

Board to Air Changes In School Boundaries: News Analysis

By Susan Filson Washington Post Staff Writer

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Board to Air Changes In School Boundaries

By Susan Filson

Washington Post Staff Writer

School boundary changes proposed to make a "modest improvement" in racial integration at four Northwest junior and senior high schools are sure to cause controversy, even though fewer than 100 students would be involved.

The Board of Education has decided to hold a public hearing on the proposed changes, which were outlined at a meeting Wednesday night by John D. Koontz, assistant superintendent for junior and senior high schools. Hearings also will be held on less controversial boundary changes in other areas of the city.

The proposed changes, which entail no major changes in any boundary

News Analysis

lines would involve Deal and Gordon Junior High Schools, Western and Wilson Senior High Schools and several elementary schools.

Deal, at Fort Drive and Nebraska Avenue nw., draws its enrollment almost entirely from the city's most affluent neighborhoods and is more than 98 per cent white.

Gordon, at 35th and R Streets nw., is about 50 per cent Negro. Wilson, at Nebraska Avenue and Chesapeake Street nw., is 95 per cent white. Western, at 35th and T Streets nw., is 60 per cent Negro.

The boundary changes were drawn up by school officials after a controversy

arose at the April Board meeting over an addition to be constructed at Deal. Deal is overcrowded, while Gordon's enrollment is under capacity.

Board member John A. Sessions said, "It would seem to make a great deal more sense to put some of the students who now attend Deal at Gordon, and this would have the byproduct of furthering integration." However, Sessions said he would support construction of the addition if School Superintendent Carl F. Hansen made some attempt to further integration by redrawing boundaries.

Under the proposed changes:

- About 34 white students from John Eaton Elementary, 34th and Lowell Streets nw., who now would attend Deal would go to Gordon. They would also attend Western rather than Wilson.

- Approximately 23 students who now attend all-Negro MacFarland Junior High, Iowa Avenue and Webster Streets nw., would be enrolled at Deal and Wilson.

- About 12 students from Shepherd Elementary, 14th Street and Kalmia Road nw., would go to Deal instead of Paul Junior High. This shift involves North Portal Estates, an affluent, largely Negro neighborhood.

- About 12 students from Horace Mann Elementary School, 44th and Newark

Streets nw., would be assigned to Western instead of Wilson.

Students now enrolled at Deal or Wilson would not be required to transfer. They would be allowed to graduate from ninth or 12th grades respectively.

The Mann Parent-Teacher Association requested the Board Wednesday to allow Mann graduates, who now

attend Gordon, to attend Deal instead.

Mann P-TA President John D. Hemenway said parents are concerned because average achievement test scores are lower at Gordon than at Deal. He also said transportation to Gordon worked a hardship on parents. It is about 1000 feet farther from Mann to Gordon than it is to Deal.

D.C. Officials End Optional School Zones

Major school boundary changes will go into effect this fall under plans drafted by Washington school officials to implement Judge J. Skelly Wright's decision.

Optional attendance zones were abolished by the court order and school officials have also announced they will eliminate their "open school" policy.

Optional zones formerly allowed students in specific neighborhoods to choose between two schools, usually a predominately white and a predominantly Negro school. Under the "open school" policy, parents of children in any crowded school were allowed to enroll their children in any under-capacity school if they provided their own transportation.

The "open schools" will be replaced with a free busing program under which children will be transferred only if they attend the most severely crowded schools in the city.

Students who were enrolled in elementary, junior or senior high schools under an open school or optional zone plan last year will be allowed to continue attending the same schools until graduation.

The following boundary changes will become effective in September:

- All students living in the former optional zone for Wilson, Western and Roosevelt high schools bounded by Rock Creek Park, Piney Branch Parkway and 16th Street nw. will be assigned to Wilson. Junior high school students in the zone will attend Deal.

- Students living in the former optional zone between Western and Cardozo bounded by Piney Branch Parkway, the National Zoo, Adams Mill Road, Columbia Road and 16th Street nw. will be assigned to Western.

- The former optional zone between Gordon and Banneker junior high schools bounded by Piney Branch Parkway, Porter Street, Park Road and 16th Street nw. will be assigned to the Lincoln Junior High School.

- The former optional zone between Western and Dunbar high schools, will be assigned to Western.

- The optional zone between Powell and Hearst elementary schools will revert to Powell.

- Jefferson Junior High School's boundary will shift to 1st Street sw. All tri-school graduates in 1967-68 will be able to attend Jefferson, however.



Capital Education

School Boundaries Plan Causes Some Confusion

By Ellen Hoffman

THE ANNOUNCEMENT that District schools plan to redraw secondary school boundaries has caused confusion and curiosity about the changes and their effects.

The proposed changes are outlined in a report by the Board of Education to Judge J. Skelly Wright in compliance with his decree on educational opportunity in the District. The report includes long-range plans for racial, social and economic integration of District school facilities and pupils.

All District high schools would probably be affected by the changes. The school system said statistics on pupil distribution collected this spring will be the basis of boundary shifts.

The desired effect, according to the report: "There will be no under-capacity schools, and each school will achieve the maximum distribution of socio-economic levels available in the area."

Assistant Superintendent John Koontz said that population information gathered by the Columbia University research team for the Passow report would probably be the "basic source" for deciding boundary changes.

MOST STATISTICS in the Passow report are based on 1960 census figures, which are generally believed to be out of date. George Greer of the Washington Center for Metropolitan Studies says there is no data since the census that reflects shifts in income distribution in the District.

Koontz said the boundary changes will be made through his office, the Department of Secondary Education, in cooperation with staffs from individual schools.

Deputy Superintendent Benjamin H. Henley has repeatedly said that the community will be given a chance to participate in discussions of boundary changes.

A spot check with the principals of McKinley and Eastern High Schools showed they have not been

receiving calls from parents with questions about the boundaries. Sidney Zevin, principal at Western, said he called in parents to discuss the matter but before that he was not receiving calls either.

Most of the parental concern over possible changes comes from the Wilson High School area. According to guideline proposed by the Board, some Wilson pupils would be shifted into the Coolidge and Roosevelt attendance districts.

SOME PARENTS from the neighborhood went to Henley this week for assurance that they could make their feelings known before final lines are drawn. H. Murray Schere, principal at Wilson, says, "The parents are confused. They really don't know what's going to be done. There is a great need for accurate information."

One parent active at Deal Junior High School, Mrs. Robert Aylward, points out, "The report has been submitted to the judge," and asks, "Does that make it definite or not?"

She would like to see meetings between school officials and parents.

A group of parents whose children attend Western High School and its feeder junior highs—some of whose pupils may be transferred to Cardozo and Dunbar—met this week to plan a community study of all the proposals in the report to Wright, including boundary changes.

Wilson Principal Schere said the consternation of parents about boundary changes is not a result of racial fears. (Wilson now has about 242 Negro pupils and 1318 whites; at Western the breakdown is 528 white and 992 Negroes.)

He and a number of parents say the issue is whether children who are transferred out of the upper Northwest schools will receive as good an education in the schools to which they are transferred.

THE WRIGHT decision has raised the issue of the Board

of Education's obligation to provide equal educational opportunity to all District youngsters.

Statistics presented to the court by civil rights leader Julius W. Hobson and his attorneys show that schools with a majority of poor Negro children have been cheated for years. They received less operating money, more temporary teachers, a less integrated faculty and in the past offered fewer honors track courses.

In its report to Judge Wright, the Board did not submit proof that these inequalities have been eliminated. Both white and Negro parents whose children are in upper Northwest schools question whether their college-bound youngsters would have an "equal educational opportunity" in schools east of Rock Creek Park.

School Boundaries

The School Administration has managed to make a menace out of a mandate. Directed by Judge J. Skelly Wright to submit to him a plan of pupil assignment complying with the principles announced in his opinion of last June, the Board of Education just about managed to get under the wire on January 2 with a plan which may satisfy the judge but can only confuse the community.

The plan was not a plan exactly. It was merely an indication that the existing boundaries of a number of high schools and junior high schools would be extended in a variety of directions penetrating the existing boundaries of other high schools and junior high schools. One was left with a general impression that all these scholastic structures would be flying about come next September from yon to hither, or vice versa, as though uprooted by a Kansas cyclone. The Board of Education did not afford the slightest intimation as to how far the boundaries would be extended. And so no family can make any more than a gross guess where its adolescent children will be going for an education next year.

The plan, as might have been expected, has generated a considerable amount of consternation in the area west of Rock Creek Park now inordinately favored, as Judge Wright made plain, in terms of per pupil expenditure, available classroom space and teacher assignment. It is impossible—and it should be impossible—to assure this small remaining segment of advantaged, upper-middle-class white families now threatening to flee to the suburbs or to the private schools that their privileged status will be continued. The changed boundaries may mean assignment of their children to less prestigious schools. It is not proposed, however, either by Judge Wright or by the Board of Education, to bus anyone out of the neighborhood where he lives, as that neighborhood may be newly defined, unless he volunteers to move from an overcrowded school to an underused school. Elementary school pupils are not affected at all by these boundary changes.

Nevertheless, we think the community is entitled to something more definite than what the Board of Education has provided. Parents need to know what school their youngsters will attend. And above all they need to know that that school will provide all the educational advantages available in any other school. Parents understandably and reasonably object to having children transferred away from Wilson or Western High Schools because these are the only high schools in the District offering certain advanced courses and concentratedly preparing their students for college.

The real purpose of pupil reassignment, as Judge Wright conceived it, is not so much to correct racial imbalance as to correct educational imbalance in the school system. As the Passow report points out, "When a school system is more than 90 per cent pupils of one race, to speak in any ordinary sense of integration, desegregation or racial balance on a system-wide scale would be pointless." But to speak of affording students in every school equal opportunities to qualify for higher education is not pointless at all. It is the essence of what Judge Wright and Dr. Passow have sought. Indeed, it is the essence of fairness.

School Boundary Shift Hit

By Susan Jacoby

Washington Post Staff Writer

"I'm simply not going to put my child into a school where he won't be challenged."

The speaker, who lives near Hart Junior High School in Southeast Washington but sends her son to Gordon Junior High in Georgetown, was typical of parents attending a workshop yesterday to discuss boundary changes proposed by the school administration to comply with Judge J. Skelly Wright's decision.

Nearly 200 parents attended the workshop at Francis Junior High School, sponsored by the Washington Integrated Secondary Education (WISE) program. WISE includes Western High School in Georgetown and its three feeder junior highs—Gordon, Francis and Jefferson.

A majority of parents at the workshop were Negro. They live in neighborhoods throughout the city and have been sending their children to Western and its feeder junior highs under a plan which has allowed them to transfer their children from crowded neighborhood schools to schools with empty spaces.

Mary V. Hunter, one of the speakers on the program, called the school administration's plans for boundary changes "a game of musical chairs."

"The board accepted, with enthusiasm, proposals to pair schools, establish magnet schools, explore the possibility of education complexes and many other exciting possibilities . . . Are we to be satisfied with the mere moving of some school lines a block here and two blocks there?"

Said one parent in a discussion group: "I have a child at Jefferson, and she would have to go to Shaw next year under the boundary changes. I know the academic programs at Shaw are simply not as good as at Jefferson."

Another parent said he was worried about "serious discipline problems in the junior high schools in Anacostia. I do not think my kids can learn anything when there are fights going on all the time and there isn't some order in the school."

Area Citizens To Help Pick School Lines

New District school boundaries will be drawn by a committee that includes representatives of all areas of the city, Robert Boyd, former Roosevelt High School principal, said yesterday.

Boyd has been appointed by the school system to oversee the development of new city-wide boundaries for secondary schools.

Boyd, who will be speaking at community meetings in various parts of the city in the next ten days or so, is asking that residents of those areas nominate persons to serve on the committee with school staff members.

Each of the following areas will have a representative on the committee: Northwest (west of Rock Creek Park, North Central (Roosevelt and Coolidge High Schools), Near Northwest (Dunbar and Cardozo), Northeast, Capitol East. The Far Northeast section will have two representatives on the committee. One will represent the area north of Pennsylvania Avenue and the other, the area to the south.

"No boundaries have been drawn at this moment," Boyd said yesterday. "No policies have been determined. This is not a one-man show."

With the committee, Boyd hopes to come up with a proposal to present to Superintendent William R. Manning and make public at a Board of Education meeting March 6. He is hoping the Board will take action on the proposal at its March 20 meeting.

Boyd is scheduled to appear at the following neighborhood discussions on boundaries:

Lincoln Junior High School, 16th and Irving streets, nw., 7:30 o'clock tonight; Paul Junior High School, 8th and Oglethorpe Street, nw., 8 p.m. Thursday; Hine Junior High School, 7th and C Streets, se., 8 p.m. Friday; Kelly-Miller Junior High School, 49th Street and Brook Road, ne., 8 p.m. Monday; Stoddert Elementary School, 39th and Calvert Streets, nw., 8 p.m. Tuesday; and Upper Northeast neighborhood, Feb. 26, location not yet decided.

Talk of School Zones Is Pure Rumor

By William Raspberry

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Potomac Watch

Talk of School Zones Is Pure Rumor



By
*William
Raspberry*

A NEWSPAPER COLUMNIST (not this one) speculated a few days ago that Deal Junior High and Wilson High School "are probably going to be homogenized, or part-homogenized, with Paul Junior High and Coolidge High School" as part of a plan to carry out the Wright school decision.

The "probably" should have made it clear that this was mere speculation. It didn't, and ever since the column appeared, Robert Boyd's telephone has been ringing off the hook. Boyd, erstwhile principal of Roosevelt High School, has been assigned to oversee the redrawing of school boundaries to assure an equitable distribution of the student population and to achieve as much racial and socio-economic integration as possible.

He tells his callers, as he has told parents groups at some 15 schools over the past few weeks, that the boundaries haven't been drawn, that they will be told when they are and that they will have a chance to have their say.

The flood of telephone calls, although based on a false assumption, nevertheless gives a good indication of the flack Boyd and his staff can expect, no matter what proposals they make.

For example, it was a group of parents from predominantly white Deal and Wilson that first suggested the merger of those schools with largely Negro Paul and Coolidge, the first pair to be a large west-of-the-Park junior high and the second pair a large high school.

But when the idea was broached even as speculation, other white parents took to the telephones to protest it. The fact is that most of folk west of Rock Creek Park are happy with the current setup and can be expected to oppose virtually any change.

CHANGE, HOWEVER, IS inevitable—either in terms of the Wright decree or in the interest of simple justice.

The total District student body is about 112 per cent of the total rated capacity of the schools. That, in the opinion of most educators, is a manageable surplus.

But the surplus is inequitably distributed. Roosevelt High School, for example, is operating at only 88.5 per cent of capacity, and is expected to change only slightly next year when out-of-zone students will have to return to their own attendance zones. Ballou's population, on the other ex-

treme, is 129.7 per cent of capacity, a figure that is expected to rise to more than 147 per cent next year.

More than half of Gordon Junior High's students (now at 94.4 per cent of capacity) are from other attendance zones. If the present attendance zones were enforced, Gordon's 1968 attendance would be only 66 per cent of capacity.

When the new boundaries are drawn, there will be no under-capacity schools.

Aside from those who have already made up their minds to oppose any redrawing of boundaries whatever, most Washingtonians agree that inequities exist and ought to be corrected. The question, of course, is how.

Few middle-class parents, white or black, want their children to end up in schools that are predominantly poor. For the bulk of the white middle-class, there has been the protection of Rock Creek Park. They have not objected very strenuously to the juggling of boundaries west of the Park, and when their boundaries have been extended east of it, it brought in only a sprin-

gling of Negroes, most of them quite well-off.

MANY WHITES FEAR now that an equitable distribution of the student population will give them more poor Negroes than they want, since most of the empty seats are west of the Park and most of the overcrowded classrooms are in the poorer sections to the east.

While it is always dangerous to guess at motives, the white Chevy Chase residents who proposed the Deal-Wilson, Paul-Coolidge merger must know that the latter two schools are in areas where live some of the city's most affluent Negroes.

We don't mind integrating, they seem to be saying, but no poor Negroes, please.

Meanwhile, Boyd and his staff are absorbing as much community sentiment and as much demographic and transportation data as they can. Their proposals for new boundaries will be presented on March 6, after which citizens will have a further chance to express their views.

Until then, any talk about specific boundary proposals is mere rumor and speculation.

Potomac Watch

Bids to End Crowding Aid Schools



By
William
Raspberry

The public emphasis in the school boundary controversy—which stems from Judge J. Skelly Wright's opinion in the Hobson vs. Hansen case—has been almost entirely on racial and socio-economic integration.

And because little meaningful racial integration is possible in a school system that is 93 per cent Negro, many have dismissed the Wright decision as silly, or worse.

Judge Wright's order that transportation be provided for "volunteering children in overcrowded school districts east of Rock Creek to underpopulated schools west of the Park will, of course, result in some racial and economic integration...

But more important to education in Washington, it will eliminate the gross crowding in some of the poorer neighborhoods.

This is an extraordinarily important matter.

MOST PEOPLE ARE vaguely aware that crowding is somehow bad. But few have grasped just how bad it can be, and how detrimental to learning.

Fortunately, this aspect has not escaped the attention of Robert Boyd, who is in charge of redrawing the school boundaries.

"This business of over-crowding is extremely important to the quality of education," he said. "When you talk about a school operating at 100 per cent of capacity, there are certain assumptions:

"First, there is the assumption that each individual classroom will be vacant for at least two periods a day. Second, there is the assumption that teachers need time and space to plan. That, in fact, is a part of the Washington Teachers Union contract. Then, there is the assumption that children who wish to do individual or group study will have a place to do it."

These requirements could be nearly met if the overall school population (about 112 per cent of the rated capacity of the schools) were equitably distributed.

"BUT WHEN YOU exceed grossly the capacity of a building, you eliminate that vital extra space," Boyd said. "And when that happens, you reduce this freedom of teachers to plan during the day, you reduce flexibility within the school, you reduce the children's ability to study. In short, you cut down on the quality of education."

He cited the case of Roosevelt High School, where he was principal until he took his present assignment.

Roosevelt was over capacity until ninth graders there were transferred to the new Rabaut Junior High School. As a result of that shift, Roosevelt is now operating at about 88.5 per cent of capacity. Among the bonuses resulting from that extra space:

- Roosevelt has eight special classes in reading, classes that would otherwise be impossible because there would be no place for them to meet.

- Such special programs as Project 400, in which government and industry experts teach regular classes at Roosevelt—for example, a government architect teaches a drafting class—become possible. As a result, classroom work becomes more interesting, more meaningful and more job-related than is usually possible.

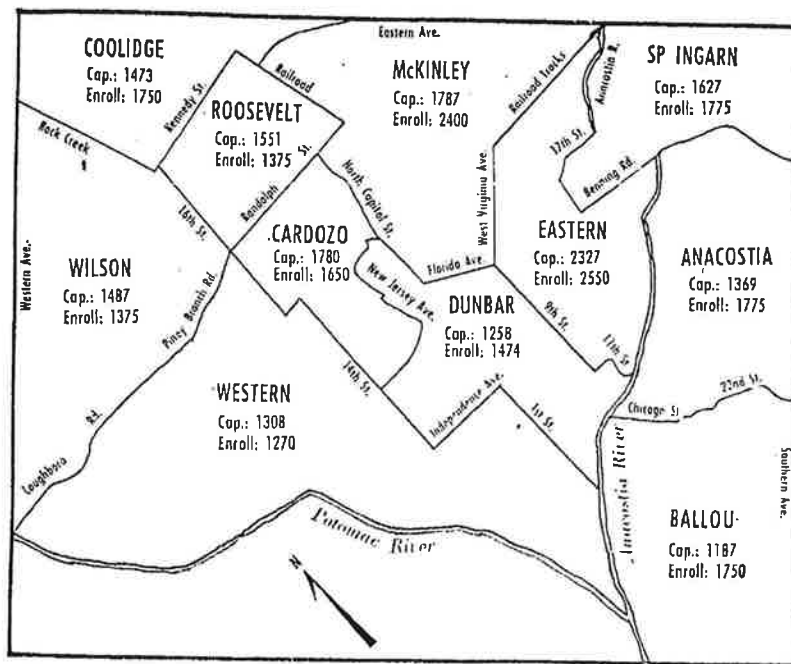
- A reading clinician comes in four days a week and has the space to work with children on a one-to-one basis.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS like these obviously are impossible at schools like Dunbar and Ballou, where every classroom is in use for every period of every day.

In addition to those things that directly affect learning, crowding has some other adverse effects, Boyd notes.

For example, it is necessary in some crowded schools to "float" teachers into classrooms. The result is that the teacher either must lug his materials from one classroom to another or have an extra desk and locker in the room, further reducing space and classroom flexibility.

When there is too much crowding, students have to share lockers, "and when you have two or more children with the combination to the same locker, loss and theft rates go up," Boyd said.



Feb. 28, 1968

Washington Post Map by Joseph P. Mastrangelo

High school zones: Labeled streets are reference points, not exact boundaries.

Citizens' Committee Starts to Work

School Zones Studied

By J. W. Anderson
Washington Post Staff Writer

A new committee of citizens and school administrators yesterday began the process of drawing new boundaries for Washington's secondary schools.

"We're all aware that there's nothing more controversial," School Superintendent William R. Manning told the committee as it met for the first time.

It scheduled daily sessions in an effort to meet a deadline of March 5 for the new map. Manning will then present it to the School Board, which holds final authority.

"Our first concern is to do something about equalizing the classroom load," Manning

said. The pattern of crowding group to come in and rubber-stamp any plan," he said. throughout the city's second-ary schools is uneven and, school officials have warned, will get worse next year.

Manning urged the committee to draw the lines to increase desegregation — "racially, socially and economically."

"We feel there's a great need of getting involvement of parents and community groups," he said. A series of public hearings will be held on the committee's proposals.

Manning assured the committee that the school administration will give it a free hand to work out the new lines.

"We are not asking this

Robert W. Boyd, staff coordinator of the boundary project, pointed out that crowding in some of the city's high schools—most notably Ballou in the far Southeast—had reached a point at which teaching is impeded.

"Quality education is very nice," he said, "but the first step has got to be bringing these schools down to a workable level."

He told the committee that it will face difficulties in dealing with the schools that have been receiving special funds for intensive supplementary programs.

Some children may be moved out of schools that have the special programs to which they are accustomed, he said. Major boundary changes, moving large numbers of children, might make some schools ineligible for Federal funds that they have been using to help deprived children.

A "major difficulty," he said, is the pattern of the bus lines on which high school students depend. The committee may want to ask the Metropolitan Area Transit Commission to consider new lines to make new boundaries possible, Boyd said.

The change in boundaries is forced by Federal Judge J. Skelly Wright's decision in the

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School Boundary Committee Starts Its Work Cautiously

By Don Robinson
Washington Post Staff Writer

Four hours of talk produced little drama and no decisions yesterday as the committee that will redraw Washington secondary school boundaries edged into its job.

About 25 of the 34 private citizens and school system staff members named to the committee Tuesday showed up for the session at Jefferson Junior High School. They will reconvene at 9 a.m. today.

Lincoln Junior High Principal Gilbert Diggs, a member of the committee, announced that principals of the five secondary schools in the Model School Division want boundaries of their schools left intact so as not to disturb experimental work of the Division.

Disruption Feared

Consisting of Cardozo High School, four junior highs and several elementary schools, the Division was formed to test and demonstrate a variety of educational innovations. Diggs said boundary changes would do little to alter such crowding as exists in the area, but would disrupt the Division's work.

Diffuse debate left the question unresolved at the end of the day.

Boundary coordinator Robert Boyd, principal of Roosevelt High School, purposely broached the Model School question. "I want to fight these things out before we draw the maps," Boyd said.

Boyd said he wants the committee to discuss the boundary implications of several other programs in the next two days. One of these is the Washington Integrated Secondary Education (WISE) program in which students from crowded schools are allowed to enter under capacity secondary schools in Northwest Washington.

Federal Aid Discussed

The committee yesterday briefly discussed the fact that boundary changes will affect each school's eligibility for several categories of special Federal funds. This money is distributed on the basis of a school's enrollment of children from low-income homes.

Tables prepared by school staff members made clear the committee's central task: to reduce crowding in the secondary schools and equalize the student load.

By next fall, the District's 11 high schools will have 19,145 students in buildings with a capacity of 17,154. The

29 junior highs will have 32,619 and a capacity of 29,169.

Without boundary changes, individual high school enrollments would range from 88.7 percent of capacity at Roosevelt to 147.4 per cent of capacity at Ballou. Junior high enrollments would range from 66.1 per cent of capacity at Gordon to 151 per cent at Douglass.

The secondary schools must accommodate an enrollment that will be 112 per cent of building capacity. Therefore, the mathematically ideal target for the committee is to arrange boundaries so that each school's enrollment would be 112 per cent of its capacity.

The boundary committee will meet weekdays through next Monday. Boyd and other school system staff members on the committee will prepare several alternate boundary maps over the weekend. The total group will work with the maps on Monday to come up with a plan to recommend to the Board of Education.

The School Board will receive the plan next Wednesday, and will then hold a series of public hearings before adopting final boundaries. It hopes to make final decisions by March 20.

School Zone Panel

Officially named the School Boundary Project Committee, the following group has been assigned the task of recommending new secondary school boundaries to the Washington Board of Education:

Robert W. Boyd, coordinator.
Capitol East: Helen Mims, president, Goding P-TA, and William Vines, president, Randall P-TA.

Far Northeast-Southeast: Honretta Wright, president, Area IVB, Council of P-TA's, and Margaret Carter, vice president in charge of service to councils, D. C. Congress of P-TAs.

Far Northwest: Richard Simonson, past president, Western Home and School Association; Ron Linton, national coordinator of the Urban Coalition, and Mrs. Linton, and Norman Bartow, Deal Home and School Association.

Far Southeast: Calvin Rolark, Washington Highlands Civic Association, and Sterling B. Carroll, Garfield-Douglass Heights Civic Association.

Near Northwest: Austin D. Lane, lawyer, Howard University, and Phil Shandler, Washington Evening Star.

Upper Northeast: Dr. Clarence Wade.

Upper Northwest: Barbara Simmons,

Neighbors, Inc. Educational Specialist, United Planning Organization; J. Warner Hagen, president, Northwest Boundary Civic Association, and Judith S. Bigelow, Civic League of North Portal Estates.

Community advisers: Ernest Gibson, Urban Institute, Metropolitan Washington Council of Churches, and Ruth Bates Harris, director, Council on Human Relations.

School Staff Committee: Paul Collins, counselor, Roosevelt High School; Julia C. Graves, assistant principal, Anacostia High School; Ralph Matera, principal, Jefferson Junior High School; William Rice, principal, Langley Junior High School; H. Murray Schere, principal, Wilson High School; Doris S. Sewell, principal, Randall Junior High School; Dr. Morton J. Sobel, director, School Desegregation Project; Gilbert Diggs, principal, Lincoln Junior High School; W. E. Turner, principal, H. D. Cooke Elementary School; Edward Edwards, principal, Turner Elementary School, and Leo Allman, assistant, Office of Junior and Senior High Schools.

Staff consultants: Leroy Dillard, principal, Goding Elementary School; Betty C. Holton, assistant director, School Desegregation Project; Harry Merican; Thomas Sheehan, supervising director, Educational Media Center, and Ellis Hawthorth, D. C. Congress of Parents and Teachers.

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School Boundary Committee To Study 2 Plans Monday

By Don Robinson
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Washington's advisory committee on secondary school boundaries agreed yesterday to begin its real job on Monday with maps showing two general possibilities.

One map will reflect the single guiding principle of achieving as nearly as possible the same degree of crowding—12 per cent above capacity—in each of the 11 senior and 2 junior high schools.

The other will do the same, except for leaving in their present form the boundaries of nine schools participating in two special programs—the Model School Division and the Washington Integrated Secondary Education program.

These two maps will be drawn over the weekend by the 18 school-system employees who are serving on the 35-member boundary committee.

With these maps as a starting point, the full committee on Monday will work toward agreement on a proposal that it will recommend to the Board of Education. The Board will receive the proposal next Wednesday and take it to the public in a series of hearings.

Yesterday's committee discussion focused on whether students now attending schools outside of their neighborhood school zones should be allowed to continue in the same schools next fall.

The school system now per-

mits students from zones with crowded schools to attend under-capacity schools elsewhere. But the Board has said it will discontinue this practice in the fall, except for allowing ninth and 12th graders to attend the out-of-zone schools during their last years.

About 385 students in senior high schools and 1137 junior high students are attending schools out of their home zones this year. This number includes about 400 transferred as a group from Hart Junior High in the Southeast to Roper Junior High.

The committee indicated that it will decide after it sees

Monday's maps whether to keep intact the boundaries of Model School Division and WISE program schools.

Within the Model division, Cardozo High and Lincoln, Garnet-Patterson, Shaw and Banneker Junior Highs test and demonstrate educational innovations.

The WISE program encompasses Western High and Jefferson, Francis and Gordon Junior Highs. Begun last fall, the program attempts to coordinate and upgrade curriculums for the purpose of maintaining a balance of race and socio-economic background among the students.

Transit Pledges Aid on School Zones

By Don Robinson Washington Post Staff Writer

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Transit Pledges Aid on School Zones

By Don Robinson

Washington Post Staff Writer

D. C. Transit pledged its cooperation yesterday in designing bus routes that meet the transportation needs of Washington students.

William E. Bell, the company's vice president for research and development, told the advisory committee that is revising secondary school boundaries that the company would be happy to discuss new or revised routes.

The availability of public transportation directly affects the options open to the committee in redrawing boundaries for the city's 40 junior and senior high schools.

"This is the first time in 30 years we've been invited to participate with the schools" in altering boundaries, Bell commented. He said the company is in constant touch with the school system, but usually learns of changes only after they have been made.

Several committee members tried unsuccessfully to draw from Bell a commitment in principle that D.C. Transit would establish bus lines to serve students even where the lines might lose money.

In response to another question, however, Bell said it is quite possible for the company to set up runs in which clus-

ters of students are picked up at arranged points not confined to the standard bus stops. The company already does this extensively in the suburbs, he said, serving children who come into Washington to attend parochial schools.

The 35-member boundary committee, which has had an attendance of about 25 during the past three days, adjourned for the weekend.

The school-system staff members who are on the committee will attempt today to map suggested boundary proposals that will serve as a starting point for the full committee on Monday.

The full group hopes to design and agree on a set of boundaries by Monday evening so that a final recommended proposal can be presented to the public by the Washington Board of Education in a meeting at Deal Junior High School next Wednesday.

The Board will hold four public hearings on the boundary proposal in different sections of the city March 11 through 14. The boundary committee will reconvene to consider public reactions on March 15, and the Board is scheduled to adopt final boundaries by March 20.

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School Zone Problem: It Could Be Worse

By Don Robinson

The Washington Post, Times Herald (1959-1973); Mar 2, 1968;

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Capital Education

School Zone Problem: It Could Be Worse



By
Don
Robinson

IN SMALLER TOWNS, a school boundary crisis often comes with the opening of the third or fourth high school.

Typically, even though they live closer to the new building, certain influential residents want to keep their children in an older school where the similarly affluent are clustered.

In that situation, the unfolding of community politics frequently produces boundaries gerrymandered to accommodate the influential minority.

Washington is not a small town, nor does it have a boundary problem caused by the opening of new schools. On the contrary, the problem here stems directly from the historical and continuing failure of school construction to match student enrollment.

The difference extends further. For Washington is blessed with a boundary problem whose geography, mathematics and educational philosophy all dictate a solution that conforms to, rather than conflicts with, political reality.

This central fact, not widely understood when the issue was first impressed upon the public consciousness, has emerged clearly from preliminary sessions of the 35-member advisory committee that is drawing up proposed new boundaries.

GENERALLY, the crowded schools — the excess children — are in the south and east of the city. The under-capacity classrooms are in the north and west. The obvious way to "equalize the utilization of facilities" is to move children away from the south and east toward the north and west.

As it happens, Washington's population of greatest affluence and influence lives in the north and west. Insofar as anyone is happy, these are the people who are most happy with the public schools where they are. They are the least anxious, putting it mildly, to move their children to different schools.

This became aggressively apparent when early rumors of west-to-east shifts created

an unprecedented flurry of community action in normally complacent neighborhoods.

Fortunately, the school system can adjust junior and senior high boundaries according to the purest dictates of geography and mathematics and still give these politically most potent folk what they want, which is to stay put.

MOREOVER, this solution will satisfy that part of modern educational philosophy that calls for several varieties of student integration.

The boundary committee began its discussions vaguely disturbed over whether to strive hardest to increase socio-economic integration (racial integration in a system more than 90 per cent Negro being impossible) or simply to equalize

the student load among the 40 secondary buildings.

By Thursday noon, boundary coordinator Robert Boyd was able to state flatly the obvious fact that any move intended to relieve crowding also will inevitably bring about greater socio-economic integration. Because of the geographic distribution of family income levels in Washington, a shift of students from south and east to north and west would put the less affluent into schools with the relatively more affluent.

There will, of course, be great heaving and shouting before the boundaries are settled. Necessary multiple violations of allegiance to an accustomed school, if nothing else, will stir protest.

Further, the boundary committee faces a huge lo-

gistic difficulty in accomplishing in so short a time the computations and detailed map work necessary to produce any boundary proposal, much less one that achieves community support.

But the biggest remaining fundamental political uncertainty hinges upon the tolerance of receiving neighborhoods for accepting X numbers of students from areas further down the income scale.

To the extent that it has submitted, the city has already passed this test with admirable grades. The daily transportation of several hundred students from the Southwest to schools in the Northwest has upset a member of Congress noticeably more than anyone in the communities actually affected.

School Unit Sifts Census Data

The Washington Post, Times Herald (1959-1973); Mar 3, 1968;
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School Unit Sifts Census Data

The staff of the committee that will redraw Washington's junior and senior high school districts spent yesterday hand-sorting thousands of cards to determine how many secondary school students live in each city census tract.

"This is really a job for a computer," said Robert W. Boyd, principal of Roosevelt High School and staff coordinator of the boundary project.

The school system did not have data on the number of students in each census tract because many secondary-school students attend schools outside their neighborhoods.

The information is needed before new boundaries can be drawn to comply with Judge J. Skelly Wright's decree, because the committee must know exactly how many students would be transferred to new schools under proposed boundary shifts.

The staff will meet again today to draw two maps showing proposed boundary shifts. With the maps as a starting point, the committee will work toward agreement on a proposal to submit to the Board of Education Wednesday.

A series of public hearings will be held on the boundary proposal after it is submitted to the Board.

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By Matthew Lewis—The Washington Post

School Unit to Get Suggested Boundaries Today

The staff of the School Project Boundary Committee is expected to complete today its recommendations for changes that would affect 52,600 secondary school students.

Robert W. Boyd, project coordinator, said yesterday the recommendations were

to be in the hands of the 35-member committee by 3 p.m.

The staff and volunteers worked until 1 a.m. yesterday and returned to Board of Education headquarters shortly before 11 a.m. to continue work on the proposals.

Work yesterday centered

on the transfer of information on where students live and where they attend school to maps of the city.

With this process completed, the staff then was to test various plans for boundary changes to see how each would equalize overcrowding in the secondary schools and move the city toward

greater balance along racial, social and economic lines.

Overcrowding is now at the point where, according to Boyd, the optimum equalization would make each of the 11 high school and 27 junior high schools operate at 112 per cent of capacity.

The staff recommendations to the committee still

face review by School Superintendent William R. Manning, the public and the Board of Education.

Manning will get the results of the committee's work after a series of public hearings now scheduled for March 11-14, with final recommendations due before the Board on March 20.

Pace Quickens in Drafting School Zones

By Don Robinson Washington Post Staff Writer
The Washington Post, Times Herald (1959-1973); Apr 13, 1968;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Washington Post (1877-1996)
pg. B1



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April 13, 1968 Washington Post Map by Joseph P. Mastrangelo

This is the boundary drafting committee's second tentative proposal for revising school zones for Washington's junior high schools.

Pace Quickens in Drafting School Zones

By Don Robinson
Washington Post Staff Writer
Washington's Board of Education should receive recommendations next week for new secondary school boundaries. The 45-day-old boundary project cleared another hurdle yesterday with completion of the second proposed revision of junior high boundaries. A third junior high map will be finished this weekend. The three possible configurations for junior high attendance areas, plus three for the senior highs will be presented to a 35-member citizens' committee Monday morning. Deputy Superintendent of

Schools Benjamin Henley said yesterday that he hopes the committee will endorse one map for each set of schools on Monday, so that the recommended maps can be forwarded to the Board at a meeting Wednesday night. The public would then get a chance to react to the proposals in four public hearings the week after next. Henley hopes the Board can make a final decision fixing the boundaries for next fall at a meeting on May 1. The map completed yesterday by a sub-group of the citizens' committee shows boundaries that would approximate

the plan's most unusual feature would bus to Hamilton School in the Northeast 394 eighth graders from the present zone of Hart School in the Southeast. These would be the same children who as seventh graders are this year being bused to Evans and Roper Schools. They would be the only exceptions to the map's assumption that next year's eighth and ninth graders could remain in their present schools. The bused group would also be Hamilton's only eighth graders next year. Hamilton will be the District's only new

junior high school building opening in the fall. To otherwise relieve serious crowding in Southeast schools, the zones of Randall and Hine Schools west of the Anacostia River would extend to encompass more the 600 of next fall's seventh graders in the present zones of Douglass and Kramer schools east of the river. In the Northwest, small shifts would place in the Deal area 49 children now in the western MacFarland zone and shift to Gordon in Georgetown 56 children now in the southern part of the deal zone. Compared with the most recent proposal, the junior-high map completed earlier would make less dramatic boundary changes, but would shift to new zones about 3000 more students. The first map carries the assumption that only next fall's ninth graders would remain in schools they attend this year. The third map, to be done this weekend, will seek to maintain the present zones of the four junior high schools that are part of the Model School Division.

**City
Life**

School Boundary Plan Ready Soon

Recommendations for redrawing Washington's secondary school district lines probably will be released within ten days.

Robert W. Boyd coordinator of the school boundary project, said yesterday on WRC-TV's "Dimension Washington" that most of the shifting of students would involve "moving students from the overcrowded eastern half of the District to the under-capacity schools of the western half."

He said he was aware of the concern of some parents, especially those with children at Wilson and Western Senior Highs, that their children would be moved east.

He stressed that most moving would be from eastern schools such as Anacostia, Ballou and Spingarn High Schools.

Boyd said that residence will determine exactly who will be moved. "it probably will be a step process, with students moving to the near-



ROBERT W. BOYD
... coordinator

est western district," he said.

'Doomsday' Seers

Quinn Tamm, executive director of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, yesterday condemned "doomsday speculation" by some news media in reporting the possibilities of racial conflict in American cities this summer.

"If such explosions as they predict should occur, legitimately they should be reported," he said. "To recklessly conjure an ominous cloud at this juncture, however is unforgettable."

Tamm's criticism was aimed at recent articles, including those in *The Washington Post* and *Esquire* magazine, describing some steps police departments are taking in anticipation of disturbances.

"If destructive and fatal riots occur in American cities this year," he said, "a major share of the blame must fall upon the shoulders of sensational 'journalists.'"

Registration Lags

An 11th hour campaign has increased District voter registration to about 79,000 considerably below the 219,687 persons who registered in 1964.

The lagging registration "only gives comfort to our enemies in Congress who think District residents don't have the responsibility for home rule," said James Cunningham, NAACP registration director and spokesman for several District groups carrying out the drive.

Ellipse Project

Construction of rest-room facilities in the northeast quadrant of the Ellipse will begin about April 1 at a cost of \$123,600. They should be completed in early September.

Eventual plans call for the construction of an ornamental fountain near the rest-room entrance as part of an overall beautification project for the area.

Historic Buildings

A Federal grant of \$300,000, the first under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, has been

made to the National Trust for Historic Preservation by the Interior Department.

Among the buildings the grant will help the National Trust to operate are Woodrow Wilson House in Washington, Decatur House in Washington, Belle Grove in Meddleton, Va., Woodlawn Plantation and the Pope-Leighey House, both in Mount Vernon.

Boys Clubs Drive

Some 135 Metropolitan policemen will go door-to-door and office-to-office beginning today to solicit funds for Boys Clubs. Their goal is \$394,000.

Evan Howell, former Illinois Congressman, is chairman of the drive. Police Chief John B. Layton is honorary chairman. About 14,000 boys are enrolled in the clubs.

From staff reports and news dispatches

D.C. School Boundary Team Starts on 1st Tentative Map

Washington's team that is revising secondary school boundaries began putting tentative lines on maps yesterday.

Boundary coordinator Robert Boyd said he hopes that the 35-member advisory committee can produce recommended boundaries by next week.

The group was appointed three weeks ago. Since then the group has spent a few days in general discussion and 29 days in preparing pupil-density maps showing the number of secondary school pupils living on each block in the city.

The tentative boundary-

drawing began during the last hour of work yesterday and produced only minor efforts to revise the boundaries of Wilson and Western High Schools.

In the next few days, a subgroup of the committee will prepare several alternative maps. The full committee will take these and work toward recommended new boundaries that will equalize enrollment among the 11 senior high schools and 29 junior highs.

Generally, it is clear that students must be shifted from crowded schools in the south and east to less crowded schools in the north and west.

The Washington Board of Education will hold public hearings on the boundaries recommended by the committee before fixing the lines for next fall.

Panel Sketches New Zones for 5 High Schools

The 3-to-12-man team attempting to equalize Washington secondary school enrollments by revising boundaries drew lines affecting five high schools yesterday.

The tentative changes would put more than 2500 students in different schools next fall. The five schools affected so far are Wilson, Western, Coolidge, Roosevelt and McKinley.

The team will proceed today toward equalizing enrollments in the District's other six high schools and 29 junior high schools. This preliminary work will be submitted next week to the 35-member citizen committee assigned to the project. The final plan will be presented to the Board of Education for action.

School Zone Proposals Called 'Too Timid,' Alternates Ordered

By Don Robinson
Washington Post Staff Writer

A tentative proposed revision of Washington's high school boundaries drew strong objections yesterday from those who feel the changes are too timid.

The 35-member citizens committee assigned to the boundary project met yesterday to discuss the map completed by a subcommittee last Friday.

The committee voted to "receive" the first map and instructed the subcommittee to draw two alternates for committee consideration.

One alternate would allow this year's 10th graders to remain in their present schools next year. The other would freeze the boundaries of Cardozo High School, part of the Model School Division.

The School Board has already said this year's 11th graders may remain in their present schools next year. The map produced Friday takes this into account, proposing to transfer 3300 of next fall's sophomores and juniors to new schools.

The most outspoken advocate of greater change during yesterday's round of reaction was Ron Linton, resident of the upper Northwest.

"We have an opportunity to dismantle the ghetto of Washington," Linton said. He suggested moving "large blocs of

students" to bring about more meaningful racial and socio-economic integration.

Linton suggested, for example, shifting 30 per cent of Wilson's students to Roosevelt, 40 per cent of Roosevelt's students to Coolidge, and 30 per cent of Coolidge's students to Wilson. Wilson has a predominantly white student body, while Roosevelt and Coolidge are mainly Negro.

Several of the other 26 committee members attending yesterday spoke along similar lines.

One, Barbara Simmons, said she would prefer no boundaries at all, allowing students to choose their own schools.

Judith Bigelow, of North Portal Estates on the northeastern edge of Rock Creek Park, agreed that, "We haven't done enough with socio-economic integration. I think people are prepared for drastic change. If we don't do what we can now, we won't be able to later."

Mrs. Bigelow's request that North Portal Estates be shifted to the Wilson zone was turned down. The proposed map would leave it in the Coolidge zone.

Mrs. Julia Graves, assistant principal of Anacostia High School, sympathized with a desire to make "a bold change." She said she was sorry the Anacostia River is permitted to form such a barrier when high

school boundaries are drawn.

Other comments related to problems of individual schools.

Dr. Clarence Wade, a Northeast resident, said Friday's map would "deprive McKinley High of much of its leadership." William Rice, principal of Langley Junior High, said, "More harm has been done to McKinley than any other school."

Several committee members, including boundary coordinator Robert Boyd, said they felt too little had been done to improve the socio-economic mix of Dunbar High School, which serves a low-income area.

Boyd said he had received several protests over the map's proposed transfer of a region south of Van Ness Street from Wilson to Western. On the other hand, James O'Donnell, a resident of the Wilson area, said several Wilson parents had asked for permission to send their children to "inner-city schools."

On the motion of Calvin Rolark, a Southeast resident, the committee voted to recommend that all secondary-school students be furnished free public transportation to school.

The committee now will draw the two alternate maps for senior-high boundaries and, similarly, to produce three alternates for junior high school boundaries.

Can't Shift 11th, 12th Grades

School Zoners In a Quandary

By Don Robinson

Washington Post Staff Writer

A drafting subcommittee got nowhere yesterday trying to equalize Washington high school enrollments by changing boundaries without moving any of next fall's 11th and 12th grade students.

A map produced last Friday revised boundaries but only exempted 12th graders from moving to a new school.

Preliminary calculations yesterday morning lent the impression that the Friday map would also suit a plan leaving 11th as well as 12th graders in their present schools.

Further figuring, however, showed this to be incorrect.

By the end of the day, it seemed clear that if two classes are exempt from moving, greater geographic change in boundaries must be made than if only one class is exempt.

Moreover, one participant noted that if two classes are exempted from moves next year, the problem of disparate enrollments among the high schools will crop up all the stronger the year after next.

The drafting subcommittee is under instruction from the full 35-member citizens committee assigned to the boundary project to show what boundary changes would be required to achieve equaliza-

tion leaving next fall's junior and seniors in present schools.

The map drawn last Friday would move 3300 of next fall's sophomores and juniors to new schools. These changes would give each of the 11 high schools an enrollment roughly 12 per cent over capacity.

The drafters have also been showing changes needed if told to come up with a map boundaries of Cardozo High School, part of the Model School Division, are left unchanged.

The drafters are also working on three alternate maps for junior high boundaries. One would leave next fall's ninth graders in present schools; the second would leave both eighth and ninth graders in present schools; the third would freeze the boundaries of four junior highs in the Model School Division.

Recalling meetings he conducted around the city before the boundary committee was formed, boundary coordinator Robert Boyd said yesterday that the second greatest desire expressed by citizens was that all students be permitted to graduate from the junior or senior high school they are attending this year.

The principal concern, Boyd said, was that quality of education be high at all schools and equal among the schools.

New Plan Mapped On Boundary Shifts For High Schools

By Don Robinson

Washington Post Staff Writer

A second proposed revision of Washington's high school boundaries was completed yesterday.

Boundaries on the new map attempt to equalize enrollments, allowing all of next year's juniors and seniors to remain in schools they are attending this year. Thus, only

next year's sophomores would be affected by zone changes.

A map produced a week ago would allow only next year's seniors to remain in their present schools.

The new plan would move 2150 sophomores into new zones; the first proposal would move 3300 sophomores and juniors into new zones.

The latest proposal makes

more drastic changes than the first in the geography of the 11 school attendance zones. The most striking changes would shift a large area south and east of the Capitol into Western High school from Dunbar. The latter school would receive a large new area of the northeast toward the Anacostia River.

Less Integration Cited

Boundary coordinator Robert Boyd said he prefers the first map to the one finished yesterday. He said he dislikes the second map because (a) it would achieve less racial and socio-economic integration, since fewer children would be moved, and (b) the boundaries probably would have to be revised again the year after next, given the impact of the new group of sophomores in the fall of 1969.

The second map would leave in their present schools about 385 of this year's sophomores and juniors now attending out-of-zone schools under the School Board policy that permits students to transfer from crowded schools to schools that are under capacity.

While acknowledging that it is educationally desirable to leave these children in their present schools, Boyd said it would be a mistake to yield to the interests of this minority in designing boundaries for the whole city.

Both maps have been drawn by a subcommittee of a 35-member citizens committee assigned to the boundary project. The committee wants to consider also a third high school proposal, under which the boundaries of Cardozo High School, part of the Model School Division, might be expanded but would not be constricted.

The committee must recommend both high school and junior high boundaries to the School Board. No junior-high proposals have been finished.

The second high-school proposal would not equalize enrollments as much as the first. Mathematically, the goal of the boundary revision is to give each school an enrollment 12 per cent above rated capacity. Projected enrollments under the first map range from 9.1 to 14.3 per cent above rated capacity. Under the second map, they range from 7.5 to 16.4 per cent over rated capacity.

The School Board got into the boundary project because of last June's decision by Federal Judge J. Skelly Wright in the suit brought by Julius W. Hobson. The purpose of the boundary revision is to comply with the Wright decree by equalizing enrollments among the schools and increasing racial and socio-economic integration.

The following table shows (A) projected fall, 1968, enrollments without any boundary changes, (B) fall 1968, enrollments at the ideal 12 per cent over rated capacity and (C) fall 1968 enrollments under the map finished yesterday.

High Schools	(A)	(B)	(C)
Anacostia	1775	1540	1589
Ballou	1750	1335	1382
Cardozo	1650	2003	1919
Coolidge	1750	1657	1677
Dunbar	1475	1415	1352
Eastern	2550	2590	2557
McKinley	2400	2010	2006
Roosevelt	1375	1657	1636
Spingarn	1775	1830	1848
Western	1270	1448	1474
Wilson	1375	1645	1673

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3d School Boundary Plan 'Best Yet,' Map Maker Says

By Don Robinson
Washington Post Staff Writer

A third alternative map revising Washington's high-school boundaries was drawn yesterday and boundary coordinator Robert Boyd said he likes it the best so far.

The new proposal was designed to retain all the area now in the attendance zone of Cardozo High School, which is part of the Model School Division.

The new map would move 3300 of next year's sophomores and juniors into new zones. This is the same number that would be moved under the first proposal, which was drawn without attempt to maintain the Cardozo zone.

Both the first and third maps assume that next year's seniors would be allowed to stay in the schools they are now attending.

The second map assumes that next year's juniors as well as seniors would remain in their present schools.

Boyd cited these advantages of the most recent proposal:

- It comes closer than either of the others to mathematical equalization of enrollments. Precise equalization would give each of the 11 high schools an enrollment 12

per cent over rated capacity. Projected enrollments under the third may range from 9 to 14.5 per cent over rated capacity.

- It would disturb the McKinley High zone less than the first map, which would shift large areas of the McKinley zone to other schools.

- It would achieve significant improvement in the socio-economic level of the Dunbar population by retaining the most drastic geographical change of the second map. This change would move from Dunbar into Western a large area south and east of the Capitol and would move from Eastern into Dunbar an area of the Northeast toward the Anacostia River.

All three maps would shift a section of the present Wilson High zone south of Van Ness Street into Western, thus bringing both schools closer to an even racial balance. Wilson is now about 8 per cent white; Western is about 65 per cent Negro.

The three preliminary designs were drafted by a subcommittee of the 35-member citizens committee that must recommend to the School Board new boundaries for both junior and senior high schools.

The subcommittee will give its full attention next to junior high boundaries.

The following table shows (A) projected fall, 1968, enrollments without any boundary changes, (B) fall, 1968, enrollments at the ideal 12 per cent over rated capacity and (C) projected fall, 1968 enrollments under the third proposed high school map:

High Schools	(A)	(B)	(C)
Anacostia	1775	1540	1559
Ballou	1750	1335	1342
Cardozo	1650	2003	1941
Coolidge	1750	1657	1670
Dunbar	1475	1415	1376
Eastern	2550	2590	2546
McKinley	2400	2010	2030
Roosevelt	1375	1657	1670
Spingarn	1775	1830	1775
Western	1270	1448	1498
Wilson	1375	1645	1669

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MARCH 30, 1968

Washington Post Map by Joseph P. Mastrangelo

Third proposal offered for boundary changes in the city's high schools.

First Junior High Boundary Plan Would Shift 6400 in Grades 7 and 8

By Don Robinson Washington Post Staff Writer

The Washington Post, Times Herald (1959-1973); Apr 2, 1968;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Washington Post (1877-1996)

pg. B1

Tentative Revision

First Junior High Boundary Plan Would Shift 6400 in Grades 7 and 8

By Don Robinson

Washington Post Staff Writer

A first tentative revision of Washington's junior high school boundaries was completed yesterday.

An unofficial tally shows that more than 6400 of next fall's seventh and eighth graders would be placed in new attendance zones. The plan assumes that next fall's ninth graders could remain in schools they attend this year.

As with the senior high school boundary proposals prepared in the past two weeks, the first junior-high map would shift children from crowded schools in the south and east into less crowded schools to the north and west.

Zones of several schools on the west bank of the Anacostia River would be extended eastward to take in nearly 1000 children now in zones of schools on the eastern side.

In the Northwest, the northern boundary of Gordon Junior High, now Macomb Street, would be moved north to Van

Ness Street. This would shift 113 children from Deal to Gordon, resembling the senior-high proposals that would move children in the same area from Wilson to Western.

The junior high school map also would extend Deal's boundary eastward to take in 174 children now in the Paul and MacFarland zones.

The Trinidad and Ivy City areas of the Northeast would be placed inside the boundaries of Hamilton Junior High, which will be the city's only new junior high opening next fall. The proposal would give Hamilton an enrollment of 1193. The building capacity will be 1650, but the school will have no ninth graders in its first year.

The new boundaries would produce enrollments ranging from 96 to 111 per cent of rated building capacities, with the exception of Hamilton. Precise equalization would bring each of the 29 junior highs to an enrollment 7 per cent above rated capacity.

There will be an estimated

31,000 students in Washington's junior high schools next fall. Without boundary changes, enrollments would vary from 66.1 per cent of rated capacity at Gordon, in the near Northwest, to 139.4 per cent of capacity at Hart, in the Southeast.

The map finished yesterday is one of three junior-high proposals that will be prepared by a group that has finished three alternate plans equalizing senior-high enrollments.

The drafting group is a subcommittee of the 35-member citizens committee that is charged with recommending new boundaries to the Washington School Board.

One of the remaining junior high plans would retain areas now in the zones of Lincoln, Banneker, Garnet-Patterson and Shaw Junior Highs, which are part of the Model School Division. The other would assume that next fall's eighth graders, as well as ninth graders, could remain in schools they attend this year.

Error Found in School Map

The Washington Post, Times Herald (1959-1973); Apr 3, 1968;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Washington Post (1877-1996)

pg. A26

Error Found in School Map

Map workers discovered errors yesterday that will require them to redraw a set of proposed new Washington junior high school boundaries that were completed Monday. Map workers discovered errors yesterday that will require them to redraw a set of proposed new Washington junior high school boundaries that were completed Monday. Map workers discovered errors yesterday that will require them to redraw a set of proposed new Washington junior high school boundaries that were completed Monday.

The errors relate to some 360 seventh-grade students who are now being bused from Hart to Roper and Evans Schools in the area east of the Anacostia River. The errors relate to some 360 seventh-grade students who are now being bused from Hart to Roper and Evans Schools in the area east of the Anacostia River. The errors relate to some 360 seventh-grade students who are now being bused from Hart to Roper and Evans Schools in the area east of the Anacostia River.

The map makers had thought the figures they were given projecting next fall's enrollment within present boundaries counted these children in the Hart zone. They thought the figures they were given projecting next fall's enrollment within present boundaries counted these children in the Hart zone. They thought the figures they were given projecting next fall's enrollment within present boundaries counted these children in the Hart zone.

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1st Zone Plan Drawn for Junior Highs

By Don Robinson

Washington Post Staff Writer

A first proposed revision of Washington's junior high school attendance zone boundaries was completed yesterday.

The new zones seek to bring each of the 29 junior high schools to a level of enrollment about 8 per cent above the rated building capacity.

On the assumption that next fall's ninth graders will remain in schools they attend this year, the new map would move approximately 5960 of next fall's seventh and eighth graders into new zones.

The most drastic geographical realignments would affect the Southeast, where classroom crowding is now the most severe.

The Hart School zone in far Southeast would be squeezed to less than half its present size, putting large chunks of its present area in the zone of Randall and Douglass Schools.

About 944 children now in the Hart, Douglass and Kramer zones, on the east side of the Anacostia River, would be shifted into the zones of Randall and Hine Schools on the west side of the river.

In the Northeast, sections of the present Langley, Stuart, Eliot and Browne zones would be stitched together to form an area for Hamilton Junior High. Hamilton will be the District's only new junior high building opening in the fall. It will have no ninth graders during its first year, according to present plans.

Gordon Junior High in the Northwest would receive new areas from two adjoining

See BOUNDARY, B2, Col. 1

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April 5, 1968

Washington Post Map by Joseph P. Mastrangelo

The first proposed revision of Washington's junior high school zones.

First Boundary Plan Is Drawn for Junior Highs

BOUNDARY, From B1

schools, Deal to the north and Francis to the east. While shrinking on the south, the Deal Junior High zone would expand slightly to the east, annexing small sections now included in the zones of MacFarland and Paul Schools. The map finished yesterday

corrects errors made in a tentative junior high boundary proposal completed on Monday. The first map erroneously accounted for more than 400 children who this year are attending out-of-zone schools, most of them students residing in the Southeast. The map was prepared by a drafting subcommittee of the 35-member citizens committee

that must recommend new junior and senior high school boundaries to the Washington Board of Education. The Board has said it will hold public hearings before fixing boundaries for the fall. The subcommittee plans to prepare two more junior high boundary alternatives. One will retain the area now within the zones of four

schools that are part of the fall's eighth graders, as well as ninth graders, to remain in schools they attend this year. Three alternate proposals revising senior high boundaries were finished last week. The Washington public school system will have an estimated 32,620 students in junior high schools next fall, with a rated total building capacity for 30,592. The system wants to keep the new Hamilton School at about 400 students below capacity, giving the city an effective rated classroom capacity of 30,192 seats.

All School Zone Maps Ready for Committee

By Don Robinson Washington Post Staff Writer

The Washington Post, Times Herald (1959-1973); Apr 14, 1968;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Washington Post (1877-1996)

pg. C1

All School Zone Maps Ready for Committee

By Don Robinson

Washington Post Staff Writer

A third and final proposed revision of Washington junior high school boundaries was completed yesterday.

Completion of the new map clears the way for the beginning of discussion that may lead to the adoption of new boundaries for junior and senior high schools by May 1.

The map produced yesterday maintains all the area inside the present attendance zones of four junior high schools that are part of the Model School Division—Lincoln, Banneker, Garnet-Patterson and Shaw. It is based on the assumption that next fall's ninth graders would remain in schools they attend this year.

Under provisions of the map, Washington's 29 junior high schools would have enrollments ranging from 2 to 12 per cent over their rated capacity. Enrollment would be perfectly equalized among the buildings if each school was 8 per cent over capacity.

No immediate count was available of the number of children who would be transferred to new attendance zones under the new plan. The most striking change would shift into the zone of Francis School more than half the area now inside the zone of Terrell School to the east.

The severe overcrowding in Hart and Douglass Schools in the Southeast would be relieved by placing large portions of their present zones inside the boundary of Randall Junior High zone, across the Anacostia River to the north.

As in the first two junior-high boundary proposals, a southern section of Deal Jun-

ior High area in the Northwest would be placed inside the boundary of Gordon School in Georgetown, while a western section of the present MacFarland zone would shift to Deal.

The secondary-school boundary revision project began nearly seven weeks ago when a 35-member citizens committee was appointed to recommend new boundaries.

Most of the time since then has been consumed by the work of a committee subgroup which has produced three proposals each for junior and senior high boundaries.

The full committee will meet Monday and is expected

to endorse one map for each set of schools. The committee's recommendation could then be forwarded to the Board of Education at a meeting Wednesday night.

A series of hearings would then be held the week after next, giving the public a chance to voice opinions on the recommended new zones.

The twin goals of the project are to relieve overcrowding by equalizing enrollment among the schools and to achieve greater racial and socio-economic integration of the school populations.

*Final revision map of
junior high school bound-
aries.* Page C8.

School Zone Maps Adopted By Committee

By Don Robinson
Washington Post Staff Writer

Two maps showing revised boundaries for Washington's junior and senior high schools were adopted yesterday by a special citizen committee.

By 19-to-2 votes the committee picked from the six alternatives prepared for it by a drafting subcommittee.

The two recommended maps will go to the Board of Education. The Board will hold four public hearings this month. It will then make the decision fixing boundaries for next fall.

Hearing Schedule

The hearing schedule is as follows, with all sessions beginning at 7:30 p.m.: April 23, Anacostia High School; April 25, McKinley High; April 29, Roosevelt High, and April 30, Wilson High.

The boundary project, to which the 35-member citizen committee was assigned in late February, seeks to equalize enrollment among the schools and to increase racial and socio-economic integration.

For the senior highs, the committee chose a map drawn with the purpose of retaining all area now inside the zone of Cardozo High School, which is part of the Model School Division.

The map would move about 3300 of next fall's sophomores and juniors into new zones. The most dramatic change would virtually remake the attendance area of Dunbar High School.

A large area of predominantly low-income population south of Capitol Hill would shift from Dunbar into Western High in Georgetown. A section of the Northeast now in the Eastern High zone would transfer to Dunbar.

This map would give the 11 senior high schools enrollments ranging from 9 to 14.5 per cent above the rated capacities of the buildings. Precise equalization would be achieved if each school were 12 per cent above rated capacity.

Junoir High Map

The junior high map adopted by the committee was the first drawn by the subcommittee, seeking to equalize enrollment without regard to special programs.

It would move roughly 7000 of next fall's seventh and eighth graders into new zones. The most dramatic change would shift some 940 students now in Hart, Douglass and Kramer zones east of the Anacostia River into the zones of Randall and Hine Schools west of the river.

The recommended map would give the 29 junior highs enrollments ranging from 4 to 13 per cent above rated capacity, with 8 per cent over the

See BOUNDARY, B9, Col. 1

School Zone Maps Are Adopted

BOUNDARY, From B1
rated capacities representing ideal equalization.

The committee rejected a junior high alternative that would preserve the zones of the four junior highs in the Model School Division.

Gilbert Diggs, Principal of Lincoln school, one of the four in the model schools area, said this map had the disadvantage of increasing the student population of the Model Schools by about 160 while the map finally approved would reduce the number by about 230.

Diggs said that in schools that serve needy populations, it is more important to reduce the number of students than it is to preserve the geographical complex.

Seniors Not Transferred

The senior high map assumes that only next fall's seniors can remain in schools they attend this year. The junior high map makes the same assumption for next year's ninth graders.

Maps that would keep next year's 8th and 11th graders in the same schools were rejected, although these were the maps receiving the two dissenting votes.

The senior high map would

move into the Western high school zone a southern section of the present Wilson zone. Boundary coordinator Robert Boyd said this would give Western a 43 per cent white student body compared with 35 per cent now; it would give Wilson a 30 per cent Negro student body compared with 12 per cent now.

The main new proposal advanced during the five-hour discussion yesterday came from James O'Donnell, a committee member from the Wilson area. He suggested that the Wilson-Western area be divided to give each of those schools a 50-50 mix of whites and Negroes. The idea drew little support.

Although voting with the committee majority in selecting maps, Ellis Haworth, a member who also lives in the Wilson area, said he will submit a minority report suggesting the double-shifting of crowded schools as an alternative to boundary changes. He said he will also urge a crash program of school construction, noting that substandard education is inevitable so long as classroom space is inadequate.

Coordinator Boyd ran briefly through the main community responses to proposed boundary alterations that he

has received since the project began:

- North Portal Estates, on the east side of Rock Creek Park, wants to be transferred into the Wilson zone. The recommended map leaves this area in the Coolidge zone.

- Three types of response have come from residents in the southern Wilson area proposed for transfer to Western. One group objects to the move on grounds of student safety and quality of education. Another group, composed of Jewish residents, objects on grounds that their children would be sent to school with children from the Spring Valley area which, they maintain, bars Jews. A third group, favoring more racial and socioeconomic integration, likes the transfer.

- Some residents in the Northeast who would be transferred to Roosevelt High School object to being moved out of the McKinley zone.

Boyd said he has heard no complaints from the area of most drastic change, the section south of the Capitol that would be transferred to Western.

He said the main response from the southeast, the area of most severe crowding, has been the simple plea to relieve the crowding.

Public Hearings Slated on New School Zones: News Analysis

By Don Robinson Washington Post Staff Writer

The Washington Post, Times Herald (1959-1973); Apr 21, 1968;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Washington Post (1877-1996)

pg. A32

Public Hearings Slated on New School Zones

By Don Robinson

Washington Post Staff Writer

After eight weeks of often tedious labor, the formidable technical test of redesigning Washington's secondary school boundaries has been met. The political test comes next.

Proposed new junior and senior high school attendance zones will be presented to the public in four hearings this week and next. No one is certain whether the reaction will be sunny or stormy.

The greatest early public response to the idea of changing boundaries was negative. The predominantly white, middle-class residents in neighborhoods served by Wilson Senior High and Deal Junior High in the upper Northwest shouted opposition to any change that would dislodge their children from those schools.

The new boundaries proposed by a 35-member committee of school staff personnel and the public violate those wishes only slightly. A southern section of the Wilson and Deal zones would be shifted south into Western and Gordon schools respectively.

Some Have Protested

Some residents of the transferred area have already voiced their displeasure. But others in the same neighborhood have supported the move as one that will augment the integration of race and class.

The new maps add to the Wilson and Deal zones small areas to the east and southeast, moves that will bring in a number of new students, mainly Negroes, whose family incomes are below the Wilson-Deal level.

These transfers will test the candor of the community's assertion that no one there wants to change schools but neither would they mind if new students were moved to their schools. The boundary changes are expected to give Wilson a student body nearly 30 per cent Negro, compared with 12 per cent now.

Public attention has focused strongly upon the Wilson-Deal area because that area has made the most noise. But the coming public hearings in which opinion will be sought from all sections of the city may uncover similar complaints, virtually unspoken earlier.

Opposition theoretically can be expected from any area being moved to a new school that rightly or wrongly is regarded as inferior to the area's present school. To a lesser extent, new boundaries can also draw opposition based on a community's customary allegiance to a given school.

It is possible that the early decision of the boundary team to work in full view of the public has de-

News Analysis

fused some potential opposition.

Much resistance came at first from people who suspected that, in spite of assurances to the contrary, new boundary drawn and had already been drawn and lay secreted in a Franklin Building safe.

As it turned out, the entire process of designing alternative maps and choosing those to be recommended was conducted in public and given wide notice in the press. This should have given those interested a sense that they knew what was happening, whether they liked the result or not.

The politics of the boundary-drafting committee itself has been governed by the strategy used in selecting the nonschool staff members. Representatives were picked from areas from which grumbling had been heard or could be expected.

Each representative discovered that he could not attack another area's plea for special preference without cutting the ground from under his own area's similar plea.

Altruism Appears

Thus, a collection of representatives special interests

were molded into a group that approached in remarkable measure the altruistic level at which the problem of the total city is given priority over the problem of any single corner of it.

The boundary project has spun off some useful tools and insights only directly related to the task at hand.

It cast an even brighter light upon the known fact that school construction has not kept pace with student population in Washington. The intolerable crowding of schools across the Anacostia River in particular demonstrates the historic negligence of permitting the growth of large public and private housing developments unaccompanied by the provision of public facilities—in this instance,

schools—for the people drawn by those projects.

The boundary work also pointed up in new perspective the problem of school dropouts.

To draw new boundaries, it was necessary first to plot on a street map the residence of every student now in grades 6 through 11—that is, students who next fall will be in grades 7 through 12.

Projection Is Expected

It was a shock to discover that the resulting "dot" map showed children now in grades 9 through 11 exceeding by some 2000 the school system's projection of senior high enrollment next fall.

Neither the map nor the projections are thought to be in error. The discrepancy is accounted for by two facts. Perhaps 1000 of the

ninth graders on the map tional high schools, not in-will enroll next fall in voca-cluded in the system's projection.

But the other 1000 are ninth graders who simply won't show up for class when the high schools open in the fall. Boundary coordinator Robert Boyd confirmed the map's message that the most serious dropout occurs between the ninth and tenth grades.

Finally, the painstaking construction of the dot map showing student residences gave the city helpful knowledge in the aftermath of the riot. Analyzing this map, Boyd has been able to make what ought to be an accurate estimate of the number of students left homeless by the riot's destruction of living quarters.

City Life

Thurmond Criticizes D.C. Police

Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) yesterday criticized Washington police and Army troops for not using enough force to stop looting and arson in the city, during the recent riots here.

In a speech on the Senate floor, he also urged leaders of the Poor People's Campaign; scheduled for next week, to call it off because it is a "potentially dangerous and explosive situation." If Congress refuses to accede to the marchers demands, the Senator said, roads and bridges will be blocked and "it is just conceivable that the demonstrators will be able to bring government machinery to a halt."

Thurmond criticized Washington police because he said they did not "exert" the power in their hands, particularly in the early stages of the looting.

Teachers Attend

District school teachers left their classrooms yesterday to attend an all-day institute on the Passow study of the District school system.

They met at six high schools across the city to discuss the contents of the report, which was presented to the Board of Education last fall.

Superintendent of Schools William R. Manning and Board of Education Vice President Anita F. Allen moved from school to school greeting the teachers and encouraging them to express their opinions on the recommendations in the report.

Recommendations emerging from yesterday's sessions will be sent to the Executive Study Group, a committee set up to work on putting report's suggestions into effect.

The study group consists of representatives of the school administration, the Board of Education, the Washington Teachers Union and residents of the community.

When the Board of Education set up the machinery for putting the Passow report into effect, it asked the Executive Study Group and another committee—the Community Council, composed of organizations with an interest in education—to report to the Board by June 30.

School Boundaries

The first of four public hearings on proposed new attendance zone boundaries for Washington junior and senior high schools will be held tonight at Anacostia High School. The session will begin at 7:30 o'clock. Other hearings are scheduled later at McKinley, Roosevelt and Wilson High Schools.

Symphony Gifts

The Washington National Symphony has received anonymous gifts totaling \$10,000 to match the first \$10,000 in public contributions resulting from this week's symphony broadcast campaign.

During the week, when radio and television stations are donating time to help the campaign, Symphony volunteers are manning telephones around the clock to receive calls and contributions—at 483-2911.

Broadcast week is part of the Symphony's 1968 drive to raise \$650,000 to finance the orchestra's regular sea-



DONALD R. ERNST
... named by hospital

son and its extensive series of young people's concerts

Sibley President

Donald R. Ernst has been voted acting president of Sibley Memorial Hospital, following the recent death of Dr. John M. Orem.

Mr. Ernst, treasurer of the Hospital's board of trustees and a member for the past 18 years, has also served for 20 years with Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children in a similar capacity.

A native of Washington, he is vice president of Steuart Investment Co.

TB Group Meeting

"Clean air for the Nation's Capital" will be the theme of the D.C. Tuberculosis Association's annual meeting May 13.

William H. Megonnell, acting associate director for abatement and control at the National Center for Air Pollution Control here, will be the main speaker.

Also at the meeting, to be held at the National Press Club at 7 p.m., the Association will propose changing its name to D.C. Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association, to reflect its widening range of interests.

Service Award

Dr. William W. Funderburk, assistant professor of surgery at Howard University, last night received a "certificate of humanitarian service" from the Medical Society of the District of Columbia for his three months in Vietnam as a civilian doctor under an AMA-sponsored program.

From staff reports and news dispatches

Board Gets Plea

Speed Is Urged On School Map

By Don Robinson.

Washington Post Staff Writer

Washington's school boundary advisory committee asked the Board of Education yesterday to adopt new junior and senior-high school attendance boundaries "with the least possible delay."

The request accompanied several committee recommendations concerning the boundary proposal already submitted to the Board.

Committee member Austin Lane said, and most other members agreed, that citizens who spoke at the hearings raised "no objections other than those that had already been raised and considered by our committee."

The first recommendation voted yesterday was a resolution recognizing that "the general community is more concerned with the development of programs for quality education than with school boundaries."

Other recommendations proposed that School construction be "drastically" accelerated, new bus routes be arranged to meet needs created by boundary changes, free transporta-

tion be considered for students who cannot walk to school, and several kinds of compensatory and experimental education programs be expanded and strengthened.

At the suggestion of boundary coordinator Robert Boyd, the committee also recommended that the Board set up a staff committee to review existing policies and pass upon individual requests for the transfer of students to out-of-zone schools.

Finally, the committee added to its list of recommendations a multipart suggestion from Wilson High Principal Murray Schere that:

- Boys Junior-Senior High be moved from the Randall Junior High building to the Franklin Building if and when the central administration offices are moved to a new building now under construction.

- The present Fillmore Elementary School building be used for Gordon Junior High classes, with Fillmore children moving to other grade schools.

School Board Approves New Zones

By Don Robinson

Washington Post Staff Writer

The Board of Education yesterday adopted new attendance-zone boundaries for Washington's junior and senior high schools.

The Board approved the zone lines recommended by a 35-member citizen committee led by Robert Boyd, which undertook the boundary project in late February.

Six Board members voted for the new boundaries. Two abstained, Albert A. Rosenfield and Carl C. Smuck. The Board's ninth member, Julian R. Dugas, was absent.

The boundaries selected will permit next fall's 9th and 12th-grade students to remain in the schools they attend as 8th and 11th graders this year.

Rosenfield favored an alternative that would permit next fall's 8th and 11th graders as well to continue at their present schools.

The boundary maps going into effect next fall will move about 10,300 students into new zones, including 3300 of next fall's sophomores and juniors and 7000 of next fall's seventh and eighth graders.

The maps will give the 11 senior high schools enrollments ranging from 9 to 14 per cent above rated capacity of the buildings. The 29 junior highs will range from 4 to 13 per cent above capacity.

The purpose of the boundary revision, spurred by last year's school decree by Federal Judge J. Skelly Wright, was to equalize enrollments among the schools and to augment racial and socio-economic integration.

Superintendent William R. Manning gave his assurance that students will not be deprived of course offerings because of shifting to new schools. He said the system will equalize offerings among the schools.

Capital Education

School Zone Hearings Typify Civic Apathy Here



By
**Don
Robinson**

NOT IN THE CRIES of the few but in the silence of the many did the just-finished school boundary revision demonstrate the eerie nature of politics is that part of Washington that presumes to be a community rather than a government office.

Next to taxes, nothing produces more citizen interest and activity in the normal American city than school issues.

Attempts to change school attendance zone boundaries strike both the emotional matter of prestige and the practical matter of property value. They act, therefore, as a good test of the level of citizen awareness and action.

The Washington boundary project touched every senior and junior high school in the city. Protest or at a minimum watchful interest, could have been expected from any resident transferred to a new zone.

What happened?

The new high school map transferred 110 children out of the Wilson zone into the Western zone in the Northwest. And at one of the four hearings in which the Board of Education actively invited public reaction, sending notices to thousands of parents, about 300 people showed up and about 50 spoke or submitted written statements on the Wilson transfer.

But the high school map also transferred more than 1000 students to different schools in the area east of the Anacostia River. People came to the hearing at Anacostia High School; a dozen spoke.

SIMILAR NUMBERS turned out and presented statements in hearings at McKinley and Roosevelt High Schools. The maps transfer 620 children out of McKinley, 150 out of Roosevelt.

More than 600 are transferred out of Eastern High into Dunbar, and 400 are

moved out of Dunbar to Western. No speaker anywhere mentioned these massive shifts.

The point is not that the noise from the Wilson area expressed right judgment. The boundary committee and the Board, viewing the problem of the city as a whole, concluded that the Wilson protests did not merit changing the maps.

The point, rather, is that the Wilson area residents, and only they, acted in a manner expected by standards of orthodox citizen participation in community affairs. They were keenly aware of their selfish interests in the nonpejorative sense, and they proved those interests actively.

It is possible that the rest of the city remained silent because everyone was perfectly aware of and fully happy with changes made by the boundary maps. There is about an equal possibility that we will all be millionaires tomorrow.

FAR MORE LIKELY, and more discouraging, is the assumption that most of the people of Washington are unaccustomed to participation in community decision-making and consider their chance of affection what happens nil.

This thesis is supported by the continuous demonstra-

tion through other issues that Washington has a surplus of self-appointed individual "leaders" and a deficit of residents in meaningful numbers contesting community issues.

That Washington, the Nation's capital of politics, paradoxically exists in a political vacuum as a community is hardly surprising. The engine motivating community action elsewhere is a government that derives its powers from the consent of the governed, which the government of this city does not.

Boundary committee mem-

ber Ron Linton accurately perceived this point in a brief speech just before the Board of Education adopted the new secondary school boundaries this week.

"I WAS DISTRESSED," he said, "that of all the speakers at the public meetings, not one pledged to work for home rule and the right to raise our own taxes and appropriate our own funds. For until we can reach that point, your hands are tied inextricably to Congress's feet."

The one light brightening this dreary analysis is that

Washington soon will elect members of the School Board, heretofore appointed by judges who are themselves appointed.

It is true that an elected School Board will have no greater actual power than the present appointed Board. But the fact that people will be able to choose by ballot the individuals to fill chairs of even limited power should stimulate at least a junior version of the democracy that Washington has known only as a textbook concept that can't happen here.

City Life

Schools Push to Equalize Facilities

The Washington school system has established an office to help give youngsters all over the city equal educational opportunities when school opens in the fall.

Robert Boyd, the former Roosevelt High School principal who headed the recent project to change school boundaries, has been named director of the "school-equalization project," reporting directly to Superintendent William R. Manning.

Boyd said yesterday that his office is charged with distributing equipment, materials and textbooks to secondary schools in line with demands generated by boundary changes and the need to "equalize" conditions in schools.

About 5,500 secondary-school youngsters will be in different buildings in the fall as a result of the boundary changes, made in response to an order by Judge

J. Skelly Wright that the school system try to reduce segregation by race and socio-economic level.

The Judge also ordered the schools to distribute supplies and equipment on a more equitable basis, and to improve integration through faculty and student assignments.

Boyd said his office also plans to meet with the D.C. Transit System to discuss problems of transporting youngsters to school.

Water Works Man

Roy L. Orndorff, Washington's director of sanitary engineering, has been named "Water Works Man of the Year" by the American Water Works Association. The organization, meeting in Cleveland, cited Orndorff for "his leadership in search for solutions to sanitary engineering problems . . . his contributions to the . . . water supply field . . . and

for . . . transforming the distribution system of the Nation's Capital into a model of dependability and efficiency."

D.C. Air Plan

The Metropolitan areas of Washington, Philadelphia, New York and Chicago are expected to be designated Federal air quality control regions this summer, Dr. John T. Middleton, a U.S. Public Health Service administrator, told a recent symposium on air quality criteria in New York. Dr. Middleton is director of the national center for air pollution control here.

Volunteers Meet

Alec Dickson, founder and director of Great Britain's Community Service Volunteers, will give the keynote address Monday at the opening of a three-day meeting of the International Secre-

tariat for Volunteer Services Council in the Office of Economic Opportunity Building, 1200 19th st. nw. The Secretariat was set up six years ago to encourage and coordinate volunteer programs throughout the world.

Wage Change

The D.C. Minimum Wage and Industrial Safety Board took under advisement yesterday a proposal to change the wage regulations to permit employers in the hotel, restaurant and related fields to prorate overtime pay according to an employee's fixed regular salary rate.

Favoring the change at yesterday's hearing were representatives of the local Bartenders Union, the D.C. Citizens Committee on Employee Standards, the League of Women Voters and the Greater Washington Central Labor Council.

From staff reports and news dispatches

Aspirant for Board Raps School Shifts

Virginia Morris, coordinator for the Washington Head Start Program and the mother of eight—six of whom attend “all levels of the D.C. schools”—announced her candidacy for the School Board yesterday with a blast at the recent decision to change secondary school boundaries.

Mrs. Morris said she will seek an injunction restraining the School Board from carrying out boundary changes in the Far Northeast and Far Southeast sections of Washington when schools reopen this fall.

Her attorney, Wesley S. Williams, former School Board president, said the suit will be filed in Federal District Court here.

Her contention is that parents and community leaders in Far Northeast and Far Southeast were not given ample opportunity to state their preferences when attractive bound-

ary changes were considered last Spring.

Since the Board did not consult parents in the area sufficiently before adopting a plan it “acted beyond its powers,” Williams said.

Mrs. Morris said a meeting had been held at Anacostia High School to discuss the plans but that it was poorly attended because of poor advance publicity in the two areas. She did attend, she said, but only because she learned of the meeting from a personal friend, Robert Boyd, staff coordinator for the boundary project.

Maps of the roposed changes were widely circulated and meetings announced in other areas of D. C., she contended.

“The meeting was jam-packed at Woodrow Wilson,” she said.

Mrs. Morris said she opposed the adopted plan because it would mean that more than 3000 pupils in the two

areas would have to travel long distances to school. She has a son, Keith, a seventh grader who will be affected by the change.

Boyd refused to comment on Mrs. Morris’ complaints. He said that he had been aware of dissatisfaction with the boundary change and was “surprised that this is the only suit.”

Judge Rejects Shift In School Boundary

By Jared Stout

Washington Post Staff Writer

A Federal judge refused yesterday to upset District school boundary changes approved last May, although he said the Board of Education erred in the timing of its requests for community comment on the changes.

Judge Gerhardt A. Gesell held the Board had failed to give the required 15 days' notice before seeking citizen comment but that "full community participation" in the four previous months outweighed the error.

"The failure to observe the rule was technical in character and not substantive in its result," the Judge held in denying the requests of three Northeast Washington women who asked to have the boundary changes set aside.

The changes, approved by the Board last May 8, go into effect Wednesday when District schools reopen. Their approval was preceded by four months when up to 15 meetings with civic groups were held.

The changes are intended to balance the school populations in the city's junior and senior high schools so that each is operating at or near a standard 105 per cent of capacity.

The women, Virginia Morris, Auralia Ward, and Pearl Redd, all of the 5200 block of Clay Street ne., said they had been given insufficient notice of the proposed change and their Northeast community was not consulted.

Mrs. Morris said, after the Gesell ruling, the Judge's findings would be appealed and, "If we don't get relief there every parent should refuse to send their children . . ." to the schools required by the boundary changes.

Judge Gesell, who agreed to reconsider his Monday decision in the case, found nothing in yesterday's presentation "to warrant this court's injecting itself" into the school system.

To grant what the three women sought would either disrupt some 7100 students outside the neighborhood of the complaints or put an inordinate burden on the three schools in the neighborhood, the Judge said.

Mrs. Morris was particularly angered because one of her five children would have to walk 1½ miles to the Roper Junior High School instead of Kelly Miller, which is a few blocks from her home.

Judge Gesell noted that

there were 121 other students similarly affected and that, while assignments for the schools had already been made, disrupting them at this point would be inequitable.

Gesell said he based his finding in this area on representation from school officials that they were working on transportation for students who had to walk the 1½ miles and were taking precautions to assure that they would have proper protection.

Parents Take Zone Protest to School Board

The Washington Post, Times Herald (1959-1973); Sep 11, 1968;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Washington Post (1877-1996)
pg. C6

Parents Take Zone Protest to School Board

A group of Northeast Washington parents told a School Board committee yesterday that recent junior high school boundary changes force their children to travel too far to school.

Northeast parents staged a sit-in on the first day of school last week and refused to shift their children to Roper Junior High School. They escorted the children to Kelly Miller Junior High instead, where

they would have gone under the old boundaries.

Parents have complied with the boundary changes since then and have enrolled their children in Roper. Other children are not enrolled in any school.

Ann H. Stults, chairman of the School Board's committee on appeals and grievances, which heard yesterday's two hours of testimony, said the parents' appeal would probably be denied. She said such

appeals are granted only for medical reasons.

The 26 parents at the meeting said they represent 123 transfer students in the Richardson Elementary School area.

Parents have objected to school boundary changes at several other schools. School and Washington Teachers Union officials have proposed a way out of the difficulty: starting and ending the day a half-hour later than usual at 20 affected schools.

Teachers at these schools will vote on the proposal today.

D. C. Transit officials don't have enough buses and drivers to provide transportation for large numbers of students dur-

ing rush hour in the morning, but could handle them a half-hour later.

Virginia Morris, spokesman for the parents at yesterday's meeting, said she would let the matter drop only if the school board were to place the

123 junior high students in a school closer to their homes, or if special bus arrangements were made.

Some of the parents said their appeals would be dropped if free transportation were provided.

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Boundary Revisions To Affect 13 Schools

By Richard M. Cohen
Washington Post Staff Writer

In an attempt to relieve overcrowding Washington's school administration yesterday announced boundary revisions that would affect 13 junior and four senior high schools.

Of the approximately 1300 students affected, 800 will attend the new Johnson Junior High at Bruce Street and Robinson Place se.

About 400 of these will be drawn from Hart, Randall, Douglass and Hine Junior high schools. The remainder will be entering seventh grade students.

Another major shift in boundaries, Rhodes said, was caused by the new addition to Alice Deal Junior High School. With greater capacity in the fall, Deal will be able to accommodate students living west of 16th Street nw. who formerly would have attended either Paul or Lincoln junior high schools.

"This is really an administrative thing in terms of put-

ting students where the seats are," said George Rhodes, assistant superintendent for secondary schools. "It's different than what happened last year."

About 10,000 students were shuffled last year, when the school system was attempting, not only to correct overcrowding, but also increase social and economic integration.

Rhodes, however, suggested that this year's boundary changes may be the last.

The school administration he said, is now developing a plan under which a certain number of elementary schools would be assigned to feed into a certain junior high.

The junior high school affected by the boundary changes are Randall, Hine Douglass, Kramer, Sousa, Elbot Hamilton, Brown, Francis Lincoln, Alice Deal, Paul and the new Johnson.

The high schools affected are Western, Eastern, Roosevelt and McKinley.

New Plan to Stabilize Schools Offered

By Aaron Latham; Washington Post Staff Writer

The Washington Post, Times Herald (1959-1973); Mar 6, 1970;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Washington Post (1877-1996)

pg. C1

New Plan to Stabilize Schools Offered

By Aaron Latham

Washington Post Staff Writers

The office in charge of Washington's secondary schools has recommended altering school boundaries so that, beginning next September, each elementary school would feed a single junior high school.

It also has recommended that each junior high school feed a single senior high.

George Rhodes, assistant superintendent in charge of secondary education, said yesterday that the proposal was aimed at stabilizing the schools in a troubled system.

Rhodes said the present pattern scatters students from one lower school to any number of upper schools. It often disorients students and sometimes brings together "groups that are in conflict," he said.

School officials believe that some of the troubles plaguing junior and senior high schools may result from the confusion caused by the criss-crossed boundary lines that divide and then redive neighborhoods.

The proposal for redrawing boundaries has been sent to Acting Superintendent Benjamin J. Henley. To go into effect, it must be approved by the school board.

Rhodes says that any boundary shifts would be made in accordance with the rule of "least possible change." It would not move any student already started in junior or senior high to another school.

If the school lines are redrawn, it would mark the greatest boundary changes here since Judge Skelly Wright ruled in 1967 that

the boundaries existing then discriminated against poor and black students.

Rhodes said that the proposal was designed to help students bridge the troublesome gap from elementary school to junior high school, on the one hand, and junior high to high school, on the other.

He pointed out that it could keep friends together and, it is hoped, rivals from different feeder schools apart.

It could also improve the coordination between the administrations of feeder and receiver schools, make joint staff meetings between teachers of these schools possible, and even lead to the sharing of equipment and facilities on a formal basis, officials said.

"We want the schools to work together on a longitu-

dinal program," Rhodes said. "I don't see how individual schools can make it any longer."

Andrew Weeks, the secondary schools boundary director, said that if the program goes through for next fall Washington will be the first major city in the nation to adopt it.

Rhodes said the proposal represents another step toward the system's goal of a cluster system where each high school is the focus for a coordinated community of feeder schools.

De Loris Zucker, the principal at Hayes Elementary, said yesterday, "Beginning junior high school is the second biggest jump in a child's education, the biggest being the jump from home into kindergarten."

She and other elementary school principals say that



... explains new plan

little is done to smooth a student's transition from the security of one class and one teacher to the uncertainty of multiple classes and multiple teachers.

Rhodes said that hearings would probably be held before any final decision on redrawing boundaries was made.

Deal to Get Students From Spring Valley

The Washington school board only hope for an inter-
disregarded the advice of its ward on a solid
acting superintendent, Benjamin Henley, staff writer
night and voted 7-to-0 to send ten of the 13 schools in the
children from affluent Spring Valley area receive substantial num-
Valley to Deal Junior High, one of Negro children from
Upper Northwest Washington, Anacostia under a court-or-
instead of to Gordon Junior High in Georgetown. dered busing program, in addition to the whites who live in

Board member Albert Rosenfield, who proposed the neighborhood.
change, said he had come under At Mann, the elementary
der "heavy community pressure" to send the children to school that serves Spring Val-
Deal. He suggested that this ley, 11 of the 27 sixth graders
signing the children in the spring were black. Under
area might help the school plan all of them could en-
system get the appropriation at Deal, with the School
it wants from Congress. The board paying the cost of trans-
Spring Valley area contains portation.

On Rosenfield's motion, stu-
homes of congressmen, con- dents from the Hearst School,
gressional aides and lobbyists, 37th and Tilden Streets NW,
"I'm politically oriented," also were switched from Gor-
said Rosenfield, who repre- ton to Deal.

sents Ward Three (west of The changes will raise
Rock Creek Park), "and I'm enrollment to 113 per
realistic. This is one pocket cent of its capacity next fall,
which can help all the other and drop Gordon's to 94 per
children in the city . . . cent of capacity.

need money for our city . . . Henley said the new attend-
and pulling money from Con- ance policy will not cause any
gress is like pulling teeth with- major change in the racial
out novacaine." composition of the two schools.

Later, Rosenfield added that This spring, Deal was about 60
shifting the Spring Valley area per cent white, and Gordon
into the Deal zone "can serve was 53 per cent white.

a useful purpose both to the
children by providing a school
that is nearer to their homes,
and in other areas that I don't
want to mention publicly."

Rosenfield's amendment was
added to a cluster system rec-
ommended by acting superin-
tendent Benjamin Henley. That system would designate
40 elementary schools as per-
manent feeder schools to eight
junior highs.

Washington's 22 other junior
highs would continue to have
geographic boundaries that of-
ten do not coincide with at-
tendance zones for elementary
schools.

Rosenfield said the plan is

Proposals Would Change School Attendance Boundaries

The Washington Post (1974-Current file); May 3, 1979;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Washington Post (1877-1996)
pg. DC4

Proposals Would Change Sc

About 300 District of Columbia students will go to new schools next September if the city school board approves new district boundaries that have been proposed.

The majority of the boundary changes would take place in the school system's Region I in Southeast Washington and would affect about 200 students, most of them in junior and senior high schools. The purpose of the suggested changes is to "even up enrollments" in the region's schools and to correct "boundary discrepancies where they exist," said Reuben G. Pierce, the regional superintendent.

In Region VI, in Northeast Washington, about 75 students now attending Woodridge Elementary School will transfer to a new school scheduled to open next September in the Fort Lincoln new town project if the boundary changes are made. The new Fort Lincoln school also will get approximately 85 more students now attending a variety of other schools and about 200 special education students who will be bused to Fort Lincoln.

Boundary changes in Region III in Northeast and Southeast are being proposed only to correct overlaps of streets on the official boundary maps, and no students will change schools,

according to a spokesman for the region.

School system officials hope to have the final report on the boundary proposals to the school board in time for action at the board's meeting in mid-May, according to a spokesman.

The following is a description of the proposed boundaries for Woodridge: Starting at Eastern and Rhode Island avenues, west on Rhode Island (south side) to 24th Street; 24th Street (east side) to Irving Street; Irving Street (north side) to 26th Street; 26th Street (west side) to B&O Railroad tracks; railroad tracks (south side) west to Queens Chapel Road; Queens Chapel Road (east side) to Bladensburg Road; Bladensburg Road (south side) to New York Avenue; New York (north side) to the intersection of New York and 38th Place; to a point on the northeast side of the Anacostia River where an extension of the west side of South Dakota Avenue would intersect; from the point of intersection to South Dakota Avenue (west side) north to Bladensburg Road; Bladensburg (north side) east to Eastern Avenue (west side) north to Rhode Island Avenue.

The following are the proposed boundaries for Fort Lincoln Elementary School: Starting at a point on Bladensburg Road and Eastern Avenue, west on Bladensburg (south side) to South Dakota Avenue; South Dakota (east side) to north side of Anacostia River; on river (north side) to Eastern Avenue Extended (District/Maryland line); on Eastern Avenue Extended going north to Bladensburg Road.

Following is a block-by-block listing of how boundary changes, if approved, will affect Region I students:

Although there are now no Beers students who live in the 3400 through 3700 blocks of Massachusetts Avenue, 3400 through 3600 blocks of Nash Place or the 3700 and 3800 blocks of O Street, students from these blocks would be assigned to Region III schools.

The one Beers student in the 2500 block of 36th Street will go to Winston.

The 23 Friendship students who live in the 4200 block of Barnaby Road, the 800 block of Chesapeake Street or the 4200 block of Sixth Street, will attend Hendley.

Any Green students who live in the 2200 block of Savannah Street or the 3300 block of 22nd will attend Garfield.

Homes in the 1300 through 2100 blocks of Southern Avenue, which have not previously been included in any school boundary, have been included in the Green school boundary.

The six Hendley students who live in the 4300 block of Fourth Street will attend Friendship.

The one Ketcham student who lives in the 1800 block of Minnesota Avenue will attend Orr.

Any students who live in the 1700 block of Q Street will attend Ketcham. The block had not previously been included in any school boundary.

The 10 Malcolm X students who live in the 3100 block of Bruce Place and the 2700 and 2800 blocks of Robinson Place will attend Turner.

The six Malcolm X students who live in the 3200 block of 11th Place will go to Terrell.

Any Malcolm X students who live in the 3300 block of 11th Place will attend McGonev.

Any McGonev students who live in the 1300 block of Congress Street will attend Malcolm X.

The one McGonev student who lives in the 3200 block of 10th Place will go to Terrell.

Any McGonev students who live on the even side of the 3200 block of Wheeler Road will go to Terrell.

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School Attendance Boundaries

The 12 Moten students who live in the 1300 block of Morris Road will attend Savoy.

The two Moten students who live in the 2300 block of Reynolds Place will attend Stanton.

The six Moten students who live in the 2500 block of West Street and the 2300 block of 16th Street will attend Wilkinson.

Homes in the 2900 block of Austin Street, the 2800 and 2900 blocks of Minnesota Avenue, the 3200 block of O Street, the 2000 and 2100 blocks of 28th Street or the 1400 block of 35th Street will go to Randle Highlands. Homes in those blocks have not previously been included in any school boundary.

The 19 Savoy students who live in the 2600 block of Pomeroy Road or the 2600 block of Sayles Place will go to Birney.

Any Simon students who live in the 100 or 200 blocks of Trenton Place or the 400 block of Savannah Street will attend Congress Heights.

The eight Stanton students who live in the 3200 through 3400 blocks of 23rd Street or the 3400 block of 24th Street will go to Garfield.

Any Stanton student who lives in the 2300 to 2400 block of Naylor Road will attend Orr.

The 35 Terrell students who live in the 3900 block of Wheeler Road or the 1000 block of Wahler Place will go to Draper.

Any Terrell student who lives in the 3200 block of 12th Place will attend Malcolm X.

The 90 Turner students who live in the 1400 block of Bruce Street, the 1500 block of Congress Place or the 3100 block of Robinson Street will attend Malcolm X.

The 83 Washington Highland students who live in the 800 blocks of Xenia or Yuma streets or the 3800 through 4000 blocks of Eighth Street will attend Draper.

The 24 Wilkinson students who live in the 1500 and 1600 blocks of Butler Street, the 2600 block of Douglas Road, the 2300 through 2500 blocks of Evans Road, the 1700 block of Galen Street, the 2300 block of Green Street, the 2200 block of Hunter Place, the 1500 block of Morris Road or the 2400 through 2500 blocks of Pomeroy Road will attend Moten.

The six Wilkinson students who live in the 1300 block of Morris Road or the 2600 block of Pomeroy Road will attend Savoy.

The one Wilkinson student who lives in the 2700 block of Bruce Place will attend Stanton.

The 30 ninth graders from Kramer/Winston will attend Johnson.

The 61 Kramer students who live in the 2200 through 2500 blocks of Savannah Street, the 2200 block of Savannah Terrace, the even side of the 2100 through 2500 blocks of Southern Avenue, the 3400 and 3500 blocks of 22nd Street, the 3200 through 3400 blocks of 23rd Street, the 3400 block of 24th Street or the 3400 block of 25th Street will attend Johnson.

A total of 154 Johnson students will go to Hart. They are students who live in the following areas: the even side of the 800 and 900 blocks of Alabama Avenue, the 1000 through 1200 blocks of Barnaby Terrace, the 1100 block of Bellevue Street, the even sides of the 1100 and 1200 blocks of Southern Avenue, the 900, 1100 and 1200 blocks of Valley Avenue, the 900 and 1000 blocks of Varney Street, the 1000 block of Wahler Place, the odd sides only of the 3200 through 3400 blocks of Wheeler Road, both sides of the 3500, 3900 through 4300 blocks of Wheeler Road, the 4300 block of 12th Street and the 3900 through 4300 blocks of 13th Street.

About 45 students from the following blocks, who now attend Hart Junior High School, will go to Friendship:

Those in the unit numbered blocks and the 100 block of Atlantic Street SW; the unit numbered blocks and the 100 through 800 blocks of Atlantic Street SE; the 700 and 800 blocks of Barnaby Street; the 800 and 900 blocks of Bellevue Street; the unit numbered blocks and the 100 block of Chesapeake Street SW; the 400, 500 and 600 blocks of Chesapeake Street SE and the 700 block of Chesapeake Street SE west of Barnaby Street SE; the unit numbered through 100 blocks of Danbury Street SW and SE; the unit numbered through 100 blocks of Darrington Street SW; the unit numbered through 100 blocks of Elmira Street SW; the unit numbered through 600 blocks of Elmira Street; the unit numbered through 100 blocks of Forbes Street SW; the unit numbered through 600 blocks of Forrester Street SE; the unit numbered through 100 blocks of Galveston Street SW; the 600 block of Galveston Street SE; the unit numbered through 100 blocks of Galveston Place SW; the 4300 block of Halley Terrace SE; the 100 block of Ivanhoe Street SW; the 100 block of Irvington Street SW, and the 100 block of Joliet Street SW.

*Also, the 4000 through 4600 blocks of Livingston Road SE; the 300 block of Livingston Terrace SE; the 4000 through 4700 blocks of Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SW; the 4000 through 4700 blocks of South Capitol Street; the 4000, 4100, 4300 and 4700 blocks of South Capitol Terrace SW; the 600 through 800 blocks of Southern Avenue SE; the 4000, 4700 and 4800 blocks of First Street SW; the 4000 block of First Place SW; the 4000 and 4100 blocks of Second Street SW; the 4000, 4300, 4400 and 4500 blocks of Third Street SE; the 4000, 4100, 4200 and 4600 blocks of Fourth Street SE; the 4000, 4100 and 4200 blocks of Sixth Street SE; the 4200 and 4300 blocks of Seventh Street SE, and both sides of the 3700, 3800, 3900, 4200 and 4300 blocks of Ninth Street SE.

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