RESOLUTION No. 7229

Resolution to Designate Attendance Boundaries for Jefferson High School

RECITALS

A. In December 2022, The PPS Board of Education adopted resolution 6627, which stated that "By the start of the 2026-27 school year, the Superintendent will initiate a process to develop a plan to increase student enrollment at Jefferson High School."

B. The largest driver of enrollment at Jefferson High School for the past fifteen years has been the dual assignment choice, endorsed by the PPS Board of Directors in resolutions 4358 in October 2010 and 4394 in January 2011. The assignment plan is unique to the Jefferson region and allows high school students a choice between Jefferson and either Grant, McDaniel or Roosevelt depending on their home address.

C. The initial dual assignment area included Beach, Boise-Eliot/Humboldt, Chief Joseph, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, Faubion, Vernon and Woodlawn elementary attendance areas. Peninsula was added in 2016 as part of the Ockley Green Middle School feeder pattern and Irvington and Sabin were added in 2018 as part of the Harriet Tubman Middle School feeder pattern.

D. In 2020 and 2025, Portland voters approved funding for full modernization of Jefferson High School. Groundbreaking is scheduled for May 2026, with the new building slated for completion in Fall 2029.

E. In January 2026, the Board of Education adopted the Superintendent's recommendation to end dual assignment and designate Jefferson as a comprehensive high school beginning in the 2027-28 school year [see Resolution 7228].

F. To stabilize enrollment and bring equitable, comprehensive programming to Jefferson and neighboring high schools, PPS staff developed five options for standard high school boundaries.

    a. Boundary scenarios were developed and analyzed utilizing the factors that contribute to optimal school boundaries described in PPS 4.10.045-P and PPS 4.10.049-AD, along with the PPS racial equity lens.

    b. Six community engagement opportunities were held in October-November 2025 to gather input on the proposals, drawing feedback from more than 400 community members.

G. Based on the engagement work with the community and the analysis from PPS staff, the Superintendent recommends that, beginning in 2027, the following high school boundaries, based on elementary school attendance areas:

    a. High school students who reside in the Beach, Boise-Eliot/Humboldt, Chief Joseph,Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Faubion, Sabin, Vernon and Woodlawn attendance areas will be assigned to Jefferson High School.

    b. High school students who reside in the Irvington attendance area will be assigned to Grant High School.

    c. High school students who reside in the Peninsula attendance area will be assigned to Roosevelt High School.

H. If adopted, the boundary changes will begin with new students, as described in PPS policy 4.10.045-P(V). Additional student assignment procedures would continue without change:

    a. The Beach Spanish Immersion program will continue to feed to Roosevelt High School.

    b. The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Chinese Immersion program will continue to feed to Jefferson High School.

    c. Students who live in other areas will continue to have access to Jefferson High School through the annual transfer process, including Right to Return transfers for students who live in other districts.

I. Effective implementation of this transition would include the following:

a. Continued engagement with students, families, community partners and school staff at high schools and feeder schools to build knowledge and encourage participation in shaping courses, course progressions, electives, sports, clubs and other features at Jefferson as the school transitions to a comprehensive high school.

b. Engage current community, academic, and industry partners to help design and support implementation of academic pathways.

c. A commitment to fund up to two additional full-time positions at Jefferson each year through 2030-31 to support program growth.

d. Annual progress updates to the Board for Jefferson, Grant, McDaniel, and Roosevelt High School including, at a minimum, a report on changes in staffing levels, descriptions of staff recruiting efforts, how stakeholders were involved in identifying and designing course offerings, impacts on athletics, Visual and Performing Arts, extracurricular activities, and other pertinent information. Prior to presenting this information to the Board, families in the affected schools will be notified that this information will be discussed at a board meeting, and this report will be posted on the Board webpage in accordance with its Board protocols.

e. Throughout this transition, District staff will be monitoring enrollment levels of all impacted high schools.

RESOLUTION

1. The Board of Education adopts the Superintendent's recommendation to implement the following high school assignments, based on elementary attendance areas:

   a. High school students who reside in the Beach, Boise-Eliot/Humboldt, Chief Joseph, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Faubion, Sabin, Vernon and Woodlawn attendance areas will be assigned to Jefferson High School.

   b. High school students who reside in the Irvington attendance area will be assigned to Grant High School.

   c. High school students who reside in the Peninsula attendance area will be assigned to Roosevelt High School.

2. All changes will be implemented at the start of the 2027-28 school year.

   a. Boundary changes will begin with new students, as described in PPS policy 4.10.045-P(V).

3. The Board directs the Superintendent to initiate staffing and program changes and other operational adjustments to support the effective implementation of this resolution, and to report the impacts to the Board at least annually through 2030-31.