



Student Assignment Project (SAP)

SAP Town Hall

October

Presented by: Sarita M. Smith



DeKalb County
School District

SAP Recap



SAP Advisory Purpose and Non-Purpose

Purpose

- **Serve as a critical thought partner in assessing systems related to buildings, boundaries, and programs.**
- Serve as a critical thought partner in assessing DCSD's current student assignment procedures and policies.
- Provide impartial recommendations suited to dismantling structural inequities.
- **Use data to make informed decisions and recommendations.**
- Recommend ways for DCSD to become fiscally efficient.
- Review and recommend ways to **reimagine** DCSD programs and offerings so all students have a quality education.
- Recommend boundaries, buildings, and programs suited for the current and projected enrollment.

Non-Purpose of the Advisory

- To make **final decisions** regarding policy or standard operating procedures related to DCSD.
- **To determine the daily operations of schools or programs.**
- To direct DCSD to make specific changes within the purview of the Board of Education.
- **To make decisions that only impact specific children or communities.**

SAP is the WHAT not the HOW



Updated 25-26 Timeline

Sept – Dec '25 • Welcome back • Reviewed and created guidance for scenario building related to program placement and criteria for attendance boundary schools • Scenario and metrics review and feedback.	January '26 • SAP will share preliminary recommendations (program placement and buildings) and community feedback for consumption and edits	Feb – April '26 • Sharing preliminary recommendations with the community at large for consumption and feedback • Process community feedback and measure against the guiding principles to determine any edits or updates
May '26 • Share final recommendations (program placement and buildings) and implementation timeline with the board for action	Summer '26 • Begin boundary adjustment planning and scenarios based on recommendations	Fall '26 • Community consumption and feedback on boundary adjustment preliminary recommendations • Board action on boundary adjustments



October Recap

Recap – September & October

9/10/25

- Welcome Back
- Timeline
- Reviewed Challenges and 5 Reasons
- Action Items
- Collaborations

9/24/25

- Introduced HPM School Dashboard
- Reviewed the Big Question related to program placement
- Reviewed current programs
- Working groups completed worksheets
- Share out

10/8/25

- Reviewed the continued goal related to program placement
- Shared community feedback
- Working groups completed worksheets
- Share out

10/22/25

- Welcome from active superintendent
- Review policy AD
- Understand criteria from education leaders
- Review attendance boundary data
- Working groups completed worksheets
- Share out



SAP Guidance to Build Preliminary Recommendations

Program Placement

- Programs should be in attendance boundary schools to the greatest extent possible
- Specialized criteria for programs placed outside of an attendance boundary school (stand-alone building)
 - Specialized Student Needs – Programs designed to serve students whose educational needs cannot be fully met in a traditional school setting (e.g., Special Education Centers, Alternative Programs).
 - Specialized Instructional Expertise – Programs that require educators with unique certifications or expertise aligned to the program's instructional model or theme (e.g., Arabia Mountain's environmental focus).
 - Non-Traditional Grade Configurations – Schools or programs that operate outside standard grade band structures (e.g., K–8 or 4–6 configurations such as Kittredge, Wadsworth, and Montessori programs).

SAP Attendance Boundary School Recommendations

- SAP reviewed criteria for reviewing attendance boundaries
- SAP ranked amenities for school sites based on grade bands
- Determined if there should be a minimum school capacity size
- The importance of balanced regions and cohesive program offerings
- The importance of and possibilities related to grade configurations
- Input on transition planning timeline
- Input related to disparities in athletic facilities

Feedback & What's Next

What's Next

SAP Committee Meeting

- ~~Wednesday, September 10th & 24th~~
- ~~October 8th & 22nd~~
- November 5th & 19th
- December 3rd & 10th

Virtual Community Town Hall Meetings

- ~~Saturday, October 25 @ 1:00pm~~
- ~~Tuesday, October 28 @ 6:30pm~~
- Saturday, December 13 @ 1:00pm
- Tuesday, December 16 @ 6:30pm

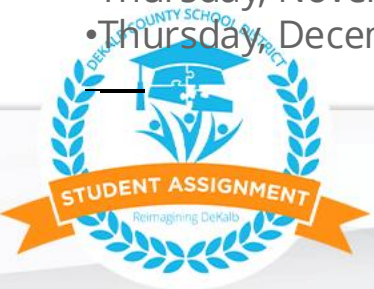
Operations/Planning/HPM
Data Meeting Coming Soon

SAP Chats

- ~~Thursday, October 9 @ 6:30pm~~
 - **This meeting was cancelled due to an emergency Board Meeting.**
- ~~Thursday, October 23 @ 6:30pm~~
- Thursday, November 6 @ 6:30pm
- Thursday, November 20 @ 6:30pm
- Thursday, December 4 @ 6:30pm



Student Assignment Project (SAP)
Website



Community Feedback

