Agenda Request Form

Cherokee County School District

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
December 14, 2017	I-1

Title

Proposed SY2018-19 Attendance Area Modifications

Requested Action

School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of SY2018-19 Attendance Area Modifications

Summary Explanation and Background

The attached recommendation and supporting documents represent a comprehensive review of potential options the Superintendent and staff utilized to analyze the overcrowding at Cherokee HS as part of the Attendance Area Focus Group (AAFG) process for SY2018-19.

After creating a menu of viable options along with the expected impact of each, staff provided stakeholders with opportunities to provide feedback at six input sessions. Stakeholder feedback was compiled and provided to the School Board as part of the AAFG process. Additionally, a detailed analysis of each option was included in the AAFG binders for School Board review. Finally, a public input hearing was held prior to the November 16, 2017 School Board meeting so the School Board could receive input from its constituency in this regard.

Based on consideration of programmatic, operational and fiscal factors, the recommendation is for Cherokee HS to absorb the Canton ES/STEM Academy (CES) campus and temporarily disperse the CES student population to Knox ES and RM Moore ES, as both have sufficient space to accept the current CES students. This recommendation increases the Cherokee HS campus capacity and eases that school's severe overcrowding, while providing for continued services for CES students in comparable programs.

Major System Priority

Addressing Growth

Financial Impact

YR1 cost = $158,000 (as contained within SY2017-18 Budget); 5YR projection = +$1,500,000

Exhibits: (List)

SY2018-19 Attendance Area Recommendation

Board Action	Source of Additional Information
(For Official School Board Records Only)	Dr. Brian V. Hightower 770.479.1871 William J. Sebring 770.479.1871 Mitch Hamilton 770.479.1871

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Approved in Open Board Meeting on: _____
(Date)

By: _____
(School Board Chairman)

Initialized: 3/3/99
Revised: 2/1/16

Cherokee County School District

DATE: 07 December 2017

TO: School Board Members

FROM: Dr. Brian V. Hightower
Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: SY2018-19 Attendance Area Recommendation

As you know, the Office of Support Services has hosted a series of public informational Attendance Area Focus Group (AAFG) meetings at schools where the current campus and program configurations could be affected by possible solutions to overcrowding issues at Cherokee High School. A comprehensive presentation (including current enrollment, growth data, housing inventories and geographic challenges) was shared at the AAFG meetings and October Strategic Work Session by Bill Sebring, Chief Support Services Officer and Mitch Hamilton, Supervisor, Planning and Facilities.

Parent letters were distributed to all students at each school involved in the AAFG Process so that parents were notified in a timely manner of the upcoming meeting information.

Stakeholder proposals and comments on alleviating school overcrowding were solicited and subsequently presented in person and/or by later correspondence to staff for analysis. **The following is a list of all public-input AAFG meeting dates conducted by CCSD staff:**

- **Canton ES: 10/9/17**
- **Knox ES: 10/10/17**
- **RM Moore ES: 10/11/17**
- **Cherokee HS: 10/12/17**
- **Middle/High/ACE Meeting (at CHS): 10/25/17**
- **Elementary School Meeting (at CHS): 10/26/17**

Upon completion of all AAFG meetings, all input from stakeholders was analyzed by staff to determine potential fiscal, programmatic and/or operational impact, which culminated in sections contained within the School Board Member notebook entitled **"Option Pro/Con Analysis"** and **"Option Cost Analysis."** Additionally, a public input

1205 Bluffs Parkway
Canton, Georgia 30114
770.479.1871
www.cherokeek12.net

hearing was held prior to the November 16, 2017 School Board meeting so the School Board could receive input from its constituency in this regard.

In preparation for the December School Board meeting, all proposals were evaluated by staff utilizing two sets of criteria: **(A) specific goals established for this year's AAFG process; and, (B) specific decision-making guidelines that were described during the AAFG meetings at each location. These guidelines are: safety; geographical barriers; movement/relocation of students; least disruption to the educational programming process and Innovation Zone/feeder pattern; plans for maximum permanency; diversity; seamless transition; maintaining neighborhood school concept; use of logical bus routes; fiscal impact and operational feasibility.**

SUPERINTENDENT'S SY2018-19 RECOMMENDATION

Based on consideration of programmatic, operational and fiscal impact factors, **the recommendation is for Cherokee HS to absorb the Canton ES campus and to temporarily disperse the Canton ES student population to Knox ES and RM Moore ES**, as indicated on the attached Attendance Area map proposals.

This recommendation increases the Cherokee HS campus capacity, easing overcrowding and adding permanent classroom space, parking, cafeteria/kitchen, restrooms, PE/Gymnasium, administrative offices, etc., and utilizes available enrollment capacity space at two area elementary schools for the current Canton ES/STEM Academy students.

Pending School Board approval, coordinated efforts by appropriate school and district staff will include, but not be limited to, the following actions during the second semester of this school year relative to planning for the 2018-19 school year and budget process:

- **Establishment of Knox ES and RM Moore ES as CCSD STEM Academies to enhance program offerings for all students at those schools;**
- **Determination of the placement for Canton ES/STEM Academy's center-based programs (i.e., Georgia Lottery PreK, Special Education center classes, etc.) to ensure continuation of services;**

- **Identification and initiation of community/parent shuttle service opportunities to/from Knox ES and RM Moore ES to insure Canton ES/STEM Academy parent participation and engagement at those schools;**
- **Communication of personnel transition plan and processes for certified and non-certified Canton ES/STEM Academy staff to maximize employee input relative to transition/transfer options;**
- **Development of communication from Knox ES and RM Moore ES administration relative to student/parent inclusion plans and transition processes to ensure stability and consistency during transition;**
- **Determination of the upcoming year's administrative leadership teams for Knox ES and RM Moore ES to reinforce stability and consistency during staff and student transitions;**
- **Review of Canton ES/STEM Academy's existing PTA, school partner relationships and community resources to determine portability of charters, agreements and relationships to Knox ES and RM Moore ES; and,**
- **Development of a comprehensive utilization plan for Canton ES facility by the Cherokee HS staff, leadership and community.**

Finally, beyond the necessary FY2018-19 budget planning and preparations for the next school year, is my firm commitment to include, as part of strategic planning, appropriate construction and facility improvements, and recommended solutions for the timely re-constitution of Canton ES/STEM Academy and renovation of Cherokee HS.

Dr. Brian V. Hightower BVH

BVH/WJS/TO/MMc
Attachments: Attendance Area Maps

cc: School Board Attorney
Agenda Preparation Group
Principals

Cherokee County School District

Proposed Boundary Option 1: Knox ES Proposed Attendance Area Map

Map Legend

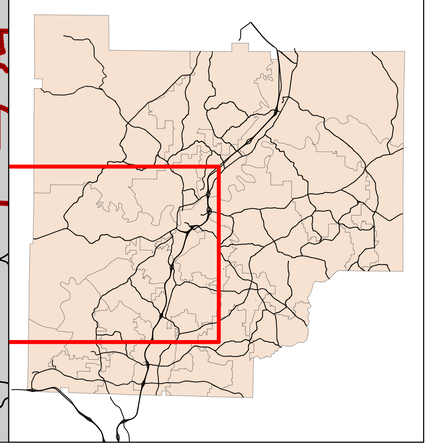
- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School
- Streets
- Elementary School Boundaries
- Lakes
- Streams
- Proposed Knox ES Attendance Area

N

W E

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Location Map



R.M. Moore Elementary School Attendance Area

Joseph Knox Elementary School Attendance Area

Hasty Elementary School Attendance Area

Liberty Elementary School Attendance Area

Indian Knoll Elementary School Attendance Area

Sixes Elementary School Attendance Area

Holly Springs Elementary School Attendance Area

Boston Elementary School Attendance Area

Bascomb Elementary School Attendance Area

Woodstock Elementary School Attendance Area

Clark Creek Elementary School Attendance Area

Teasley Middle School

Freedom Middle School

Cherokee High School

Joseph Knox Elementary School

Hasty Elementary School

Liberty Elementary School

Indian Knoll Elementary School

Sixes Elementary School

Holly Springs Elementary School

Boston Elementary School

Bascomb Elementary School

Johnston Elementary School

Reinhardt College Pkwy

Ball Ground Hwy

Riverstone Pkwy

Waleska Rd

Cumming Hwy

Fincher Rd

Knox Bridge Hwy

Hickory Flat Hwy

Marietta Hwy

I-575 Thwy

Bells Ferry Rd

Holly Springs Pkwy

East Cherokee Dr

Main St

0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

Cherokee County School District

Proposed Boundary Option 1: R.M. Moore ES Proposed Attendance Area Map

Map Legend

- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School
- Streets
- Elementary School Boundaries
- Lakes
- Streams
- Proposed RM Moore ES Attendance Area

R.M. Moore Elementary School Attendance Area

Clayton Elementary School Attendance Area

Hasty Elementary School Attendance Area

Avery Elementary School Attendance Area

Joseph Knox Elementary School Attendance Area

R.M. Moore Elementary School

Clayton Elementary School

Teasley Middle School

Hasty Elementary School

Cherokee High School

Waleska Hwy 108

Hwy 515 Hwy 515

Upper Bethany Rd

Lower Bethany Rd

Fincher Rd

Reinhardt College Pkwy

I-575 Hwy

I-575 Hwy

Ball Ground Hwy

Riverstone Pkwy

Waleska Rd

Marietta Hwy

Cumming Hwy

0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

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Location Map