

DISTRICT REIMAGING**I. AUTHORITY**

Sections 1001.41, 1001.42, and 1002.33 of Florida Statutes gives The School Board of Volusia County, Florida (School Board) the authority and responsibility to effectively manage and run its schools. This policy enumerates the process and considerations that will be used to evaluate school attendance boundary changes, as well as criteria for evaluating school capacity usage for operational efficiency, strategies for addressing over and under enrollment, and the criteria for repurposing and consolidating schools.

II. DEFINITIONS

Closure – The act of removing and relocating all students from a school in order to address safety, age, or fiscal issues.

Consolidation – Maximizing the assets of each school by combining students into a single location.

Level of Service (LOS) - The measure of the utilization of school capacity expressed as a percentage and established in the Interlocal Agreement for School Planning.

Over Utilized School - Schools shall be deemed over utilized when the Level of Service (LOS) is greater than 115% for elementary and middle schools and 120% for high schools in the current year and projected for the following year.

School Attendance Boundaries – A geographic area around each public school that determines which school each child attends.

School Utilization Ranges - Defined as follows:

Service Level A: 90%-109% capacity - Optimal Utilization: No action required.

Service Level B: 80%–89% capacity - Suboptimal Utilization: Monitor.

Service Level C: <80% capacity - Underutilization: Evaluate and take action.

Service Level D: 110% - 115% capacity - Overutilization: Monitor

Service Level E: >115% capacity - Significant Overutilization: Take action.

Sending School - A school from which any number of students will be redistributed to other schools as a result of attendance boundary changes and/or consolidation/closing.

State Requirements for Educational Facilities (SREF) - SREF is organized by the sequence of steps required in the facilities processes and covers definition of terms, property acquisition/disposal, finance, lease and lease-purchase, historic buildings, program development, professional services, inspection services, design standards and inspection standards.

Under Utilized Schools - When the Level of Service (LOS) is below 80% and is projected to remain under 80% for the following school year.

III. CRITERIA FOR ATTENDENCE BOUNDARY CHANGES, REPURPOSING, CONSOLIDATING, AND/OR CLOSING SCHOOLS

Schools that are being considered for repurposing, consolidation, and/or closing shall be evaluated using one or more of the following criteria:

1. Adjacent school capacity and the ability of nearby schools to absorb student populations.
2. Historical and projected enrollments, including trends over the previous five (5) years and enrollment forecasts for the next five (5) years.
3. Geographic Necessity.
4. Level of Service (LOS) standards (also defined as school utilization ranges in applicable interlocal agreements and school concurrency frameworks.)
5. The condition of the building, including whether the facility meets or fails to meet the standards defined by the State Requirements for Educational Facilities (SREF).
6. Opportunities to improve educational program delivery through facility consolidation or resource optimization.
7. The overall financial impact on the District, including cost effectiveness and capital outlay requirements.
8. All proposals will be evaluated utilizing the following factors in a Worksheet 326-2026-001 VSC provided by the Planning Department:
 - i. Age of Facility
 - ii. Permanent Capacity
 - iii. Level of Service
 - iv. Capital Projects

- v. Adjacent Capacity
- vi. Operating Costs (Over/Under)

IV. ADDITIONAL FACTORS

At any time, Designated District staff may utilize and implement certain criteria to determine attendance boundary changes to address over or under enrollment. Such criteria may include any or all the following:

1. Impact on ingress and egress to school facility;
2. Impact on core facility spaces, such as cafeteria and media center;
3. Staffing;
4. Utilization of classroom spaces;
5. Class size (student to teacher ratio);
6. Acreage of site;
7. Playground area/sports/recreation;
8. Planned future renovations or replacement of facilities;
9. Parking on campus for faculty and parents;
10. The number of reassigned students in the school;
11. Impact on special academic programs and exceptional student education feeder patterns;
12. Transportation requirements;
13. Financial considerations including capital and operating costs;
14. Anticipated growth in the community; and
15. Input from stakeholders in the affected community.

V. THE PROCESS TO IMPLEMENT SCHOOL ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY CHANGES AND/OR CONSOLIDATION AND CLOSURE

A. Annual Notice. Designated District staff, in conjunction with District leadership, shall notify the Superintendent of the following information:

1. All Schools that may need school attendance boundary and/or school usage changes;
 2. All schools with planned facilities projects that may increase or reduce school facility capacity;
 3. All schools that may require alternative strategies to manage over enrollment or under enrollment other than changes to the school attendance zone boundaries and/or school usage;
 4. All Schools that may be recommended for closing and/or consolidation and/or repurposing;
- B. Implementation. Should the Designated District Staff, in conjunction with the District Leadership determine that changes are necessary based on the criteria above, the plan shall be presented to the School Board at a Workshop that includes:
1. The proposed timeline for the change;
 2. Specific considerations that have been used to evaluate the proposed changes;
 3. Identification of those who may be affected by the changes.
 4. A community engagement plan, developed by the Planning Department with assistance from Community Information Services, to keep affected schools and communities informed of proposed changes.
 5. Communication. School attendance boundary changes and/or closure/consolidation announcements will be made following approval by the School Board. Notification will be extended to:
 - i. School and parent communities
 - ii. Internal Stakeholders
 1. Maintenance
 2. Information Technology Services (ITS)
 3. Student Transportation
 4. School Way Café
 5. TLL
 6. ESE
 7. School Choice Department
 6. Community Meeting. Designated District staff and District leadership shall hold community engagement meeting(s) to inform students and parents about the proposed changes.

7. Evaluation of Feedback. Designated District Staff and District leadership shall evaluate community feedback collected during community engagement meetings.
- C. Execute the Final Plan. Designated District Staff and District Leadership will carry out the final plan based on community engagement, comprehensive review by the Planning Department and the Superintendents' recommendations. The Superintendent shall notify the School Board of any changes, if necessary.

History:

(Adopted – xx-xx-xxxx)

(Effective Date – xx-xx-xxxx)