even the well off residents of Waterhouse are at an disadvantage. Many of them come from homes where both parents work which is a hardship for families when rides are needed to and from activities. However, not all within Area 4 are well off; about half of the affected students reside in apartments. Even if you keep Waterhouse in Westview the 53 students that will still attend Westview won't truly negatively impact Westview's Capacity. As a parent who would love Westview to be smaller, I still believe in doing what is best for all students. Leaving Waterhouse in Westview or moving them to Sunset would meet the districts requirements of proximity and be best for Waterhouse.

I went to a rich school in high school and it deeply affected me to be around wealthy students in a very negative way. The district may preach inclusiveness and kindness, but it isn't what happens in the hallways. I needed friends that understood me and didn't look down on me or my family. It doesn't matter how awesome your teachers are when the students around you are nothing like you. How will the students from Area 1 be able to form friendships and build relationships within their neighborhoods when they are bused so far away? It is invaluable to have friends close by, friends to do homework with. What about when the students of area 1 fall behind and could really use the opportunity to stay after school and be helped by the districts amazing teachers? My daughter graduated from Westview and struggled immensely in math. Your teacher, Lori Casteel, was an incredible gift in her life. Lori, stayed after school, came early to school, did whatever it took to help my daughter pass her class. Instead of being frustrated with her, she actually told my daughter that SHE was a gift because she gave her the opportunity to figure out a new way to look at math. That experience wouldn't have happened if we had not attended a neighborhood school. I teach piano after school and I was not available for rides. Please reconsider allowing the students of Area 1 & Area 4 to attend schools that are closer in proximity. Not being able to participate in extracurricular activities is a hardship. I didn't even know poor students could participate in extracurricular activities until I was a parent myself. It made me feel isolated as a high school student and I see it happening to the students in both Area 1 and 4 if the current proposal is kept.

Bekah Beste

High School Boundary Adjustment Comment Form

Do_Not_Reply@beaverton.k12.or.us

Wed 10/5/2016 9:14 AM

To: BSD Boundary Adjustment Comments <Boundary-Adjustment-Comments@beaverton.k12.or.us>;

Name: Alan BuSteed

Email: Abusteed@comcast.net

Comment:

Dear Sir, It's seems that the new South Cooper Mountain high school should be allowed Juniors and seniors if they wish to attend. Transportation issues aside, if students (Jr. /Sr.) wish to attend their old school they must figure out a way to get there. Set the boundaries, lineup bus routes and start school as usual. You will never be able to satisfy the angry mob with policy, setup some exceptions for those who want to figure it out on their time and money. if you can't please everyone let's make it the most fiscally responsible it can be for the first year going forward.

High School Boundary Adjustment Comment Form

Do_Not_Reply@beaverton.k12.or.us

Mon 10/3/2016 11:00 AM

To: BSD Boundary Adjustment Comments <Boundary-Adjustment-Comments@beaverton.k12.or.us>;

Name: Julia Fulmer

Email: julia@thefulmers.net

Comment:

Hello Superintendent Grotting,

I would like to request consideration for the students currently enrolled in high school that are a part of the upcoming boundary changes that they have the option of staying at their current school or moving to the newly assigned school. It would only be 3 years with this unique "grandfathered" scenario and incredibly considerate to the students. - As a compromise, younger siblings that were not already attending a high school would be assigned to the newly assigned high school for their future. - Change in high school is much more challenging for teen students to endure than the elementary years due to the academic and social environment to navigate. When Bonny Slope Elem opened in 2008 our student had the option of staying at her current elementary school or moving to the new school. This flexibility was helpful and thoughtful....keeping the students' interests and needs as a top priority.

Many thanks for your consideration,
Julia Fulmer

- Sunset High School Parent - Our household is not a part of a move to a newly assigned school boundary, yet I feel it is important issue to consider for our nearby neighbors who are affected.

High School Boundary Adjustment Comment Form

Do_Not_Reply@beaverton.k12.or.us

Mon 10/3/2016 4:07 PM

Inbox

To: BSD Boundary Adjustment Comments <Boundary-Adjustment-Comments@beaverton.k12.or.us>;

Name: Kelly Gerber

Email: kelly_gerber@yahoo.com

Comment:

I have students currently in 9th and 6th, planning to attend the new high school. I'm happy with the boundaries, but concerned about opening the new school without Juniors and Seniors. I want to make sure there is enough budget to ensure equal educational opportunities to my students, including STEM classes, athletic programs, and extracurricular activities. My 9th grader is in advanced math and science and there needs to be options for him without busing him to another school.

Would it be an option for Juniors to opt into the new school? This would give Juniors extra opportunities for leadership, smaller class size which could improve their overall class ranking, athletic and band/drama opportunities that they might not have at a larger school. It would also improve the overall culture of the new school, allowing for varsity sports earlier, having upperclassmen to help define the culture and leadership of the school, and open up funding for advanced courses.

High School Boundary Adjustment Comment Form

Do_Not_Reply@beaverton.k12.or.us

Tue 10/4/2016 5:48 AM

To: BSD Boundary Adjustment Comments <Boundary-Adjustment-Comments@beaverton.k12.or.us>;

Name: Jeffrey Hart

Email: jthart008@yahoo.com

Comment:

Follow up to unanswered question from last week:

Our home is currently located in the Beaverton HS district but will be in the Southridge HS district with the new boundaries. My children will not be affected by the schools as they go to ACMA and HS2 however I'm unsure how their sports will be affected.

My oldest will be a Junior and plays on Varsity water polo for Beaverton. My youngest plans on playing for Beaverton lacrosse and soccer if possible. I have heard that my oldest, as a Junior, would be grandfathered into her current school sports team. I have also heard that my youngest, because of her sibling playing a Varsity sport, would be able to play for Beaverton as well.

Please advise how each will be affected by the change in boundaries.

October 3, 2016

Dear Superintendent Grotting,

We would like to offer some additional information in response to the Boundary Adjustment Committee's testimony at last Wednesday's meeting.

The language in policy JC is very clear. However, some BAC members reported they had trouble understanding how to define and apply the criteria. Following are a few examples of how the criteria were not reasonably applied to our neighborhood, Area 4.

Proximity to School

- BAC members said they used the proximity-to-school criteria for the placement of the Meadow Park area of Barnes in Sunset, because it is in Sunset's walk-to-school area. Later, they said Area 4 "thinks they are in the [Sunset] walk-to-school circle" but students would have to cross Hwy 26, which would make walking to school impractical. *Area 4 students would have to cross the same highway as students in the Meadow Park block of Barnes. We don't understand how Hwy 26 can be an obstacle for one area but not the other.*
- Area 4 (completely outside all of the Aloha proximity circles) was said to be assigned to Aloha for reasons of capacity. Simultaneously, a greater number of students living inside the Aloha proximity circles were kept in Westview. *If some of the students who live closer to Aloha were moved instead, the proximity to school criteria would be satisfied and an even greater reduction in capacity at Westview could have been achieved.*

This kind of inconsistent application of the criteria is exactly the problem that the upcoming map revision is intended to correct.

Capacity

- The BAC said there was no room for Area 4 in Westview. *Many BAC maps included Area 4 in Westview with Westview's capacity below the current proposal's 99%.*
- BAC members said Area 4 was removed from Westview due to capacity. *Indeed, every removal of students from Westview was due to capacity; deciding which areas to remove should have been based on the primary criteria.*

You can return Area 4 to Westview and keep Westview under 100% capacity by making trades that better follow the proximity-to-school criteria.

At last Wednesday's meeting, one of the principals stated that the BAC is not married to their map and they would support any changes made by you that better follow the criteria. We respectfully ask that, based on the primary criteria, you please return Area 4 to Westview. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth and Roger Moreno, Kim Overhage, Monica and Chris Olson, Tim and Lori Oppenlander, Robie and Sean Severson, Gary and Diane Bottger, Patricia and Mark Wilson, Randy and Leah Carpenter, Gary and Pam Buckles and the rest of Area 4

High School Boundary Adjustment Comment Form

Do_Not_Reply@beaverton.k12.or.us

Thu 10/6/2016 12:32 PM

To: BSD Boundary Adjustment Comments <Boundary-Adjustment-Comments@beaverton.k12.or.us>;

Name: Nina Munch

Email: nmunch1@gmail.com

Comment:

To whom it may concern,

First off, I'd like to thank you for allowing the community an opportunity to provide input on behalf of our children, and our neighborhoods. My name is Nina Munch. I'm a single mother, and my son is in 7th grade at Five Oaks. I'm writing on behalf of the area of consideration #1 – Aloha Huber Park.

Over the course of this decision, I've written several letters to the Boundary Committee, esteemed board members, as well as stood in front of the board to plead my case. I've been extremely disappointed throughout this process, and even more so at the recommendations that were put forth by the boundary committee and Ex-Superintendent Rose, as I feel that they completely disregarded the key criteria outlined in Policy JC, as well as disregarded the overall welfare of the kids in my neighborhood.

Policy JC has stood as a guide for BSD attendance areas for more than 36 years. I don't need to include it in this letter. Anyone who's directly involved, and been paying attention throughout these boundary proceedings, knows what it says. So, I'm confused as to why it was abandoned during this process. In fact, it appears that the only logical conclusion as to why our area is even included in the new HS boundary is to "increase that schools socio-economic diversity" based on reported FRL in my neighborhood. Let me translate that for y'all: they want to take this group of poor kids and send them over the hill to balance the high percentage of rich kids.

That being said, let's examine how the main criteria in Policy JC were ignored with regards to my neighborhood.....

1.) I live at 16380 SW Blanton St, in the neighborhood encompassing 160th to 170th, and TV HWY to Farmington. The entire neighborhood is within the AHS 1.5 mile walking radius - so Policy JC primary criteria #2 of proximity to school was completely ignored when the decision was made to include my son in the new school boundary which is located more than 5 miles away. Let's look at this another way: My house is 1.2 miles away from AHS, 2 miles away from BHS, 4 miles away from SHS, 4.7 miles away from SRHS, 5 miles away from WHS. Effectively, the current boundary proposal as it stands is stating that sending my child to the school that is farthest away from our house, South Cooper Mountain at 5.2 miles, is the better choice. I'd like you to please explain this theory to me.

2.) Furthermore, I would like detailed explanation as to how it is safer for my child to travel more than 5 miles through winding roads, and over a mountain that peaks at 764 feet above sea level? This mountain, by the way, often freezes during the winter months. How in the hell is this safer than sending him to Aloha high school, 1.2 miles away, on flat surface streets with sidewalks, and no elevation change? This boundary proposal disregards Policy JC primary criteria #3 – safety. Let me ask you, does my child's safety and those in our neighborhood not matter?

3.) My son has participated in Aloha Youth athletics for the last 4 years, and I am an active board member. He is currently playing

football for AYF. He is a proud Warrior and wears his blue and gold daily. There are other children in our neighborhood that participate in Aloha Youth Cheer, and join my son during lacrosse and wrestling season. The Aloha community is our home and our family. We've been told that due to the proposed boundary changes, effective fall 2017, all children currently in the affected areas of Aloha will be asked to discontinue their participation in Aloha Youth activities, no matter what year they are, or how long they have participated. This decision was made by the TVYFL board, and shared by the AYF president prior to the start of this football season. My son will be an 8th grader in the fall of 2017. So, effectively I have to explain to him why he can't participate in the program that he has loved for the last 4 years for his final year of youth eligibility. This is a prime example that Policy JC criteria #4, neighborhood unity, wasn't considered when the decision was made to tear my neighborhood away from the Aloha attendance area, effectively creating a fissure in the Aloha community, and robbing our kids of opportunities and extracurricular experiences.

4.) We are no strangers to bad boundaries. Although we live less than a mile from Mountain View Middle School, my son is bused 3.3 miles away to Five Oaks. In fact, if you take a look at the current Five Oaks Boundary map, you can see that we live in the very SE tail of the Five Oaks attendance boundary and are currently the only area included in the new high school boundary. So, essentially my son is going to be isolated from his social circle of close friends because of this boundary proposal. The kids that he's grown up with will be torn away from him, and he'll be asked to start all over for his high school career simply because there are a few less zero's reported on my annual income. Primary criteria #5 of retaining neighborhood areas within a single boundary is not being considered in regards to our neighborhood.

5.) Based upon the perspective of the BSD Transportation Administrator, maintaining our neighborhood in the Aloha HS boundary would cut down on transportation cost and time. I don't need to include his statement either, as it is a matter of public record, but the essence of his message is that aligning our neighborhood with the SCM HS boundary would double transportation costs and significantly increase travel time for the kids in my neighborhood. Not to mention the drastic increase in travel time, unsafe or minimal route options, and distance should we experience incimate weather. I ask you, will these suggestions, based on years of professional experience, go unheard and ignored? Will my child, and those in our neighborhood, be expected to miss out on much needed sleep so that they can wake up earlier than most just to catch the bus that will transport them to school? As it stands now, we live so far away from SCM HS, that if my son misses the bus, he'll have to stay home from school as there is NO possible way for him to walk or ride his bike over the mountain to get to school without facing serious danger. The increased transportation and distance between our homes and the new HS puts even more financial hardship on my family and those in my neighborhood. The increased financial strain and added overall stress will negatively impact the kids in my neighborhood in unfair ways including exclusion from before and after school extracurricular activities. This proposed boundary robs our children of opportunities that will mold them in to well-rounded individuals. All of this can be avoided by keeping our kids in the AHS boundary, allowing them safe transportation options to and from school. Policy JC #6 primary criteria of transportation costs has been ignored.

Do the children in my neighborhood not matter in this process?

I am asking you to take these concerns in to factor when deciding on the fate of "area #1".

I thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,
Nina Munch
503-799-4550

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Do_Not_Reply@beaverton.k12.or.us

Wed 10/5/2016 11:39 AM

To: BSD Boundary Adjustment Comments <Boundary-Adjustment-Comments@beaverton.k12.or.us>;

Name: Ann Keisling Smith

Email: pergamon.video@gmail.com

Comment:

Dear Superintendent Grotting:

Before the final decision is made, I wanted to make one last appeal on behalf of the Class of 2020. In particular, I want to introduce you to my daughter, Frances Smith, who is part of that graduating class.

Frances was born in China in 2002, and we were lucky enough to adopt her around her first birthday in May 2003. She was extremely sick with pneumonia, and since we were traveling during the SARS crisis, we were quarantined upon returning home to Portland. She continued to languish, and I had her assessed for special needs, which she qualified for. Six months later, at age 18 months, we discovered she had a rare form of cancer, retinoblastoma, that was blocking her vision in one eye, and causing the withdrawn behavior we observed. Her left eye was enucleated, and she has been cancer free since then. But she has continued to be shy, and slow to accept transitions. Lucky for her, she has a sister who is now a senior at Sunset High School where Frances is a freshman. It will be unbelievably stressful for Frances to have to change high schools next year, as she is slated to go to Beaverton. Many of her classmates from Cedar Park middle school will be able to stay at Sunset. In fact, those kids who attended either Bonny Slope or Cedar Mill are the ones in her friend group. And those from West TV who would have moved with her, are going to be able to stay at Sunset as well as they have an older sibling still at Sunset in the fall of 2017. I honestly believe Frances is one of only a handful of students from her 5th grade class at West TV who will not be grandfathered into Sunset.

I implore you to look past the easy decision for the class of 2020, and please, please let students finish where they start. It is hard for those of us of a certain age to remember what that would have been like, and we like to look at youth and say, "they are resilient, they will be fine." But I want you to remember you have the lives of students like Frances in your hands when you make the decision that the class of 2020 must change high schools. Just so you know, Frances is in marching band, and has joined the same clubs as her sister Louise at Sunset. She is making a huge effort to embrace this change. Don't make her throw this year away, and have her attempt to do this again.

I appreciate your time in reading this, and if you'd like to talk further, I'd welcome the opportunity.

Best,

Ann Keisling Smith

Class of '75 Sunset High School

High School Boundary Adjustment Comment Form

Do_Not_Reply@beaverton.k12.or.us

Fri 10/7/2016 9:11 AM

To: BSD Boundary Adjustment Comments <Boundary-Adjustment-Comments@beaverton.k12.or.us>;

Name: Judy Turner

Email: judith.turner@regence.com

Comment:

Dear Superintendent Grotting,

The following key concerns regarding the West TV community should be carefully looked at and addressed as final adjustments to the HS boundary map are being made.

Proximity/Transportation:

The current proposal deliberately creates the longest commute for the West TV neighborhood in the district on some of the busiest and most dangerous roads. Traffic data from ODOT, WA County, and accident data all point to the proposed commutes as fraught with time and safety issues. Instead of openly considering the data and reviewing and contrasting the data against their own, the district continues to push forward with their own agenda rather than carefully assessing the situation and doing what is truly best for our children.

Forcing our community to commute significantly further, with children spending so much more time on the bus, is not in keeping with Policy JC and not in keeping with the School Board's decision not to approve the map in May, asking the District to further consider the criteria of Proximity and Transportation in determining adjustments.

Availability of Space:

The enrollment forecast being used by the District has a margin of error significantly beyond what professional demographers would consider acceptable and what previous forecasts the district has used had. It predicts unprecedented levels of growth at Sunset and has been shown to clearly over-predict Sunset enrollment by 400-600 students. This forecast should not be used as a reason to override the balance of all other primary criteria in the Policy JC and to exclude us from our community school in closest proximity, Sunset HS.

Conclusion:

The West TV community has provided extensive feedback and information to the District throughout this process. Trust is so important. If this community were to be sent to Beaverton, it would be noticed and parents would lose trust, if buses for Beaverton HS were to come through our neighborhood more than 5 minutes before the buses for Sunset HS (given the suggested route times the District has published). Trust would also be lost if parents were to see that Sunset has space for 400 students in three years and there was in fact enough room for our small West TV community.

The West TV community heard the District's plea for assistance and was critical in getting the last bond measures passed. We are

now asking that you hear our plea and do what's right for our children and families by keeping us at Sunset HS.

Placing West TV at Sunset HS is a win-win for the District, the Board, and the West TV community where the primary criteria of Policy JC are met and specifically the two concerns the Board has around Proximity and Transportation are addressed. Aligned with this, is the broader community support that would be garnered as a result.

Thank you for your hard work, compassion, and diligence throughout the last couple of months of this very important process.

Best regards,

Judy Turner

From: donald grotting

Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2016 9:33 PM

To: david williams <David_Williams@beaverton.k12.or.us>; steve phillips <Stephen_Phillips@beaverton.k12.or.us>; Steven Sparks - Exec Admin <Steven_Sparks@beaverton.k12.or.us>; carl mead <Carl_Mead@beaverton.k12.or.us>

Subject: Fwd: My comments/suggestions on the boundary changes (coming from a 9th grader's perspective)

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Noah Yamashiro <noah.firefox.yamashiro@gmail.com>

Date: September 28, 2016 at 9:19:48 PM PDT

To: steven_sparks@beaverton.k12.or.us, don_grotting@beaverton.k12.or.us

Subject: My comments/suggestions on the boundary changes (coming from a 9th grader's perspective)

Dear Boundary Adjustment Committee,

Before I get into my spiel, I need to thank you all for volunteering for this very hard position in the community. I know it brings a lot of stress and anxiety from all the angry parents. I know you want all of the families and communities to be happy, and do what is best for the district as a whole. Again, I understand that these decisions that are made are made in the best interest for the parents and kids. Finally, I'm a 9th grade student writing this. The first group of kids that will be affected by this, because in the end, it's the students who are affected the most. I feel my opinion should be heard

I am from the Oak Hills neighborhood. My parents moved here when I was just 2 because they liked the community that I would be surrounded with. They were right. The past 10 years with the kids who went to elementary school with me have been the best of my life. Now, what will happen at the turn of the year is those of us in the Oak Hills Neighborhood will be forced to go to Sunset. And based on the population of Oak Hills roughly 20 kids should go to Sunset. However based on the amount that will stay at Westview because of reasons like being grandfathered in, varsity sports, AP classes, and administrative transfers shrinks 20 into around 11-12 kids. And these aren't the only friends I lose, I also lose the friends I have made through Meadow Park and the friends I will make this 9th grade year. The worst part about all of this is after I've been switched to sunset, and lost most of my friends, your chances of being in classes with any friends there goes down dramatically. I don't like my chances.

That reason might seem kind of dumb because "it's just about friends" but really, it isn't. I know just saying that it isn't doesn't give you a much better viewpoint on it, but just hear me out. Last year when I was in the class that I struggled with most (Algebra II), My teacher noticed that I seemed to work a lot more efficiently and got better test grades when I sat in a table group

with my friends. I feel like this is because learning is more fun when you are next to some of your friends so you can remember the things you did that day better.

Next, I would like to address the proximity issues. On the boundary chart it says we are in walking distance, which is true. However, we may be in walking distance but the main problems here are time and back pain. I've walked to the Sunset Athletic Club a few times to go play basketball or workout with friends, and to get there it takes about 30 minutes when carrying less than 5 pounds of weight. However, when I put my backpack and trumpet on a scale, it works out to be around 25-35 pounds depending on whether I have books in or not. And studies have shown that carrying over 20% of your body weight can damage your spine or cause back pains, *"Your spine isn't all that's in jeopardy. The soft tissue around it — supporting structures like ligaments and paraspinal muscles that attach to the spine — suffer a decreased range of motion"* So obviously our parents aren't going to let us walk to school, we will just cause a bigger clog in the morning with all the cars, buses, and kids coming into sunset.

Finally, the last problem I would like to address with this is the fact that I don't see much point of being involved with westview. Because by going into extracurricular activities, sports, theatre, etc. All you are really doing is just making more relationships that you are going to have to break at the end of the year. On the first day of school this year, our principal said that he would like to see everyone in the school involved in some kind of extracurricular activity. However, because a lot of people know that there might not be a "hey, see you all next year." Because of this, I am less interested into getting into clubs as there are just more people that you will miss next year when you leave the school. And honestly, you can't really keep as good of a relationship with your friends when you are at different schools. I know from experience. One of my best friends went to an option school for middle school (don't get me wrong, we are still friends) and because of that I didn't get to see him at all because our school schedules didn't allow it.

Again, thank you all for the hard work you've done on the boundary adjustments. I really hope that you will consider keeping the Oak Hills neighborhood at Westview. Although, no matter what happens, I'm glad my opinion was heard.

Sincerely,
Noah Yamashiro
9th Grader at Westview High School

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Noah Yamashiro
ノア山城