

Fw: Kaiser elementary school boundary adjustment

deborah wohlmutter

Fri 12/9/2016 9:08 PM

Inbox

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

From: Mark and Deirdre <markanddeirdre@gmail.com>

Date: December 5, 2016 at 3:37:58 PM PST

To: Don_Grotting@beaverton.k12.or.us

Subject: Kaiser elementary school boundary adjustment

Dear Mr. Grotting,

We are writing in opposition of "map #2," which the elementary adjustment committee recommended to you last week. We would like you to strongly consider the other map that they were debating at the end of the review process, "submitted scenario 3." We believe this scenario is the most forward-thinking, keeps communities together, and allows the best continuity for our kids. We would like to address three main points that were the focus of the committee meetings:

1) Overcrowding: "Map #2" is flawed in the long term, if we recognize the inevitable growth of the North Bethany area. With all the scenarios some overcrowding is inevitable, and a big concern for all neighborhoods is another large redistricting effort in just a few years. Moving the neighborhoods south of Springville to the Kaiser school, as in "map #2," will make this the fourth move for these families in 15 years. Continued reassurances to this community that they will not to be moved in the future, have historically proved false. Keeping that in mind, the overcrowding that is projected to occur at Kaiser with "submitted scenario 3," if not addressed through portables, could be addressed through much smaller readjustments to Springville, Jacob Wismer, and Rock Creek Elementaries. These schools are at or over capacity now, but fortunately, are expected to decrease in the next 5 years. As needed, "submitted scenario 3" could see very minor adjustments without disrupting multiple communities and hundreds of children. Adjusting "map #2," with its strange peninsula shape to gather students into Kaiser, will require another large adjustment, similar to what BSD is currently doing.

2) Transportation and safety: “Submitted scenario 3” currently has a slightly higher transportation cost than some of the other proposals; however, this scenario will see the most cost decrease over time as the N. Bethany neighborhood develops. We understand that the Abbey Creek neighborhood (North of Springville K8) is very upset that their currently walkable school will be bussed to Kaiser in “submitted scenario 3.” This is a short term consequence of Kaiser’s current remote location. However, as the area west of Kaiser continues to develop, sidewalks, trails, and safe pathways will provide a walkable route for that entire neighborhood to get to Kaiser, since the two are separated by less than 1 mile. The area south of Springville will never be walkable to Kaiser. However, the neighborhoods south of Springville have been working with Washington County and BSD to get a light and crossing guard at Joss and Springville, which will provide walkability to the majority of the Springville boundary laid out in “submitted scenario 3.” This small and in-process change would substantially decrease the \$ 41,332 estimated for the Springville bussing of “submitted scenario 3.” In the short term, buses will keep the North Bethany area children safely transported to Kaiser until that neighborhood is truly built out.

3) Neighborhood Unity: “Submitted scenario 3” best supports neighborhood unity by keeping the pirate park community south of Springville at Springville K8, the Arbor view community at Jacob Wismer, and the abbey creek neighborhood north of Springville K8 at Kaiser. The last community, while new, has shown their unity in this process. As that community develops, they will be strongly unified with the rest of North Bethany. While that area is still being developed, the future of North Bethany appears to be (like the areas south of it) oriented in east/west. That community will develop strongly around the Kaiser school and we believe “submitted scenario 3” best supports that.

We believe that “submitted scenario 3” most readily addresses the overcrowding, cost and safety of transportation, and neighborhood unity of our elementary students in the long-term. Please consider these points and thank you for your consideration and concern for our children.

Sincerely,

Deirdre and Mark Anderson

Elementary Boundary Adjustment Comment Form

Do_Not_Reply@beaverton.k12.or.us

Mon 12/5/2016 9:34 PM

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

Name: Rebekah Beste

Email: nrbeste@frontier.com

Comment:

I see that the committee recommended map two. I would like to respectfully comment that I am happy to attend any of the three schools. My concern is that it seems shortsighted to leave Jacob Wismer alone while their numbers are declining while the new school carries most of the load of population growth. Starting the new school with a population of 605 is excessive. Why can't the neighborhood above Pirate park attend Springville? Or why can't Wismer assimilate an area of apartments or a portion of the areas being developed? Why are they not being asked to make any adjustments at all? To the general population it seems as though Wismer is holding the district hostage and that since they complain the loudest and longest they "win."

I fully understand that no matter how the boundaries are drawn parents and teachers will complain and cause the district headaches. So again, I would like it to be completely understood that each school is or will be a wonderful school and I will be happy to attend any school.

Bekah Beste

From: Linda Dahan <skaterpdx@gmail.com>
Date: December 7, 2016 at 7:19:20 PM CST
To: Don_Grotting@Beaverton.k12.or.us
Subject: Your brief attention please

Mr Grotting,

My husband and I moved into the neighborhood 19 years ago and witnessed an explosion of new homes with so many young children that the first day of school the bus picked up the children but it was already overcrowded and the children were left on the curb. The parents had to drive their children to school daily until the solution is found.

A few years later that school was overcrowded and the children were transferred once again. And now, parents are told there district school will change once again.

And again? And again? Please do not allow yet one more boundary change to happen again - keep the children in their neighborhood school and accept map #3 proposal.

With Respect,
Linda and Sam Dahan
5444 NW Meadowlands Terr
97229

Dear Superintendent Grotting,

I am the parent of a Springville 2nd grader located in the West Union Estates neighborhood south of Laidlaw Road. I wanted to take the time to write because I am very concerned about the proposed Map Submittal #2 ("pink" map) that the boundary adjustment committee has decided to recommend. My primary concerns are that:

- (1) Moving 70% of the current Springville population (400+ students) to Kaiser K-5 contributes to a history of school boundary instability in the "Pirate Park" community (i.e., south of Springville Road and west of Kaiser/Bethany Boulevard);
- (2) Map Submittal #2 cannot effectively address future growth in North Bethany without again significantly disrupting the Springville and Kaiser K-5 boundaries;
- (3) Map Submittal #2 does not meet criteria outlined by BSD for the boundary adjustment process; and
- (4) Current Springville neighborhoods were not fully represented by the committee.

These issues are discussed in more detail below the main body of this letter.

Map Submittal #3 offers a good starting point for addressing the above issues. Under this scenario:

- Neighborhood continuity is preserved for the majority of the Springville population.
- Minor boundary adjustments in the north would mark the start of a neighborhood concept school for Kaiser K-5.
- The Springville population would stabilize enough to continue as a K-8 school, as intended.
- The Jacob Wismer population would stabilize enough to alleviate future overcrowding at Kaiser K-5 or Findley.
- Should overcrowding occur at Kaiser K-5, this can be addressed through either:
 - Minor boundary adjustments at the southern Kaiser K-5 border/northern Springville/Wismer borders; or
 - Minor boundary adjustments to create a new neighborhood concept school on the undeveloped BSD property in North Bethany.

I currently live near the southernmost border of the Springville boundary. On multiple occasions I have walked and biked to the school with my children via the THPRD trail system. Even at the farthest Springville boundary, we are physically connected to our school. That is true for all of the families within the Pirate Park community, and will most certainly not be the case if these neighborhoods are moved to Kaiser. To sacrifice the connection of over 400 established students so that a few can retain the ability to walk to Springville in the interim is simply wrong.

We specifically chose to live within the Beaverton School District because of the good quality public education it can offer our children. I have no doubt the new Kaiser K-5 school will be another excellent option for education within the Bethany area. I hope, however, you will strongly consider these comments and those of others who will be greatly impacted by the proposed Map Submittal #2.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Hill

(1) Stability

The homes in the Pirate Park community are on the order of 20-25 years old. Over the past 15 years, these homes have been moved from Bethany elementary to Jacob Wismer or Rock Creek and then to Springville. Some of this movement was expected during the time that these were the homes driving growth in the Bethany area. It is now time for this community to be settled. It is logical to expect that the new North Bethany homes will develop Kaiser K-5 in much the same way the Pirate Park community developed Springville.

(2) Addressing Future Growth

In all proposed boundary scenarios, projections pointed to significant growth in the North Bethany student population. It makes the most sense to anticipate this need and set the elementary school boundaries now such that pressure at potentially crowded schools could be made through only minor adjustments in the future.

Under Map Scenario #2, sections of the Pirate Park community are most vulnerable if overcrowding occurs at Kaiser K-5 (as projected starting in 2019 for this scenario) or if the BSD property in North Bethany is developed. Either the Pirate Park neighborhoods would get shuffled back to Springville or Wismer (likely split along the way), or “islands” would be created within the Kaiser K-5 community, physically separating northern from southern sections and completely eliminating any suggestion of a neighborhood school.

(3) BSD Boundary Adjustment Criteria

Map Submittal #2 and the committee decision process failed the BSD outlined criteria at several points. Specifically, proximity to school, neighborhood unity, safety and transportation criteria for boundary adjustments do not hold up under Map Submittal #2.

Proximity to school:

- The majority of neighborhoods within the proposed boundary would not be able to walk to Kaiser now or in the future.
- The southernmost areas of the current Springville population are pulled all the way north to fill Kaiser.
- No neighborhood school concept.
 - Springville was built to include the Pirate Park area as their neighborhood school.
 - Of the current Springville population, Abbey Creek is located nearest to Kaiser and is the start of the neighborhood community that will fill the North Bethany schools. Finished streets and trails will bring walking routes.

Neighborhood unity:

- While this scenario does keep the Pirate Park community united, these neighborhoods would be permanently disconnected from Kaiser K-5, as no safe walk routes are possible.
- Springville would be left comprised of 3-4 smaller, distinct neighborhoods rather than an interconnected community.

Safety:

- Under Map Submittal #2, Kaiser would be left with no safe walk routes for most of its neighborhoods now or in the future.
 - Most neighborhoods will always be bussed.
 - Again, finished streets and trails will bring walking routes for the Abbey Creek neighborhood and others in North Bethany to Kaiser K-5.

Transportation:

- To bus the kids south of Springville Road past two schools to reach Kaiser K-5 is significantly disruptive.
- If areas currently marked 42+23+0 are expected to walk north to Kaiser rather than being bused, they will have to walk through the Springville boundary to get to their “neighborhood” school.

(4) Boundary Adjustment Representation

While I greatly appreciate the time that all the boundary adjustment committee members have devoted to this process, there are some concerns about the representation by this board. All of the Springville committee representatives live in North Bethany neighborhoods developed within the past 2-3 years and representing less than half of the Springville population. Two of those three live in the Abbey Creek community directly north of Springville, which at the moment is a highly contested boundary area. In the most strongly considered boundary scenarios the Jacob Wismer boundaries are left untouched. This leaves many wondering if boundary scenarios that could better serve the community as a whole have been fairly considered.

Dear Superintendent Grotting:

We, the members of the Pirate Park Community, believe that the proposed boundary map from the Elementary Boundary Committee for Springville and Jacob Wismer schools does not meet several of the criteria outlined by the Beaverton School District. We hope you will take the time to look over our arguments below and to evaluate the other maps we are providing. Although Map 3 was dismissed by the committee, we feel that it meets more of the criteria than Map 2 which they decided upon recommending to you. The committee members also expressed interest in finding an adjustment to Map 3 that that would help decrease the projected numbers for the Kaiser school and include either the 185th neighborhoods or the Abbey Creek neighborhood within its bounds. We have provided you with what we believe is the best adjustment and have outlined how it meets the criteria. We have considered community unity, long-term stability, and ease of future boundary adjustments in our scenarios as well.

We feel these additional scenarios better suit the best interests of the majority of students, the school communities, and the stability of boundaries. It is important to consider the stability of Springville as it is a K-8 school and the elementary enrollment can impact the ability of the school to maintain its middle school options program. A well-established neighborhood with lower growth potential is better suited to this priority. Springville K-8 was built as a neighborhood school for the Pirate Park communities and Arbor Oaks. Moving 70% of its original neighborhoods to the Kaiser school is not only detrimental to the students who have made an investment in the Expeditionary Learning Program at this school, but also strips Springville of its community identity and greatly impacts the success of the middle school options program.

We hope you will agree and we would also gladly welcome you into our community to give you a tour of our neighborhoods.

Sincerely,
The Pirate Park Community

BSD Criteria for Proposed Attendance Boundary Adjustment

CRITERIA	MAP 2	MAP 3	MAP 3 ADJUSTED
Availability of space	Yes	Yes	Yes
Proximity to school	No	Yes	Yes
Neighborhood unity	Yes/No	Yes	Yes/No
Safety	Yes/No	Yes	Yes
Transportation	No	Yes/No(temporary)	Yes
Student body configuration	Yes	Yes/No(temporary)	Yes
Staffing patterns	Yes/No	Yes	Yes

* Please see the following pages for additional maps and explanations of why these three scenarios meet or fail to meet the BSD Criteria. A map of neighborhoods is included on the last page to aid in identifying community locations.

EVALUATION OF BSD BOUNDARY CRITERIA FOR COMMITTEE PROPOSED MAP (MAP 2)

Availability of space: YES

- Achieves criteria with the exception that Kaiser opens higher than target goal of 500
- Increased load could impact school while it relies on a septic tank rather than sewer

Proximity to school: NO

- No safe walk routes for Pirate Park neighborhood to Kaiser now or in future
- Kaiser is unwalkable for the majority of neighborhoods in proposed boundary
- Boundary perimeters of Kaiser are not a relative equal distance from school; southernmost areas of current Springville enrollment are pulled all the way north to fill
- NO neighborhood school concept
 - Springville was built for the Pirate Park area as their neighborhood school
 - Abbey Creek is located nearest to Kaiser and is the start of the neighborhood community that will fill North Bethany; trails planned will bring walking routes

Neighborhood unity: YES/NO

- Keeps the Jacob Wismer and Pirate Park neighborhoods intact
- Kaiser school and its immediate surrounding community is not united with any other neighborhoods within its boundaries; Pirate Park neighborhood is permanently disconnected from this school as no safe walk routes are possible
- Springville made of 3-4 smaller, distinct neighborhoods rather than an interconnected community

Safety: NO

- Kaiser unsafe with no safe walk routes for most of its neighborhoods now or in the future
 - Majority of neighborhoods will always be bussed
 - However, the Abbey Creek neighborhoods north of Springville will have safe routes to Kaiser via trails in the near future as part of the North Bethany Community Plan

Transportation: YES/NO

- Lower cost option compared to Map 3, but higher cost to district in the long-term
 - Majority of proposed Kaiser neighborhoods will never have safe walk routes to school
- Puts highest cost of transportation on the newest school (Kaiser)
- If areas 42 + 23 + 0 are to walk north to Kaiser rather than being bused, they will have to walk through the Springville boundary to get to their “neighborhood” school
- If additional BSD property is built and opened in the future, the Kaiser boundary becomes non-contiguous with majority of neighborhoods an island

Student body composition: YES

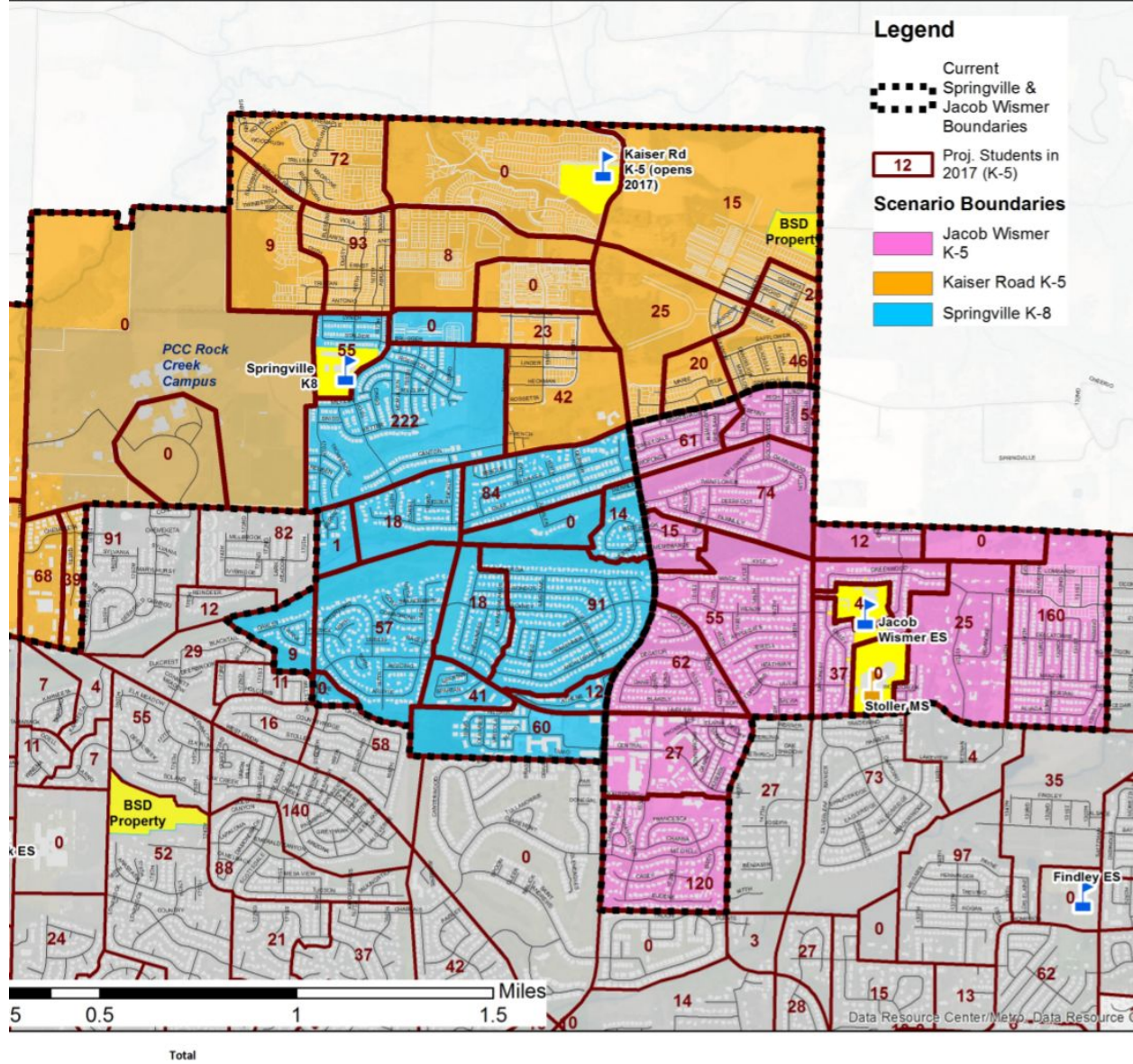
Staffing Patterns: YES/NO

- Decreases Springville to an extent that causes significant burden; majority of PTO parents, Cub Scout leaders, and parent-run clubs are within Pirate Park neighborhood

MAP #3

Map Submittal #3

2016



EVALUATION OF BSD BOUNDARY CRITERIA FOR MAP 3

Availability of space: YES

- Kaiser opens close to 500 student target but does not overload septic tank
- Provides most options to relieve eventual Kaiser overcrowding
 - Minor boundary changes can bring all schools under capacity in this scenario only
 - Sets area up for easy adjustment if new BSD property school opens

Proximity to school: YES

- Eventual safe walk routes for all North Bethany communities west of Kaiser Rd. to Kaiser
- Kaiser boundary perimeters relatively equidistant
- Neighborhood school concept for all 3 schools - Jacob Wismer, Springville, and Kaiser

Neighborhood unity: YES/NO

- Pirate Park communities stay united; very important to community as they have strong historical ties and are interconnected via trail systems and streets
- Elementary-to-high school feeder system stays the same; also sets up the area to bring all schools into alignment with their correct elementary-to-high school feeder system if new BSD opens

Safety: YES

- Pirate Park communities have been safely transported to Springville since it opened
 - Addition of a stoplight and crosswalk at the Springville/Joss intersection would give a large portion of these areas safe walk routes as well
- Safely busses Abbey Creek to avoid students walking past construction hazards

Transportation: YES

- Long-term contiguous boundaries
- Costs will decrease as North Bethany trails allow Abbey Creek areas to walk to Kaiser
- Stoplight and crosswalk at Springville/Joss intersection would create safe walk routes for Pirate Park neighborhoods to Springville
- Assigns lower cost of transportation to Kaiser compared to proposed Map 2

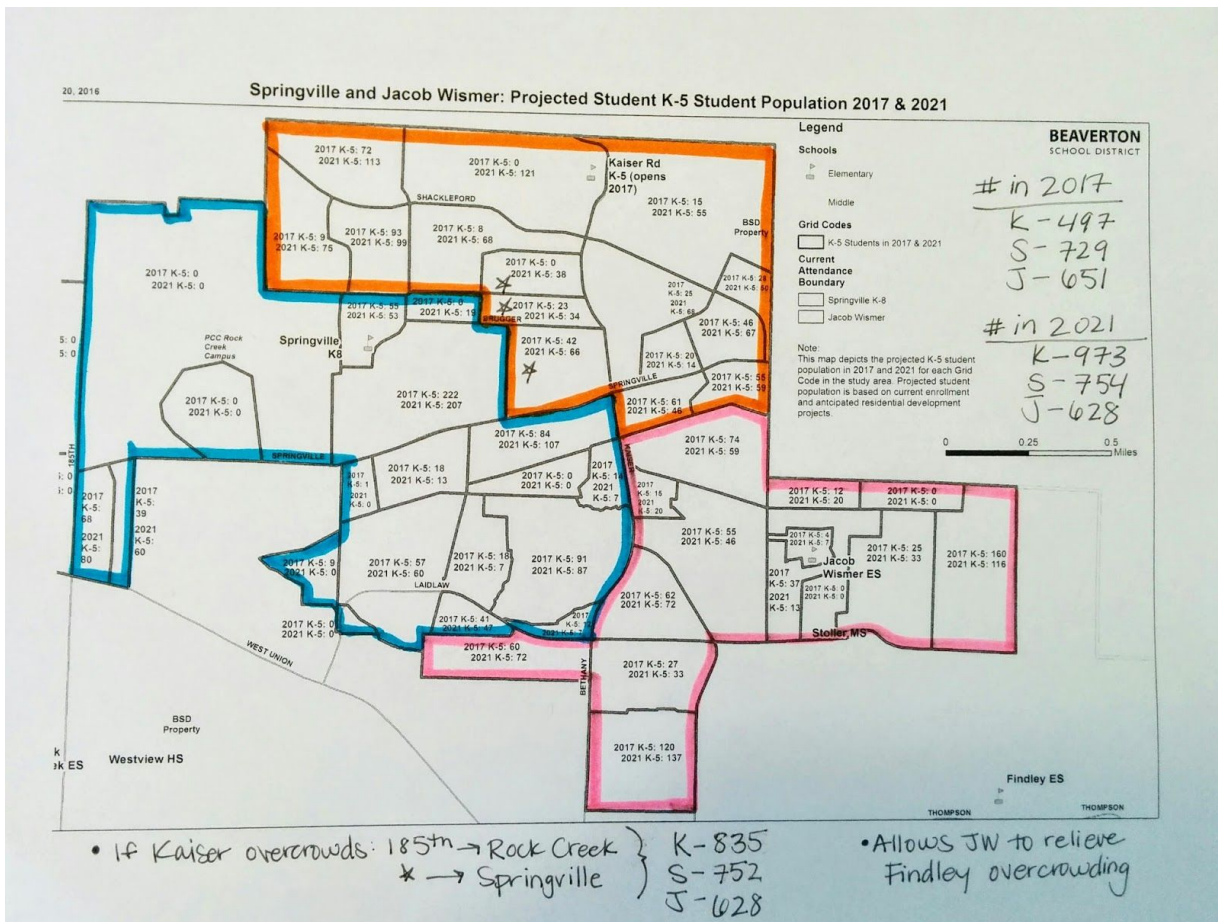
Student body composition: YES

- Apparent economic disparity (Kaiser 23%) is a non-issue as it is based on lower initial enrollment
 - As single family homes and enrollment increase, this drops to 15%, on par with other schools/scenarios ($110/487 = 23\%$; $110/750 = 15\%$)

Staffing Patterns: YES

- Springville drops below capacity but retains all parent-run clubs/organizations and its identity with the retention of its original and intended student population
- Kaiser opens at target and allows for the development of community around the school and established Abbey Creek neighborhoods

MAP #3 ADJUSTED



EVALUATION OF BSD BOUNDARY CRITERIA FOR MAP 3 ADJUSTED

Availability of space: YES

- As with Map 3, only minor changes required to bring all schools under capacity with inevitable Kaiser overcrowding

Proximity to school: YES

- Provides safe walk routes for West Parc (60) and Bethany Meadows Apartments (40+12) to JW
- Allows Arbor View buses to travel northward to Kaiser instead of southward on high traffic Bethany Blvd to Jacob Wismer

Neighborhood unity: YES/NO

- Divides Arbor View area of Jacob Wismer (not ideal)
 - Sends bused regions north to Kaiser and permits walking regions to remain with JW
- West Parc and Bethany Meadow Apartment areas are communities unto themselves
- Allows the 185th areas to remain with Springville to avoid disruption (largely economically disadvantaged students in this area)

Safety/Transportation: YES

- Safe walk routes or shorter and more direct bus transportation for West Parc and Bethany Meadows Apts to Jacob Wismer
 - Crossing guards already present at Bethany/Laidlaw and Kaiser/Laidlaw intersections
- Safer/shorter bus route for Arbor View to Kaiser vs Jacob Wismer
- Contiguous attendance boundaries

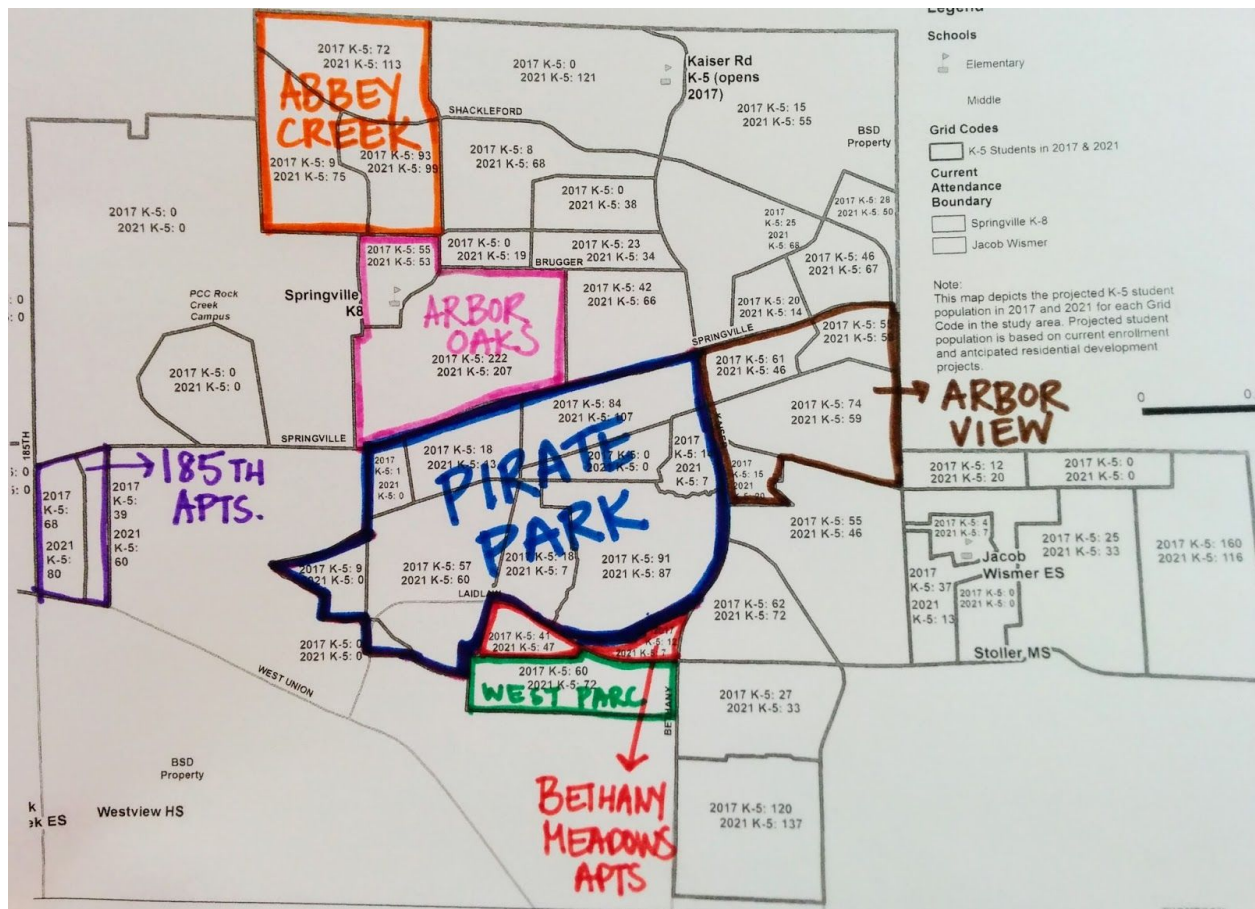
Student body composition: YES

- Addition of Bethany Meadows Apts to Jacob Wismer can help balance out the economic disparity between it (4%) and other schools in the area

Staffing Patterns: YES

- Kaiser opens at target and community is able to develop around the school
- Springville drops below capacity but retains all parent-run clubs/organizations and its identity with the retention of its original and intended student population

MAP OF NEIGHBORHOODS



Pirate Park Community: Made up of Graf, Emerald Estates, and Pirate Park areas; interconnected via trail system around Pirate Park in its center. Areas $91 + 18 + 57 + 9 + 1 + 18 + 84 + 0 + 14$.

Bethany Meadows Apartments: Consists of east and west regions. Areas $41 + 12$.

West Parc: Area 60.

Arbor View: Areas $61 + 55 + 74 + 15$.

Arbor Oaks: Areas $222 + 55$

Abbey Creek: Areas $93 + 9 + 72$ (still developing)

185th Apartments: Areas $68 + 39$

Fw: Elementary Boundary Adjustment Comment Form

BSD Elementary Boundary Comments

Tue 12/6/2016 6:15 PM

To: maureen wheeler <Maureen_Wheeler@beaverton.k12.or.us>;

FYI

From: Do_Not_Reply@beaverton.k12.or.us <Do_Not_Reply@beaverton.k12.or.us>

Sent: Tuesday, December 6, 2016 3:42 AM

To: BSD Elementary Boundary Comments

Subject: Elementary Boundary Adjustment Comment Form

Name: Melissa Nazal

Email: melissanazal@gmail.com

Comment:

I think current 4th graders at Springville K-8 should be able to finish out they're elementary career there instead of making them switch for 1 year!

Also, I am still wondering why the site on Kaiser was chosen for the elementary school, when the other site would have allowed for more students to walk, thus cutting down on transportation costs!

Thirdly, I am wondering if there is a proposed site for a new middle school in the Bethany area, Stoller is very overcrowded already.

Thanks,
Melissa

Fw: Elementary School Boundary Adjustment

deborah wohlmutter

Fri 12/9/2016 9:06 PM

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

From: "Venkatesan, Ragu" <ragu.venkatesan@intel.com>

Date: December 7, 2016 at 11:41:06 AM PST

To: "don_grotting@beaverton.k12.or.us" <don_grotting@beaverton.k12.or.us>

Subject: Elementary School Boundary Adjustment

Superintendent Grotting,

I am a resident of the Pirate Park/Graf Street Neighborhood and my daughter is a second grader at Springville Elementary. My son will be a kindergartner in Fall 2018. I have attended the Elementary school boundary committee meetings, and I don't feel like the concerns of a majority of my neighbors are reflected in the final proposal that was adopted by the Elementary Boundary Committee. Specifically, I prefer the Map submittal #3 instead of Map submittal #2, for the following reasons :

1. Map submittal # 2 requires the Pirate Park community to move to a new elementary school for the 4th time in 15 years. We started out at Bethany, were then moved to Jacob Wismer or Rock Creek, then to Springville, and now to Kaiser. This kind of disruption is bad for the kids, since each school has a distinct teaching philosophy. Springville is an EL school whereas Kaiser is a STEAM school. I would like my daughter to complete her elementary education in the same system, instead of switching midway.
2. In map 2, Kaiser starts the school with a projection of 600 students rather than 500, and by 2019 exceeds the maximum capacity for the school. I know how over-crowded Springville is currently - in first grade, my daughter had to eat lunch at 10:40AM! I don't want to have the same experience again in Kaiser for my son in 2019.
3. The route from pirate park/Graf street to Springville will be walkable/bikeable once a pedestrian crossing/trail crossing is installed on Springville road. So by staying at Springville, we will hopefully have the option one day to have our kids walk/bike to school, improving their physical health. Kaiser K-5 is simply too far for us to have that option.

Therefore, my preference is to adopt map submittal #3, which allows the pirate park community to stay at Springville, instead of moving to Kaiser. This is also the view of a majority of my neighbors in the Graf Street/Pirate park neighbourhoods, but this is not reflected in the final recommendations adopted by the Elementary Boundary Committee. Therefore, I am writing to you directly to please consider and adopt the map submittal #3 proposal.

Thank you,

Ragu Venkatesan.
Springville Parent.