

JANUARY 9, 2024

**2024-25
ZONE 1 AND ZONE 2
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
CLOSURE/CONSOLIDATION AND
ATTENDANCE ZONE
REDISTRICTING PLAN
RECOMMENDATIONS**

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Fulton
County Schools
Where Students Come First



OBJECTIVE OF ZONE MODIFICATION

- **Elementary school changes to accommodate:**
 - Possible closure of S. L. Lewis Elementary School
 - Possible consolidation of Mary Bethune Elementary School
 - Imbalance of enrollment and capacity
 - Opening of a new replacement school

RATIONALE FOR SCHOOL CLOSURE



- **Policy FDB** - *If a school is in need of extensive renovation to meet current state and system facility standards and schools located in contiguous attendance areas have sufficient capacity to accommodate the students, the school can be considered for closure.*
- **S. L. Lewis Elementary School Facility Assessment**
 - Built in 1973
 - Classroom additions in 1974 and 1989
 - 40 full-size classrooms, 4 smaller instructional spaces
 - Rated “very poor” in recent facility condition assessment
 - Educational Suitability Assessment rated as “good”
 - Estimated Repair Cost: \$7,777,235*

*Does not include cost escalations.

COMMUNITY FORUMS

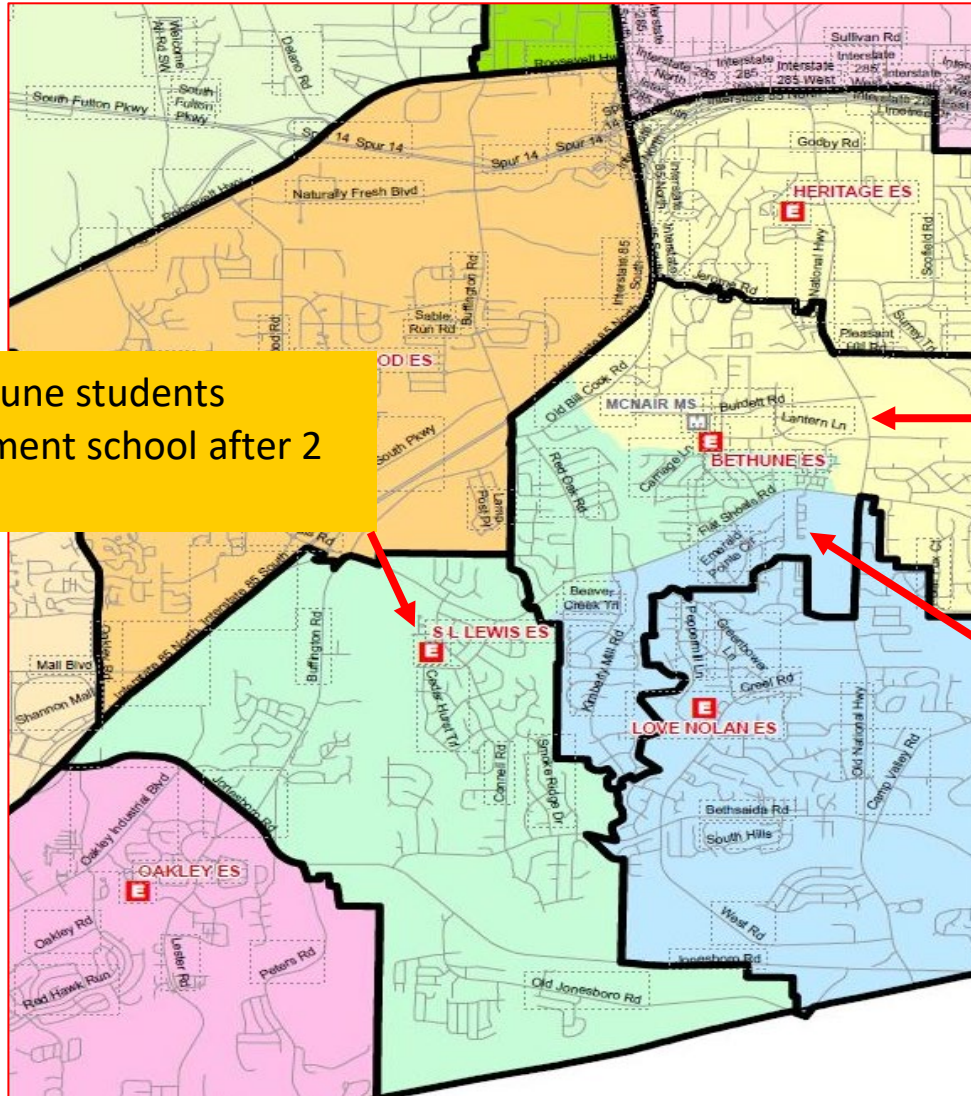


- **Round One – Community Forum**
 - Objective: Collect community input within the board-approved criteria
 - **October 11, 2023**
 - **Round 1 - 23 participants - 22 comments**

- **Round Two – Community Forum**
 - Objective: Collect community input on attendance zone alternatives based on board-approved criteria
 - **November 2, 2023**
 - **Round 2 - 12 participants - 46 comments**

- **Round Three – Community Forum**
 - Objective: Collect community input on attendance zone alternatives based on board-approved criteria
 - **November 30, 2023**
 - **Round 3 - 15 participants - 25 comments**

CLOSURE/CONSOLIDATION AND REDISTRICTING RECOMMENDATIONS



Lewis to Bethune: Bethune students transition to new replacement school after 2 years

Bethune to Heritage: Meadows, Burdett Ridge, Three Lakes, Camelot Club, Oaks, Fox Fire, Flat Shoals Estates

Bethune to Nolan: Emerald Pointe and Centennial Walk

Proposed elementary zones

- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School
- Current elementary zone
- COLLEGE PARK ES
- HERITAGE ES
- LOVE T NOLAN ES
- MARY M BETHUNE ES

CLOSURE/CONSOLIDATION AND REDISTRICTING RECOMMENDATIONS



- School impact:
 - 301 current Mary Bethune Elementary School students; 56 eligible to remain
 - 490 current S. L. Lewis Elementary School students to Mary Bethune Elementary School
- Rising 5th graders are given the option to remain at their current school should they maintain satisfactory grades, attendance, and behavior. Parents must provide transportation to and from school.

SUMMARY OF SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

MULTI-STEP PLAN

- **STEP 1**

- Board approves recommendation for S. L. Lewis Elementary School closure/consolidation
- Board holds public hearings for school closure - January-February 2024
- Parents notified - Spring 2024
- Attendance zone changes implemented - August 2024
- Current S.L. Lewis Elementary School demolished; Replacement school construction begins - Summer 2024

SUMMARY OF SUPERINTENDENTS' RECOMMENDATION

MULTI-STEP PLAN



- **STEP 2**

- Board considers potential closure of Mary Bethune Elementary School - Fall of 2025
- Community forum(s) held to discuss potential closure
- Board holds public hearings for school closure - October-November 2025
- If closure is approved, Board hosts community meetings to consider replacement school name, mascot, and colors

- **STEP 3**

- New S. L. Lewis replacement school opens – August 2026
- Students relocate to the new replacement school



Questions?