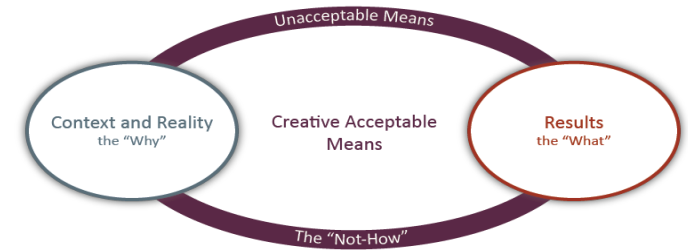


**Forest Lake Public School District  
Spring 2025**

**Guiding Change Document for the  
2026-27 Attendance Area Development**



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Why</b> <i>Our Current Reality</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Not How</b> <i>Our Unacceptable Means of achieving the Results</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The What</b> <i>Our Desired Results from Any Option</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Community-based Elementary Schools                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sustain and strengthen the model</li> <li>○ Have a strong community-based program and want to keep these strong</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Student Supports and Resources                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Want students and families to have balanced access to services and staff</li> <li>○ Maximize staff capacity within buildings</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Efficiencies and balance                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Responsible and strategic management of district resources</li> <li>○ Some buildings are in areas of the district where there is shrinking enrollment.</li> <li>○ Some buildings will have enrollment growth</li> <li>○ Funding is based on enrollment and Average Daily Membership (ADM) - adding square footage to a current building is not an option</li> <li>○ Transportation inefficiencies</li> <li>○ Staffing inefficiencies - academic supports, student support services and resources, and instructional delivery models</li> <li>○ Inefficiencies due to enrollment in six elementary schools                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The trend of schools with discrepant class sizes is going to continue</li> <li>■ Declining enrollment is a factor</li> <li>■ Shifting demographics in the communities we serve</li> <li>■ Growth in one community versus another community</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Imbalances between buildings                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cannot create imbalances in student and family populations based on student need and/or demographics</li> <li>○ Cannot make student academic and support program decisions</li> <li>○ Cannot eliminate student programming that meets the needs of the students and families we serve</li> <li>○ Cannot create purposeful imbalances in student populations</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Short-term fix                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cannot be a short-term fix that will have to be revisited in less than 10 years</li> <li>○ Cannot create transportation inefficiencies either now or in the near future</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Ongoing instability for families and students                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cannot create ongoing instability for families and students that would have them changing their community school every year or couple of years</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Special interest drivers                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cannot be driven by special interests that may not reflect the needs of the district as a whole</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Opaqueness                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cannot engage in a process that is not transparent</li> <li>○ Cannot rush the process</li> <li>○ Cannot make decisions without data to support the recommendations</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sustain and strengthen the community-based elementary school model in current communities (Forest Lake, Columbus, Lino Lakes, Linwood, Scandia, Wyoming)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stability for families and students in boundaries</li> <li>○ Maintain current in-district open enrollment options                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Options continue for current open enrollment with future siblings based on space availability</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● Balanced resource availability for students, families, and staff                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Create efficiencies</li> <li>○ Funding efficiencies                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ create improved class size balance</li> <li>■ Opportunities for new and/or improved programming</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● Do this work within current budgetary resources                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Work within the current budgetary constraints while recognizing that funding is based on enrollment and Average Daily Membership (ADM)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Transparent process                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Decision made in May 2025</li> <li>○ Time for the change</li> <li>○ Commences in Fall of 2026</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

