

# Frequently Asked Questions

## High School Boundary Adjustment Process

### Updated February 2016

#### Process

**Q1: What is the high school boundary adjustment process for high schools, and why is it happening now?**

**A:** In May 2014, Beaverton voters approved a \$680 million bond measure for the students in the Beaverton School District. One of the purposes of the bond program is to increase school capacity to address overcrowding and future projected enrollment across the system by constructing new school buildings. As a result, school attendance boundaries will need to be adjusted. [Policy JC, School Attendance Areas](#), serves as the guide for the boundary adjustment process, providing specific criteria that the Boundary Advisory Committee will use to develop a recommendation to Superintendent Rose.

Last fall, the District began the process to redraw the District high school boundaries. The process began in mid-October 2015 and the Boundary Committee is expected to send their recommendation to Supt. Jeff Rose in mid-March 2016.

**Q2: How can I participate in the high school boundary adjustment process?**

**A:** The meetings are open to the public. Public input is welcomed and encouraged throughout the process. There will be no public comment taken during the Committee meetings. Written comments will be accepted here: [Boundary-Adjustment-Comments@beaverton.k12.or.us](mailto:Boundary-Adjustment-Comments@beaverton.k12.or.us)

In addition, there was a Public Preview on January 21, 2016 to share the proposed boundary adjustments. A Public Hearing will follow on February 16, 2016.

The High School Boundary Advisory Committee reviews all written comments on an ongoing basis.

**Q3: When will the new high school attendance boundaries go into effect?**

**A:** The District expects to adopt the new high school boundaries by spring 2016. The new high school boundaries will not go into effect until the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year, to correspond with the opening of the District's newest and 6<sup>th</sup> high school, which is currently under construction in the South Cooper Mt. area. The final decisions will be broadly communicated from the District level and through schools.

**Q4: I am thinking of buying a house in the Beaverton School District, how can I know what high school attendance boundary it will be in?**

**A:** The District cannot guarantee which school boundary a home will be served by until the Boundary Committee has concluded its work, the Superintendent has reviewed the Committee's recommendation and presented his recommendation to the School Board.

The District intends, through this process, to create new high school boundaries that will be stable for several years. However, future changes to boundaries are also possible as necessitated by enrollment growth patterns.

### **Elementary & Middle School Boundaries**

**Q5: Will the District adjust boundaries for elementary or middle schools at the same time as the high schools?**

**A:** No. The District will complete the high school boundary adjustment process (Fall 2015 – Spring 2016). The elementary boundary adjustment process is expected to begin in fall 2016 and be completed by December 2016. The District will not adjust middle school boundaries until closer to when the new middle school in the Timberland area opens in Sept. 2020.

**Q6: How will the new high school boundaries affect elementary and middle school feeder patterns?**

**A:** The adjusted high school boundaries may result in changes to the elementary and middle school feeder patterns. Elementary and middle school boundaries will be adjusted in subsequent boundary adjustment processes, with their own respective boundary advisory committees. The current middle school boundaries will stay in place until the new middle school opens in 2020-2021. The middle school boundary process will not occur for several years because the new middle school in the Timberland area will serve as a temporary school for four other schools while those schools are rebuilt.

### **Option Schools/Programs**

**Q7: How will the high school boundary adjustment process affect Options schools, like ACMA or International School of Beaverton?**

**A:** Option Schools and programs will not be affected by the high school boundary adjustment process. Students attending Options schools will continue to attend those schools, even if their home high school boundary is changed as a result of this process.

## **Transitions**

**Q8: Who is going to help support our students once the high school boundary adjustment process is completed?**

**A:** The High School Boundary Adjustment Committee is also charged with developing transition recommendations such as grandfathering certain grades. Our high school principals are already thinking about activities and supports that will help students make successful transitions to their new schools.

**Q9: If our high school boundary changes and my student will be a senior in the Fall of 2017, will he/she need to attend the newly assigned high school?**

**A:** We will grandfather incoming seniors in the Fall 2017. This means they may stay at their current high school. The incoming senior class of the 2017-2018 school year will not be required to attend a different high school as a result of the boundary adjustment process. The District assumes the new high school will open with grades 9, 10, and 11.

## **Transportation/Traffic**

**Q10: Was a traffic impact study conducted prior to adjusting the school boundaries? Did Beaverton School District request the impact statement from Washington County?**

**A:** The District is not required by Washington County to conduct a traffic impact study as part of this boundary process.

**Q11: What is the weighting on traffic importance?**

**A:** Board Policy JC provides several criteria for a boundary committee to consider. There are no established weightings for the criteria.

**Q12: Why are students being moved without consideration to how close the schools are (e.g. Beaverton High School is 10 minutes away, Southridge High School is 30 minutes)?**

**A:** Proximity is just one criteria the Boundary Committee has considered as they are developing their recommendations.

## **South Cooper Mt. Area Development**

**Q13: As you are adjusting high school boundaries, what is your target enrollment (desired % of capacity) for the high school in the South Cooper Mountain area? Are you trying to keep it lower than other schools in anticipation of future growth?**

**A:** The target enrollment, generally, is about 90% for all schools, as per the Board objectives adopted in June, 2015, but there is no single target for any one school. The Committee has discussed trying to retain additional capacity at schools in higher growth areas, like Sunset, Westview, and the new high school in the South Cooper Mt. area.

**Q14: You've calculated the Hillsboro School District land being transferred to Beaverton School District to represent about 150 students in year 2020. But since that land is not officially part of the BSD yet, are those 150 students included in your proposal, or do you need to leave room in the capacity planning for those?**

**A:** The 150 student estimate for the portion of South Cooper Mt. to be transferred to BSD does not have a point in time, and is not included in the projection for 2020 (i.e. does not appear on the grid code cells on the map). However, the Committee asked staff to provide an estimate of potential student growth in the area, in order to keep that growth potential in mind as they considered the new high school's attendance boundary and potential enrollment in 2020.

**Q15: What about the rest of the South Cooper Mountain development area? Washington County is planning for about 7,000 new homes in total - how many of those were included in the grids of the maps you're using for this boundary adjustment process (none, an estimate of the ones that will be built by 2020, or all planned development)?**

**A:** All portions of the South Cooper Mt. planning area which are within the BSD boundary are included in the projection. However, only those portions that have been annexed to the City of Beaverton are likely to yield any significant development in the near term. The remainder of the South Cooper Mt. planning area is either 1) located outside the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) and City of Beaverton (and still retains low-density zoning designations) and/or 2) is not within the Beaverton School District boundary. The projection used for the high school boundary process accounted for a large residential project in the City of Beaverton (NE corner of SW 175<sup>th</sup> and Scholls Ferry Rd). We have estimated student generation from lands to be brought into the Beaverton School District boundary from Hillsboro School District and this has also been provided to the Committee.

**Q16: The city of Tigard is also planning a large home development on the south side of Scholls Ferry Rd. near Roy Rogers Rd. Do you anticipate the BSD being extended to incorporate the new Tigard development?**

**A:** Yes, the two major projects in the City of Tigard and within the BSD boundary, River Terrace NW and River Terrace East, are included in the projection.