

2026-27 High School Boundary Study

Rock Hill Schools: Board Presentation

Presented by Cropper GIS Consulting

October 27, 2026



01

Welcome and Introductions

Rock Hill Schools and Cropper GIS Consulting

Introductions

Cropper GIS Consulting, LLC

K-12 school planning is our business and our passion

James Cooper

Project Director

Leads the Rock Hill study day to day: data analysis, option development, and coordination with district officials and the task force.

Matthew Cropper

President

Hands-on throughout the Rock Hill study, bringing more than 20 years of school planning expertise to the analysis and recommendations.

The Company



Redistricting plans



Community engagement



Facility & enrollment
planning



Facility master plans



Housing & yield studies

Districts We Have Served

Gaston County Schools, NC

Rockingham County Schools, NC

York School District 1, SC

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, NC

Pender County Schools, NC

Fort Mill Schools, SC

Cabarrus County Schools, NC

Brunswick County Schools, NC

Johnston County Public Schools, NC

Union County Public Schools, NC

Wayne County Public Schools, NC

Charleston County Schools, SC

20+ Years of Experience

K-12 redistricting, facility, and enrollment planning, with numerous recent projects across the U.S.

02

Project Objectives

The high school boundary recommendation

Project Objectives

Rock Hill Schools is reviewing a 2026-27 high school attendance boundary for grades 9-12. This presentation compares current conditions with the recommendation.

01

Maximize use of school facilities and providing balance among Northwestern, Rock Hill, and South Pointe high schools.

02

Align high school attendance zones into more contiguous areas while considering the effects on school demographics.

03

Give students opportunities to learn in engaging and supportive environments.

The report provides the current baseline and one high school recommendation for Board review.

Analysis Considerations



Balance school facility utilization

Make every effort to have equitable utilization (where possible) across the district, in line with school capacities and state-funded allotment ratios. Make efficient use of available space.



Consider demographics

Be mindful of the impact on demographics of schools when making changes.



Close proximity

Students should be assigned to the school within the closest proximity to their homes where possible.



Maximize busing efficiencies in transportation of students

Make every effort to account for transportation (school bus and car rider), parent commuting patterns, balance busing travel time, and costs.

Considerations 1-4

Evidence used to review the high school recommendation

Analysis Considerations

	Use major roads and natural boundaries wherever feasible to define attendance zones	Minimize the number of students who need to cross major intersections and other barriers. Keep bus routes within natural boundaries where possible to avoid traffic delays and late arrivals.
	Minimize impact on students	Attempt to minimize the number of students impacted when making boundary adjustments.
	Make every effort to establish contiguous zones	Avoid creating zones that are not connected to the primary attendance zone, where possible.
	Account for future growth	Allow for increasing attendance in high growth areas.

Considerations 5-8 | Evidence used to review the high school recommendation

03

Project Approach

How the evidence reaches the Board

Boundary study phases

01

Data collection

Enrollment, facilities/capacity, GIS, transportation, and district policy data.

02

Data assimilation

Assimilating student records, boundaries, planning blocks, and other data.

03

Report + options

Generation of baseline statistics and start baseline options development.

04

Engagement

Facilitating meetings with the Task Force to refine options leading to a final recommendation.

4 Phases

Each phase moves the study closer to its objectives

04

High School Boundaries

Overview of the recommendation and boundary maps

Interpreting Maps & statistics

Each colored area is assigned to a high school.

Northwestern is light purple, Rock Hill is gold, and South Pointe is light red.

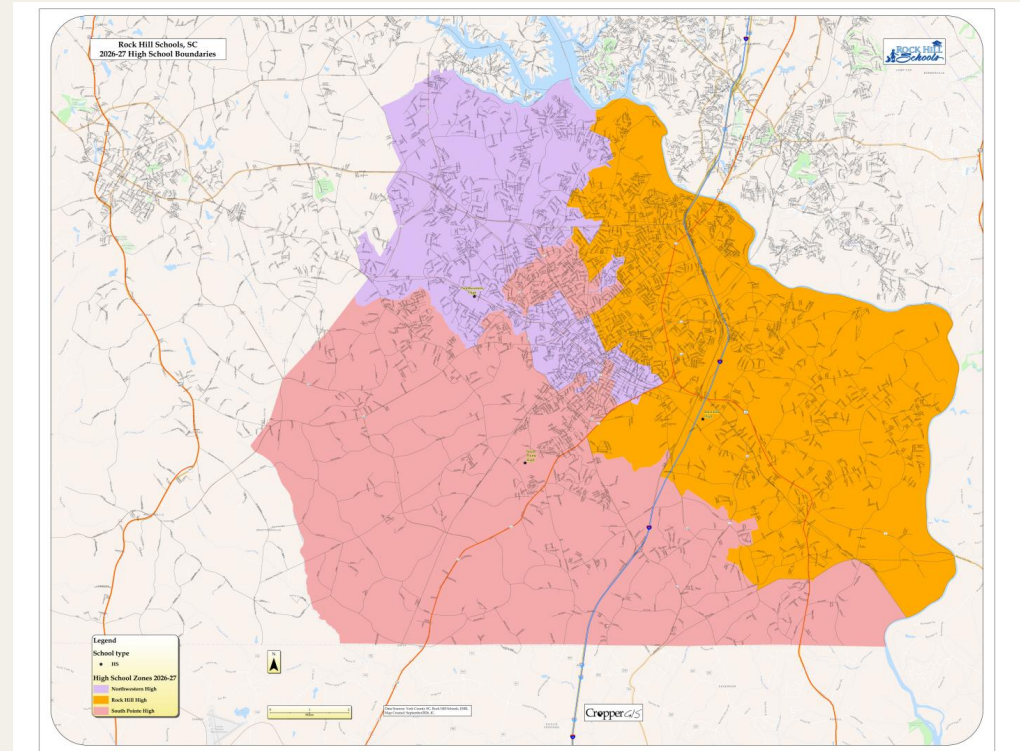
High school symbols mark campuses. Roads help orient the maps.

- The current and recommendation maps use the same color key.

UTILIZATION / PERCENTAGE KEY

- Within 10 points
- More than 10, less than 15 points
- 15 or more points

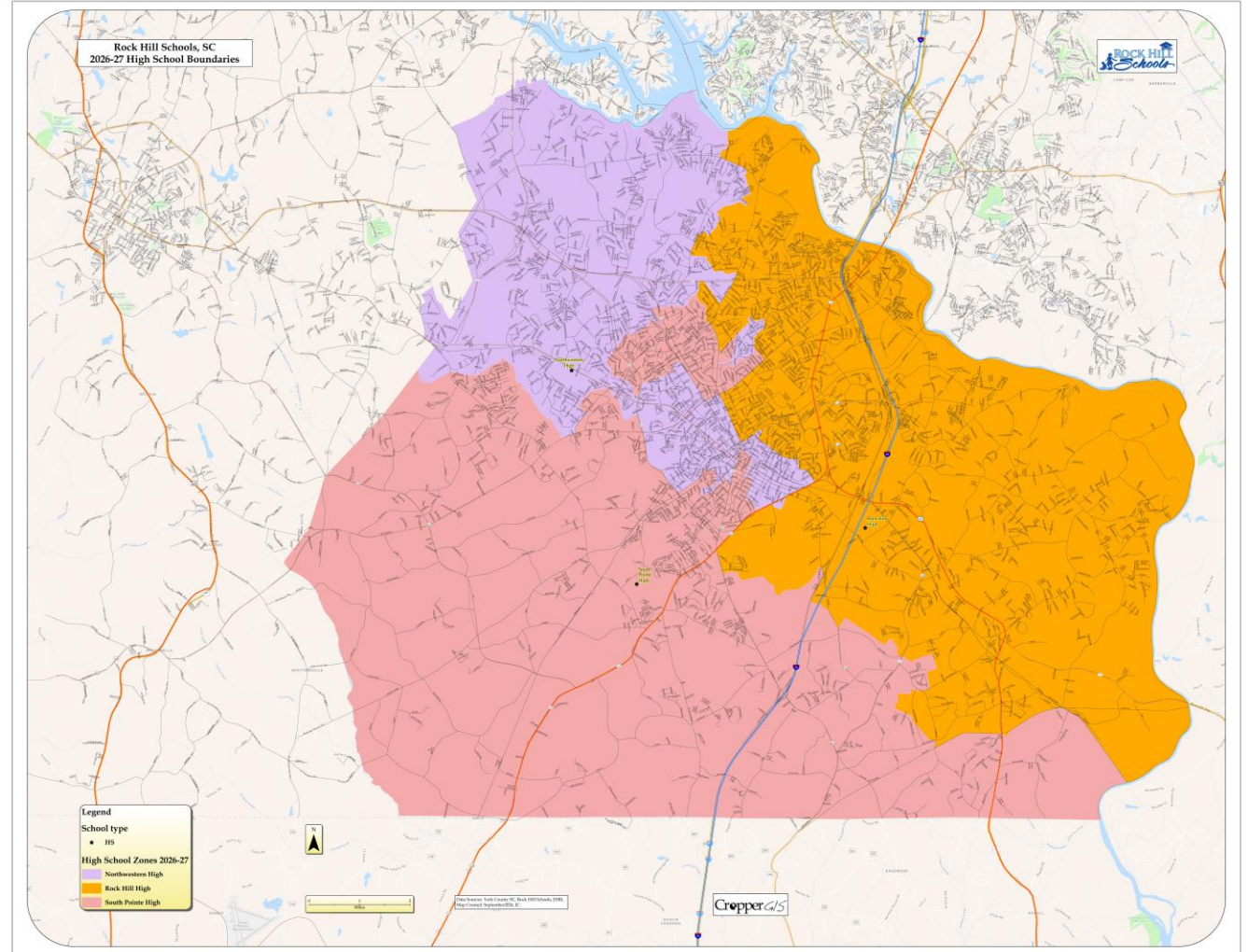
Compared with the same table's study-area total; gray total rows are the reference.



Current HS Boundaries

Key points

- Northwestern High has 1,742 students and 88.2% utilization.
- Rock Hill High has 1,877 students and 87.0% utilization.
- South Pointe High has 1,133 students and 60.5% utilization.
- Across all three schools there's an average utilization of 79.1%.
- A few high school attendance zones have non-contiguous zones (satellite areas).



Current: Enrollment and Utilization

Current HS Enrollment and Utilization								
School	Total Capacity	9	10	11	12	Actual Total Enrollment	+/- Seats	Actual Utilization
Northwestern High	1,976	491	449	422	380	1,742	-234	88.2%
Rock Hill High	2,158	569	453	431	424	1,877	-281	87.0%
South Pointe High	1,872	311	316	256	250	1,133	-739	60.5%
HS Total	6,006	1,371	1,218	1,109	1,054	4,752	-1,254	79.1%

Current: Selected Demographics

Current HS Enrolled Demographic Percentage									
School	Race/Ethnicity Percentage					Poverty Percentage		Lunch Status	
	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	White	Multiple Categories Reported	Other	Poverty Yes	Poverty No	Lunch Status · Free or Reduced	Lunch Status · Paid
Northwestern High	42.7%	13.9%	37.4%	4.4%	1.6%	55.8%	44.2%	41.4%	58.6%
Rock Hill High	32.1%	20.8%	37.9%	5.3%	3.9%	57.3%	42.7%	43.6%	56.4%
South Pointe High	58.3%	8.9%	26.0%	5.7%	1.0%	64.7%	35.3%	50.2%	49.8%
HS Total	42.2%	15.5%	34.9%	5.1%	2.4%	58.5%	41.5%	44.4%	55.6%

Recommended HS Boundaries

Key changes

- All high school attendance areas are contiguous.
- South Pointe HS increases its utilization from 60.9% currently to 77.9% in this scenario.
- Each high schools' demographics remain relatively unchanged.

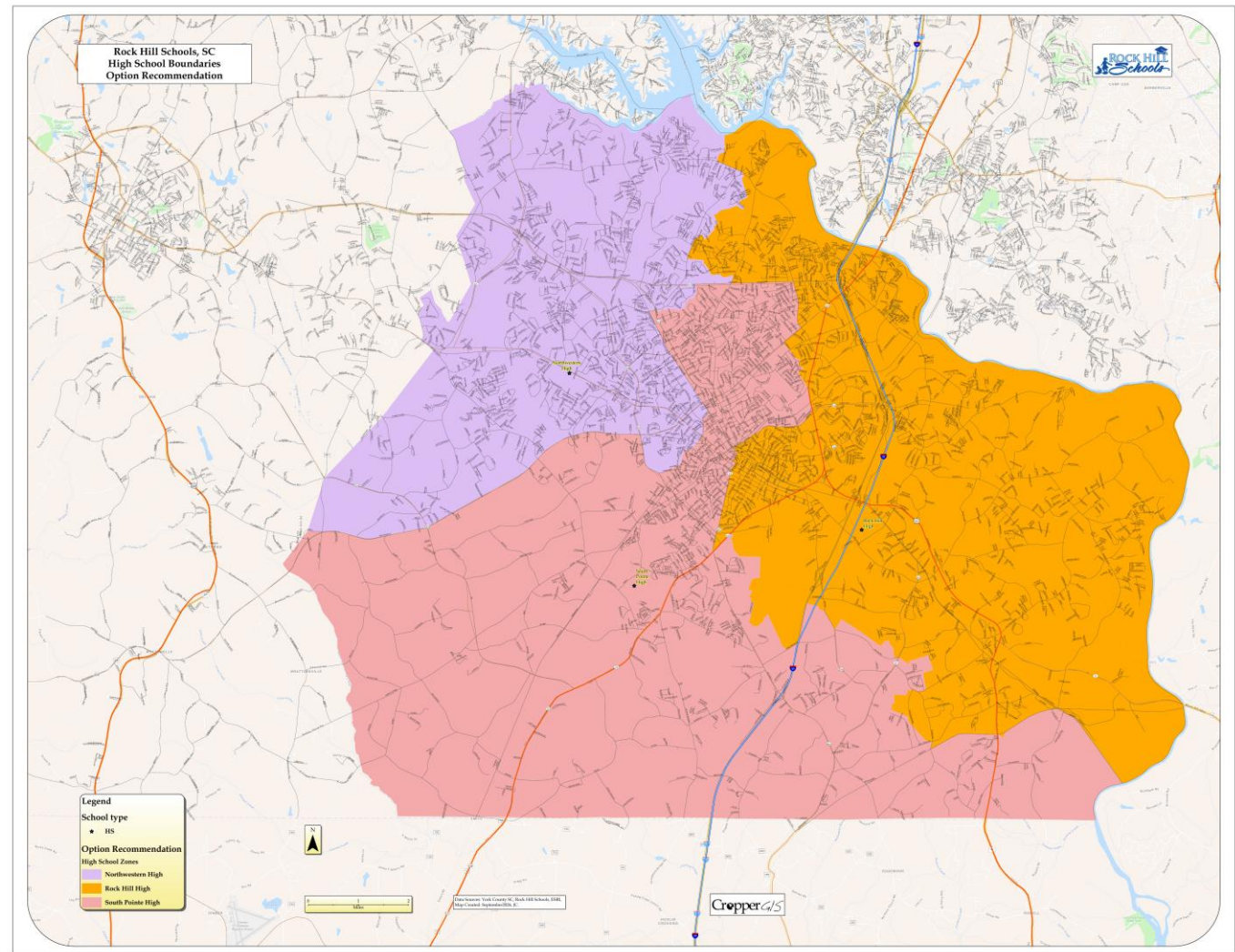
897

Live and Attend In students
impacted

77.3% to 81.8%

Estimated utilization range

Grades 9-12; boundary relationship estimates from the October 20 report.



Recommendation: Enrollment and Utilization

HS Option Rec Enrollment and Utilization										
School	Total Capacity	9	10	11	12	Live and Attend In Total Enrollment	Live Out Attend In Total Enrollment	Total Estimated Enrollment	+/- Seats	Estimated Utilization
Northwestern High	1,976	417	399	374	337	1,392	135	1,527	-449	77.3%
Rock Hill High	2,158	522	413	426	405	1,573	193	1,766	-392	81.8%
South Pointe High	1,872	432	406	309	312	1,256	203	1,459	-413	77.9%
HS Total	6,006	1,371	1,218	1,109	1,054	4,221	531	4,752	-1,254	79.1%

Recommendation: Selected Demographics

HS Option Rec Enrolled Demographic Percentage									
School	Race/Ethnicity Percentage					Poverty Percentage		Lunch Status	
	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	White	Multiple Categories Reported	Other	Poverty Yes	Poverty No	Lunch Status · Free or Reduced	Lunch Status · Paid
Northwestern High	36.7%	12.4%	43.9%	4.9%	2.0%	49.6%	50.4%	34.6%	65.4%
Rock Hill High	36.6%	18.5%	35.7%	5.4%	3.8%	59.7%	40.3%	46.5%	53.5%
South Pointe High	54.8%	14.9%	24.5%	4.8%	1.0%	66.3%	33.7%	52.1%	47.9%
HS Total	42.2%	15.5%	34.9%	5.1%	2.4%	58.5%	41.5%	44.4%	55.6%

Student Impact Detail

Student impacts

- 897 students are in a changed current-to-recommendation assignment.
- The largest flow is from Rock Hill High to South Pointe High: 331 students.
- The table shows each changed assignment between the three schools.

897
Students impacted

3 schools
Current and proposed zones

HS Option Rec STUDENT IMPACT		
Current HS School	HS Option Rec School	Total 9-12 Live and Attend In Students
Northwestern High	Northwestern High	1,262
Northwestern High	Rock Hill High	129
Northwestern High	South Pointe High	216
Rock Hill High	Rock Hill High	1,353
Rock Hill High	South Pointe High	331
South Pointe High	Northwestern High	130
South Pointe High	Rock Hill High	91
South Pointe High	South Pointe High	709
Total Students Impacted		897

Grades 9-12 live-in students; see the report for unchanged assignments.

Current and Recommended Utilization

HS OPTION CAPACITY, ENROLLMENT, +/- SEATS, AND UTILIZATION COMPARISON								
School	Capacity		Current HS			HS Option Rec		
	Current Capacity	Option Capacity	Enrollment	+/- Seats	Utilization	Enrollment	+/- Seats	Utilization
Northwestern High	1,976	1,976	1,742	-234	88.2%	1,527	-449	77.3%
Rock Hill High	2,158	2,158	1,877	-281	87.0%	1,766	-392	81.8%
South Pointe High	1,872	1,872	1,133	-739	60.5%	1,459	-413	77.9%
Total	6,006	6,006	4,752	-1,254	79.1%	4,752	-1,254	79.1%

Recommendation: Advantages and Limitations

Advantages

- The utilization range narrows from 60.5%-88.2% to 77.3%-81.8%.
- South Pointe rises from 60.5% to 77.9% utilization.
- All three schools remain below capacity allowing room for fluctuations in future enrollment.

Limitations

- 897 students would change assigned high schools.
- Estimated enrollments may differ from actual enrollments if current students are allowed to remain at their existing high schools under a grandfathering policy.

Big Takeaway

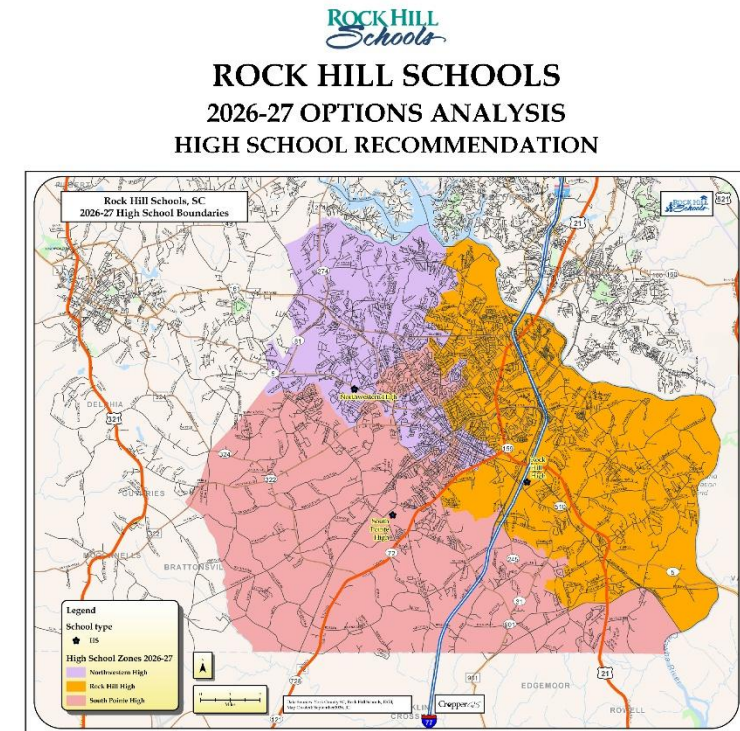
Estimated utilization becomes more balance; 897 students are reassigned.

Maps and Report Tables

Current and recommended high school boundary maps accompany this briefing.

The report includes the supporting enrollment and capacity tables.

- It also shows demographic percentages and student assignment changes.
- The Board can use these materials to discuss the recommendation.



Questions and Discussion

Thank you

Key Takeaways

- Recommended utilization ranges from 77.3% to 81.8%.
- All attendance areas are contiguous.
- 897 students would change assigned high schools.

October 27, 2026

