

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 28, 2022  
FROM: Steven A. Sparks, AICP  
SUBJECT: Bonny Slope ES / Findley ES Attendance Boundary Adjustment

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### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

District staff have been closely monitoring the enrollment changes at all schools in the District and over the past several years, Bonny Slope Elementary School has experienced a steady increase in enrollment as new residential development has become available. Bonny Slope's enrollment exceeds the planned capacity of the facility and enrollment growth is forecasted to continue. Bonny Slope requires an attendance boundary adjustment to help relieve potential student overcrowding.

Bonny Slope's growth in enrollment is linked to the increase in the general population within its current attendance boundary. The increase is attributable, in large part, to new residential development in the areas north of Thompson Road. These and other areas of Bonny Slope still have additional residential development capacity, which will continue to place enrollment pressure upon the school. Bonny Slope has a total building capacity of 600 general education students; the school does not have any portable classrooms onsite. The school does not have any Self-Contained Specialized Programs. There are 24 general education classrooms, one (1) pre-kindergarten classroom and a one (1) resource room. Prior to the pandemic, Bonny Slope was regularly above its permanent building capacity. As of September 26, 2022, Bonny Slope has an enrollment of 682 students for the 2022-23 school year, 82 (14%) above capacity.

Findley Elementary, located to the east of Bonny Slope school, has experienced a declining enrollment since 2015, when enrollment was 826 general education students. In 2019, prior to the pandemic, Findley's enrollment was 641, a decline of 185 students (-22%). Enrollment at Findley declined further in 2020 and 2021 during the pandemic. The pre-pandemic declining enrollment is likely due to the natural aging of the neighborhoods and families living within them. Findley experienced significant growth up through the mid-2010s, but these neighborhoods are now sending fewer elementary-aged students to BSD schools. Findley today has few remaining lands for additional residential development.

Findley Elementary has a permanent capacity of 625 general education students, supplemented by 152 additional seats in 8 portable classrooms. The school serves only general education students and does not house a Self-Contained Specialized Program or Pre-Kindergarten program. There are 25 general education classrooms and one (1) resource room. As of September 26, 2022, Findley has an enrollment of 525 general education students in the 2022-23 school year. This will result in 100 available general education seats (and 252 available seats if portable capacity is included).

**PROCESS:**

School Board Policy JC provides direction for attendance boundary adjustments. There are four (4) factors that are to be considered when a boundary adjustment is being reviewed. Those factors include, in no particular priority:

- Student body composition;  
This factor concerns demographic information such as race/ethnicity and socio-economic data.
  
- Current and future availability of space at a school;  
This factor concerns building capacity and future enrollment projections.
  
- Feeder patterns from elementary, middle to high school; and  
The factor concerns how boundaries will feed students to the next school.
  
- Neighborhood proximity and accessibility.  
This factor concerns how students will access their school. Transportation data, including walkability, is data used to evaluate this factor.

For the Bonny Slope / Findley attendance boundary adjustment, the driving factor for proposing the adjustment is the issue of capacity at Bonny Slope elementary school. As noted above, the facility currently exceeds its capacity and spaces within the building are being converted to classroom use.

In addition to the Policy JC factors, the School Board will create objectives for the boundary adjustment. In June 2022, the School Board adopted the following objectives for the Bonny Slope / Findley Boundary Adjustment project:

*Objective 1: Create an attendance boundary amendment that will provide overcrowding relief for Bonny Slope Elementary School for the SY 2023-24 school year.*

*Objective 2: To the degree feasible, balance future enrollment with each affected school's capacity.*

## ISSUES:

### *Area to be adjusted*

The area under consideration to be adjusted is the northern attendance area of Bonny Slope. As of September 26, 2022, there are a total of 132 students. The breakdown of the enrollment by grade is:

Kinder	38
1 <sup>st</sup>	24
2 <sup>nd</sup>	11
3 <sup>rd</sup>	27
4 <sup>th</sup>	20
5 <sup>th</sup>	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>

The actual number of students subject to be moved to Findley is estimated to be approximately 100 students plus newly arriving Kindergarten students. A projection for anticipated Kindergarten students will not be prepared until March 2023; however, an estimate of 30 students can be used at this time. The current 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students will matriculate to middle school and are not a part of the calculation for new students at Findley ES. 4<sup>th</sup> Grade students will be eligible for legacy student status as described below.

### *Legacy Student Option*

For the past several elementary school attendance boundary adjustments, the District has created an option for families of students who would be starting the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade in the effective school year of the boundary adjustment to choose to remain at the elementary school. In this specific case, the 20 Bonny Slope ES students who are currently in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade would be eligible for the legacy option. The details of the legacy option are as follows:

1. The legacy program is an optional program. Families will need to opt-in to participate.
2. Under the legacy program a student may remain at Bonny Slope ES through their 5<sup>th</sup> grade year, provided they are enrolled continuously.
3. Only students enrolled at Bonny Slope ES on or before February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 will be eligible for the legacy program.
4. Non-enrolled siblings of students who remain at Bonny Slope ES under the legacy program will not be permitted to attend Bonny Slope ES under this legacy program.
5. Students who choose to remain at Bonny Slope ES under the legacy program will continue to be provided bus transportation to Bonny Slope ES for SY 2023-24.
6. Legacy materials will be published for families to apply for the legacy program in January 2023. The materials will be published on the District's web page.

### *Transportation*

The area under consideration for adjustment currently is transported to Bonny Slope ES since the school is more than one (1) mile away from the students' homes. Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 327.043. states that school districts shall provide transportation for elementary students who reside more than one mile from school. Walk zones are defined pursuant to Oregon Administrative Ruling (OAR) 581-023-0040 (1)(e) wherein the distance is measured along paved walking trails and sidewalks. The distance is not a straight-line measurement, rather it is a path of travel measurement. As illustrated in the Transportation Map, a portion of the area under consideration will be located within the walk zone for Findley ES. This area will no longer be subject to bus transportation. The remainder of the area will be transported due to the distance being more than one mile and/or not having safe pedestrian routes to Findley ES.

### *Pre-K Program*

In consultation with Teaching & Learning administrators and the principal of Bonny Slope, staff have reviewed the potential of moving the Pre-Kindergarten program to another school; this would make 25 additional seats of capacity available. However, the creation of capacity for an additional 25 seats will not substantially address the overcrowding issue. Further, administrators and staff prefer to retain the Pre-Kindergarten program at Bonny Slope to maintain the continuity of that successful program.

### **NEXT STEPS:**

On Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, Findley ES will host an open house for interested persons to visit the school and student spaces. There will not be a formal presentation at the open house but District staff will be present to answer any questions.

The public comment period for the attendance boundary adjustment will close on Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Public comments should be posted through the Bonny Slope / Findley Boundary Adjustment web page. Received comments will be published on the web page and inform the decision making process.

Superintendent Dr. Gustavo Balderas is anticipated to issue a decision on the boundary adjustment in November, 2022. If a decision is published in November, it is anticipated that the Board will hear a presentation on the decision in December 2022.

All project materials will be posted here:

<https://www.beaverton.k12.or.us/departments/long-range-planning/bonnyslopefindley-elementary-boundary-adjustmentnew-page>

# Proposed Boundary Adjustment: Bonny Slope to Findley ES

