



LONG RANGE Facilities Plan

Phase I Updates and Discussion

DISTRICT 7 TOWN HALL
DECEMBER 12, 2023
West Chatham Middle School

AGENDA **D7 TOWN HALL MEETING**

I. District 7 Welcome: Michael Johnson
District 7 School Board Representative

II. Superintendent's Welcome: Dr. Denise Watts
Superintendent

III. Long Range Facility Plan: Phase I

IV. Western Chatham County Updates

We Want to Hear from You!

Audience Response: Audience Breakout & Discussion

Audience Feedback: Group Share

Audience Poll: Live Feedback





Short Term Solutions for Long-Term Growth:

Phase I Long-Range Facilities Planning Update Western Chatham County Focus

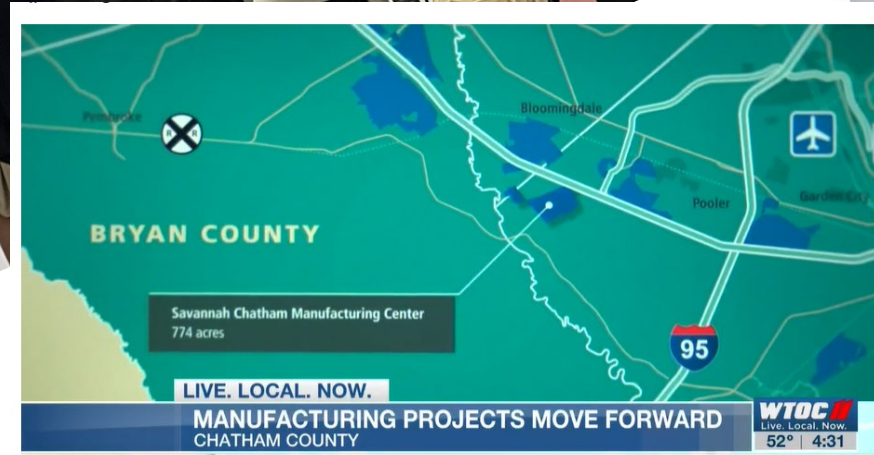


S. Denise Watts, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Vanessa Miller-Kaigler, Deputy Superintendent, Chief Operations Officer

CURRENT CHALLENGES

- **School Capacity Levels:** Some schools have reached high-capacity levels while others are under-utilized.
- **Facility Conditions/Life Cycle:** Based on the FCA analysis, some facilities reflect a low Facility Condition Index (FCI) due to age, condition, and operational system life-cycles. (Over capacity puts a strain on facility life cycles)
- **Extended Time on the Bus:** Certain routes are not optimal based on existing attendance boundaries creating longer travel time on the bus for students.
- **Population Growth/Shifts:** Population changes, residential developments, and industry growth are key factors that influence facility use and District priorities.
- **ESOL Resource Efficiency:** Students of ESOL Programs are better served from their home school locations rather than an existing hub setup.

Expansive Growth in Western Chatham County



A dirt road leads to a new logistics warehouse being built off Fort Argyle Road. Richard Burkhardt/Savannah Morning News



NEWS
Census: Chatham County population jumps double digits; highest growth in Pooler, Port Wentworth
Raisa Habersham Savannah Morning News
Published 3:58 p.m. ET Aug. 12, 2021 | Updated 10:30 a.m. ET Aug. 13, 2021



Overarching Criteria

- Data-Driven
- Whole District Efficiency and Effectiveness (financial efficiency and resource stewardship)
- Transparency on past and future decisions

Student Movement

- Minimize boundary changes for the next 3-5 years (limit student transitions from school to school)
- Maintain feeder patterns (Elementary, Middle, and High School)
- Logical attendance boundaries

Instructional Implications

- Class size
- Minimize disruption to high school students' concentration of study
- Access to resources
- Teacher workspaces

Additional Criteria

Building Utilization

- Over or under capacity
(Recommendation 85%-110%)
- Impact on building condition
- Building Life-Cycle
- Meeting state requirements for facility space

Safety/Cultural

- Student Safety
- Effective use of space (classrooms, cafeteria, and gym)
- Traffic/
- Staff burnout: Workload intensity/ENVIRONMENT

Future Considerations

- Continued growth
 - Construction timelines
 - Potential for future construction
-

Western Chatham County

Current Proposal:

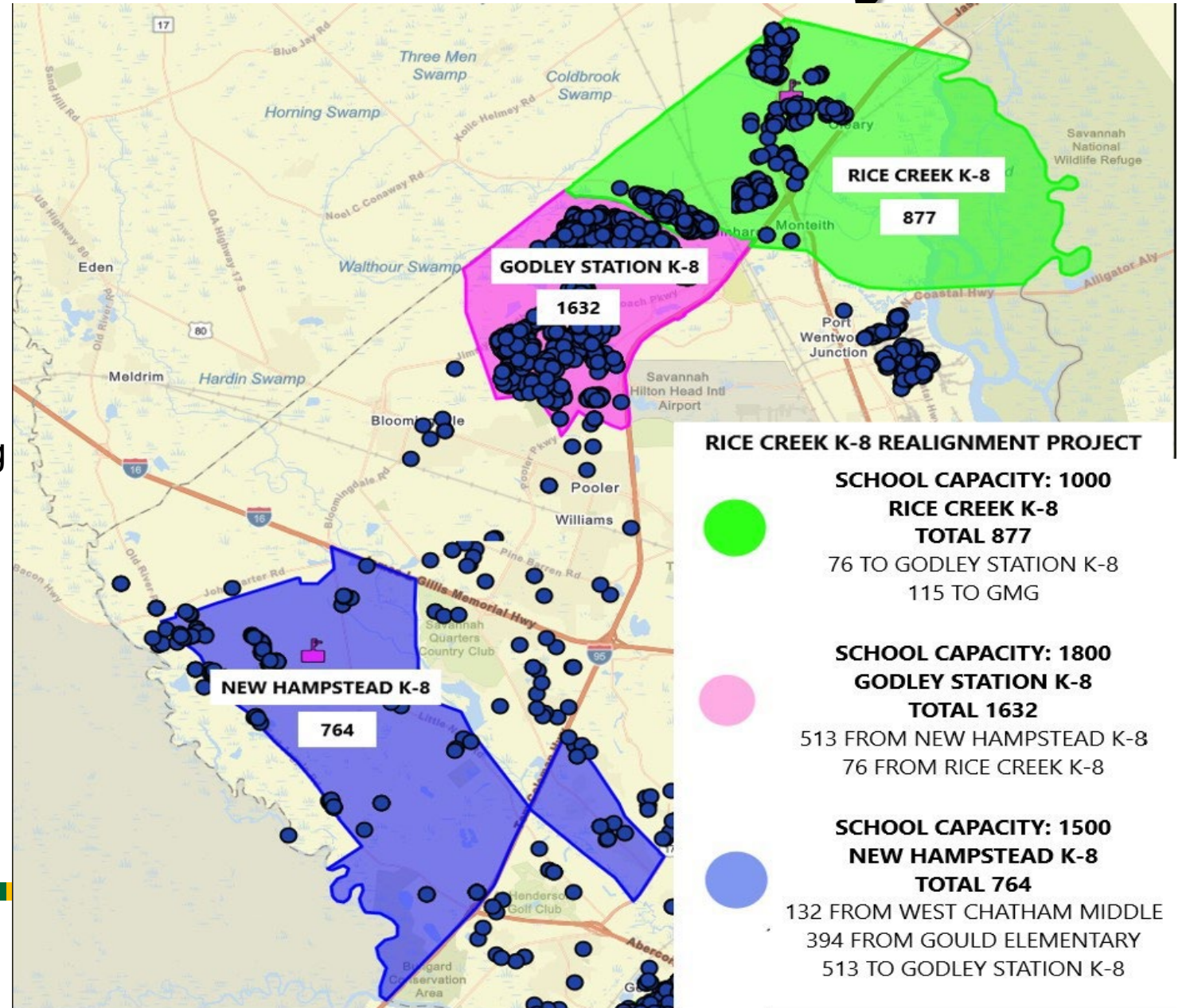
Rice Creek K-8, Godley Station K-8, & New Hampstead K-8

Option 1 Benefits:

- ✓ Balances School Enrollment
- ✓ Reduces Capacity Constraints
- ✓ Improves Attendance Boundaries
- ✓ Positive Impact for Transportation Routing

Option 1 Considerations:

- ✓ Potential for future moves
- ✓ Some NHK-8 Students will return to Godley Station K-8



Western Chatham County

Alternate-Option 2:

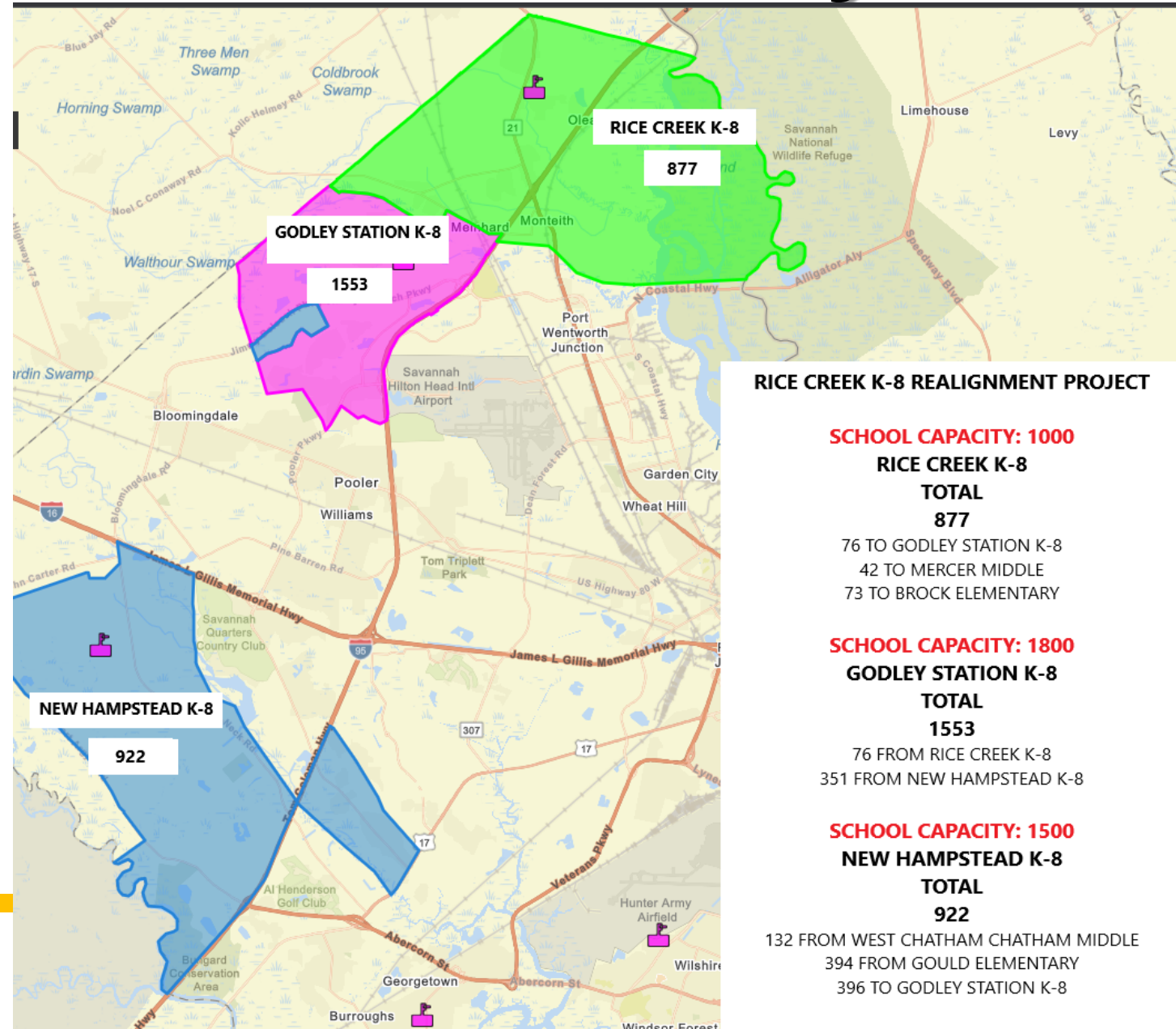
Minimize student movement to the greatest extent possible.

Option 2 Benefits:

- ✓ Balances School Enrollment
- ✓ Reduces Capacity Constraints
- ✓ Improves Attendance Boundaries
- ✓ Positive Impact for Transportation Routing
- ✓ Considers future student movement

Option 2 Considerations:

- ✓ Potential for future moves as new schools open (Bloomingdale)
- ✓ Boundary lines give appearance of an illogical attendance zone map
- ✓ Hwy80/Jimmy DeLoach area that is zoned for NHK8 is currently surrounded by undeveloped land



Benefits

- Decreases student movement
- Eliminate overcrowding at Gould Elementary and Rice Creek K-8
- Students will attend schools closer to the neighborhood in which they live
- Takes into consideration family/student movement for future Bloomingdale attendance zone
- Improved utilization and efficiency of buildings
- Shorter transportation commute for students (increases instructional time)
- Addresses lack of transparency in initial movement

Western Chatham County

Current Proposal

NHHS CURRENT ENROLLMENT = 1,446
(Built for 1,200)

Proposed Option 1 Benefits:

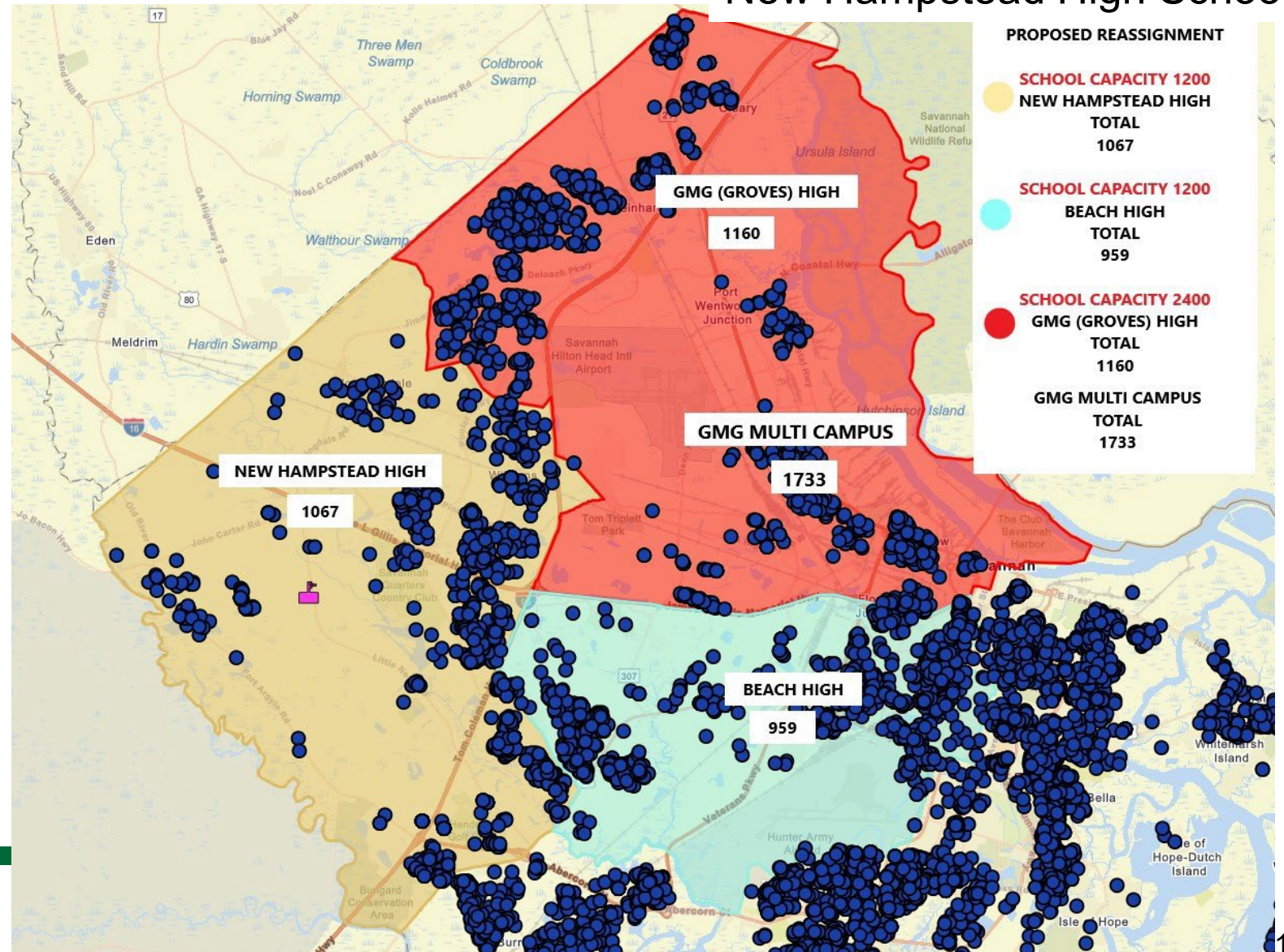
- ✓ Balances School Enrollment
- ✓ Reduces Capacity Constraints
- ✓ Improved Educational Experience
- ✓ Safety Benefits
- ✓ Improved Teaching Climate

Proposed Option 1 Considerations:

- ✓ Disruption for some families
- ✓ May not be aggressive enough for future growth

Presenter: Bernadette Ball-Oliver

New Hampstead High School



Rightsizing the Largest School in Chatham County

Alternate- Option 2: New Hampstead High School

Leverage Existing Resources

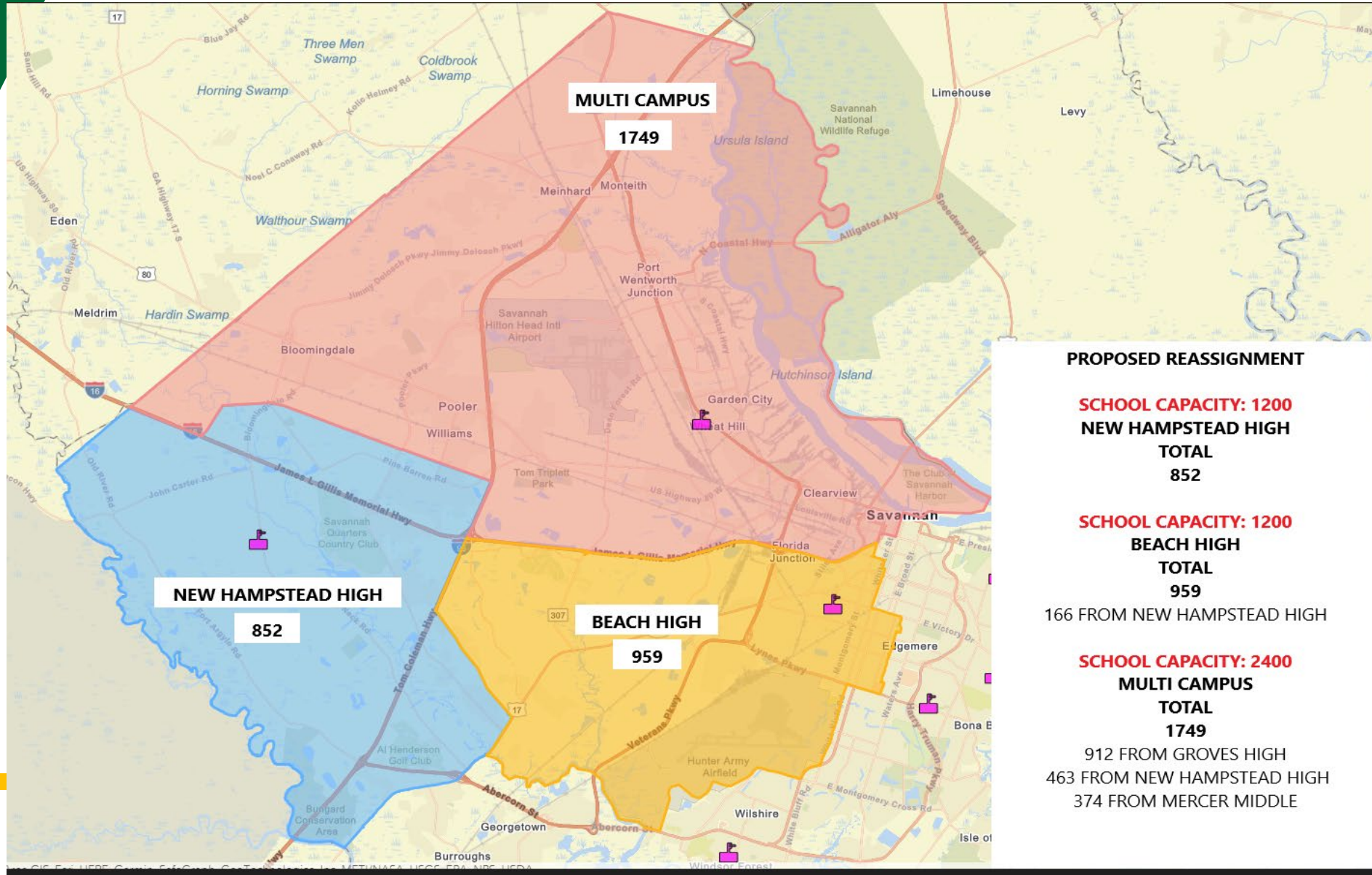
**The Multi-Site Complex:
Reimagining the K-12**

Multi-Site Complex Becomes 6th-12th

- Garden City Elementary students/families remain at Garden City
- Rice Creek students/families that would have been zoned for the elementary at the GMG K-12 multi complex will move to Brock Elementary; Middle School attendance zone would be Mercer Middle
 - Due to Rice Creek K-8 Capacity administrative placements are not available
- Increase Groves HS enrollment at the multi-site complex by moving more students from NHHS
- NHHS students/families rezoned for Beach would move to Beach



Multi-Site Complex: 6th-12th



Benefits

- No student movement at Garden City Elementary and supports capacity and efficiency at Garden City Elementary, eliminating Elementary and Secondary students being on the same site
- Moving students from Rice Creek K-8 to Brock Elementary solves underutilization of Brock Elementary and reduces enrollment capacity of Rice Creek K-8; Improves transportation, parent engagement, and instructional time
- Decreases student population at NHHS to allow for continued growth
- Continuity for students (instructional and programmatic)
- Expand the footprint of New Hampstead High School into Groves to allow for greater student acclimation and socialization
- JROTC programs transition to other JROTC programs
- Increased CTAE programs at Beach & Groves
- No impact to the GHSA Eligibility (recruitment and scholarship opportunities continue)

Rightsizing the Largest School in Chatham County

Alternate- Option 3: New Hampstead High School

Current students who will be in the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades for SY 24-25 may elect to finish their high school experience at NHHS.



Grandfathering Option: NHHS

Rising 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students have the option to remain enrolled at NHHS.



The following condition applies: Students who elect to remain enrolled must provide their own transportation (No sibling preference would be allowed)



Students may also elect to attend their newly zoned schools (Beach & Groves) with transportation provided

Rising 9th grade students would attend their newly zoned schools (SY24-25)

- **Beach**
- **Groves**

Considerations

- Student Movement
- Staffing Adjustments
- Costs associated with retrofitting (Multi-Site Complex)

OTHER KEY CONSIDERATIONS: Future Implications

Coming Soon:
Phase II Long-Range Facilities Plan

Feedback Groups (10)

GROUP NUMBER	FACILITATOR
1	SHARONDA MURRELL
2	KAYE AIKENS
3	STACI TAYLOR
4	DERRICK BUTLER
5	TROY BROWN
6	MONIQUE HAZZARD-ROBINSON
7	BERNADETTE BALL-OLIVER
8	ERIC HEADY
9	BRANDI BROWN
10	TAWN FOLTZ

FEEDBACK
Group Facilitators
Share Key Points



Together **WE
CAN!**

Superintendent's Live Poll



Join at menti.com | use code 7364 9645





Together **WE CAN!**

Thank You For Your Interest In Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools!



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