

High School Growth Mitigation Planning Committee

October 2018 to March 2019

**Goals, Guiding Principles, Final Recommendation
and Rationale for Revisions to High School
Enrollment Boundaries to Reduce Enrollment at
Jackson High School**

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April 19, 2019



HSGMPC Boundary Revision Process – Goals and Overview

The High School Growth Mitigation Planning Committee (HSGMPC) was established in response to an August 28, 2018 Board of Directors resolution to develop a school enrollment boundary revision recommendation for consideration by the Superintendent to reduce the enrollment at Jackson High School. This resolution was in response to a Board motion approved on July 3, 2018 directing the Superintendent develop such a proposal utilizing a transparent, collaborative, community-represented committee process.

Excerpts from the Board motion and resolution directing the Superintendent to form a committee to develop such a proposal are as follows:

Board motion approved on July 3, 2018

“The board of directors directs the superintendent to bring a proposal to the August 28, 2018 board meeting for its approval, defining a committee process, guiding principles, participants and timeline to develop a plan to temporarily mitigate the effects of high school growth. The committee is to recommend revisions to high school enrollment boundaries beginning the fall 2020 to reduce enrollment at Jackson High School; and complimentary and practical program changes, portable classrooms, and minor schedule changes.”

Board resolution approved on August 28, 2018

- *Establish a High School Growth Mitigation Planning Committee to develop a recommendation to the superintendent by March 31, 2019 that is responsive to the board’s July 3, 2018 motion.*
- *Changes to high school boundaries are to go into effect in fall 2020, although changes to portables, programs or schedules may take longer to implement.*
- *The committee is to carefully consider the guiding principles developed for this process in its recommendation.*
- *The committee is to consider in some manner the key themes raised by the community over the last several months in its recommendation.*
- *The superintendent will bring the committee recommendation to the board, accompanied by his advice as to adoption, amendment and adoption, or rejection.*

The HSGMPC was comprised of 30 community members representing the district’s three comprehensive high schools and five middle schools; principals or assistant principals from each high school and middle school; facilitation by Jim Dugan from Parametrix, and support by district staff. The committee was scheduled to work monthly over a six-month period culminating in March 2019 with a recommendation to the Board.

The committee meetings were held primarily monthly and, in some cases, bi-monthly on Wednesday evenings between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm on the following dates at the following locations:

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|-------------------|--|
| October 24, 2018 | Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center |
| November 7, 2018 | Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center |
| November 14, 2018 | Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center |
| December 12, 2018 | Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center |
| January 16, 2019 | Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center |
| February 13, 2019 | CANCELLED DUE TO WEATHER |
| February 27, 2019 | Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center |
| March 6, 2019 | Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center |

HSGMPC meeting minutes were developed following each of the above described meetings and posted on the district website for public access and review. All feedback received on-line and at the community forums were included in the next regularly scheduled HSGMPC meeting and as such, were reviewed and discussed by the committee as part of the agenda for that meeting and included in the considerations and decision by the committee.

In addition to the monthly HSGMPC meetings described above, the District planned and conducted five community forums, four of which were held at the comprehensive high schools followed by one community forum held at Gateway Middle School. The first round of community forums in November 2018 were intended to ask community members for their thoughts, concerns and recommendations to the committee in response to the Board's directives. The second round of community forums in February were intended to solicit from community members their feedback to the committee in response to specific boundary revisions under consideration by the committee.

The dates and times for the community forums were as follows:

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| November 27, 2018; 6-7:30 pm | Jackson High School cafeteria |
| November 28, 2018; 6-7:30 pm | Cascade High School cafeteria |
| November 29, 2018; 6-7:30 pm | Everett High School cafeteria |
| February 6, 2019, 6-7:30 pm | Gateway Middle School cafeteria |
| February 7, 2019, 6-7:30 pm | Cascade High School cafeteria |

The three community forums held in November 2018 were attended by approximately 156 community members and the two community forums held in February 2019 were attended by approximately 255 community members. Many of these attendees provided verbal and/or written comments for the committee's consideration. In addition, more

than 500 online community comments to the HSGMPC were received between October 2018 and March 2019 and were read and considered by the committee as well.

HSGMPC Boundary Revision Process – Guiding Principles

The Board adopted the following Guiding Principles in Resolution 1185 for the committee to use in arriving at its recommendation:

1. CARE: The potential impacts, both positive and negative, of any boundary change shall be carefully considered.
2. INCLUSION: Appropriate opportunities for input from affected parties should be provided prior to making boundary changes.
3. SOLUTIONS: Boundary changes should be made in the context of long-term solutions, short term solutions not addressing long term issues should be avoided.
4. PREPARATION: Boundary changes should be approved with enough lead time to allow families to plan and prepare for implementation of the changes.
5. NEIGHBORHOODS: Students should be able to attend schools located within close proximity to their own neighborhood, and if possible, all students living in a neighborhood should attend the same schools.
6. BARRIERS: Natural or manmade barriers to safe and efficient transportation routes should be taken into consideration, including pedestrian and vehicular transportation.
7. INEQUITY: Boundary changes should be made only after considering where inequities might lie in current boundaries and potential boundary changes; changes that create new or perpetuate existing inequities should be avoided.
8. CONTINUITY: Consideration should be given to maintaining consistent elementary school to middle school to high school feeder patterns – where possible.
9. EFFICIENCY: Transportation routes should be as efficient and reliable as possible while minimizing the amount of time a student spends in transit to and from school.

HSGMPC Boundary Revision Process – Final Recommendations and Rationale

On March 6, 2019 after six months of multiple HSGMPC meetings, work sessions and community forums, the HSGMPC reached overwhelming majority consensus and in

most cases unanimous consensus on its final boundary change recommendations for consideration by the Superintendent and the Board of Directors. These recommendations are shown graphically on the following two attachments and further described below:

Attachment A. Recommendation for Changes to Jackson HS Boundaries from the HSGMPC

Attachment B. Recommendation for Changes to Cascade HS Boundaries from the HSGMPC

Comments and Suggestions Specific to Jackson High School

- Students whose residence is within the current one-mile walking radius to Jackson HS should remain at Jackson HS.
- Generally, those students living closer to Cascade HS should be considered for moving before considering students living further away
- Those students living immediately west of 35th Ave. SE near 132nd St. SE should remain at Jackson HS to keep this neighborhood together even though they may live just outside the one-mile walking radius to Jackson HS.
- This boundary recommendation reduces the student enrollment expected at Jackson HS in 2023 from 2,463 to about 2,068, a reduction of about 395 students; and reduces the number of portables needed at Jackson HS in 2023 from 26 to about 10.
- The boundaries are recommended to be phased-in as follows
 - Move grade 9 in the first year
 - Move grades 9 -10 in the second year
 - Move grades 9 – 11 in the third year
 - Move all grades in the fourth and subsequent years
 - Use portables to support the phased implementation as needed
- If the board prefers that fewer students be moved from Jackson HS to Cascade HS, then the committee suggests the two following possible options (although neither of these was the preference of the committee)
 1. Move the students as recommended above but leave the students living east of the power lines at Jackson HS, thus reducing the total number of students moved from Jackson HS to Cascade HS to about 259.
 2. Only move the students living east of the power lines and generally north of Thomas Lake and 148th from Jackson HS to Cascade HS, thus reducing the total number of students moved to about 359.

Comments and Suggestions Specific to Cascade High School

- Students whose residence is within the current one-mile walking radius to Cascade HS should remain at Cascade HS.
- Generally, those students living closer to Everett HS should be considered for moving before considering students living further away

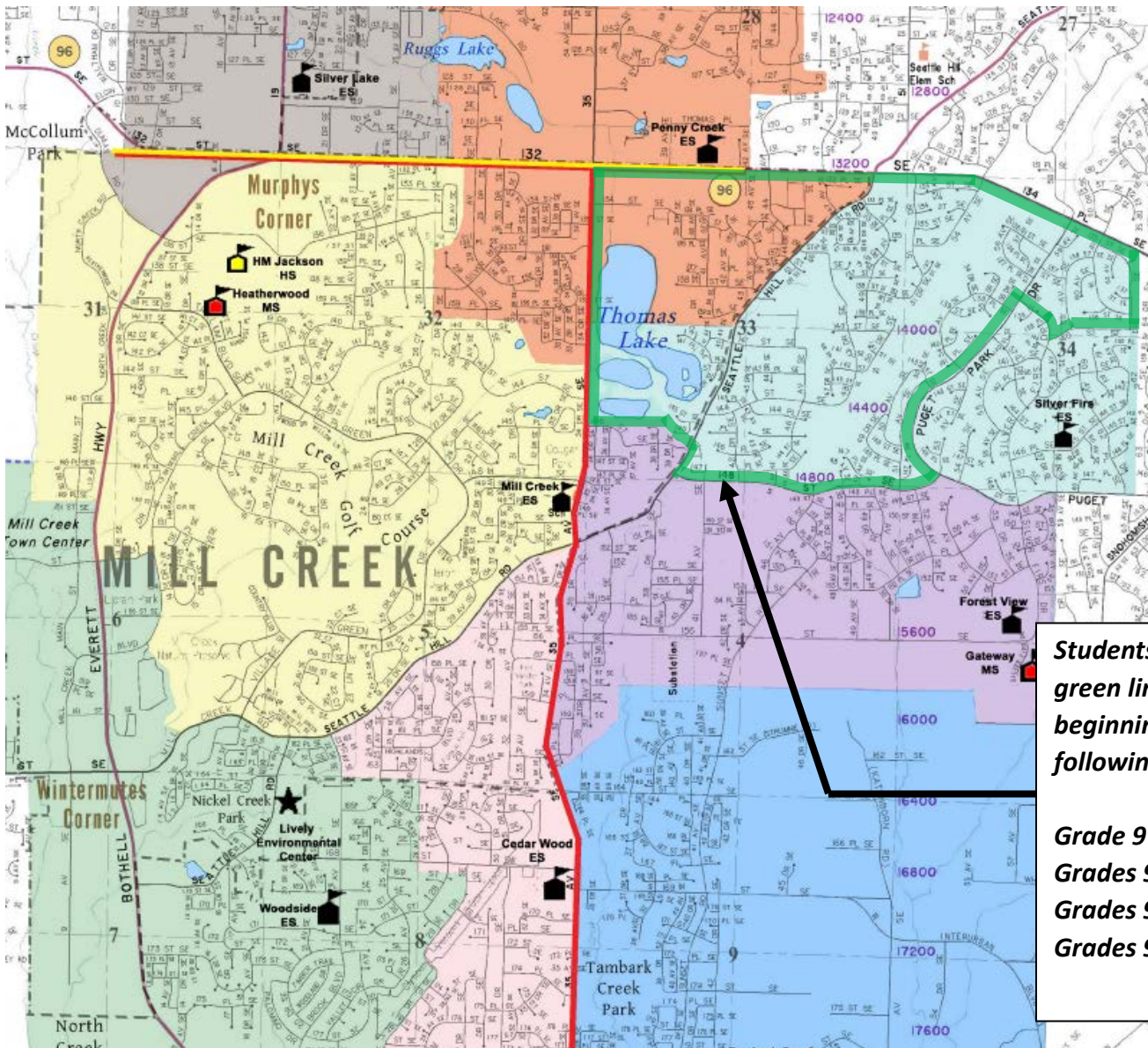
- This boundary recommendation increases the student enrollment expected at Everett HS in 2023 from 1,543 to about 1,918, an increase of about 375 students; it increases the student enrollment expected at Cascade HS from 1,952 to about 1,972, an increase of about 20 students; and it increases the number of portables needed at Cascade HS in 2023 from 5 to about 6. No portables are expected to be needed at Everett HS in 2023.
- The boundaries are recommended to be phased-in as follows
 - Move grade 9 in the first year
 - Move grades 9 -10 in the second year
 - Move grades 9 – 11 in the third year
 - Move all grades in the fourth and subsequent years
 - Use portables to support the phased implementation as needed
- The committee had the following additional suggestions for the District
 - Many community members are unaware of what programs are offered at each high school and the District should be more intentional about making this known
 - Ensure that equity of programs continues to exist across the District after boundary changes are made
 - Consider implementing other changes and programs that would reduce community and student concerns about boundary changes
 - Solicit input from students when scheduling changes are considered in the future
 - Sibling variances should be considered if they do not have too much of an impact on the recommended boundary changes

If you would like to provide comments to the superintendent for his consideration as he prepares to bring the committee's recommendation to the school board on May 21, 2019 accompanied by his advice as to adoption, amendment and adoption, or rejection, please go to our [comment form](#).



Attachment A

Recommendation for Changes to Jackson High School Boundaries from the High School Growth Mitigation Planning Committee

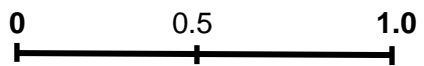


Students living in the area outlined in the green line will attend Cascade High School beginning in fall 2020 according to the following implementation schedule:

- Grade 9 in 2020*
- Grades 9 – 10 in 2021*
- Grades 9 – 11 in 2022*
- Grades 9 – 12 in 2023 and after*



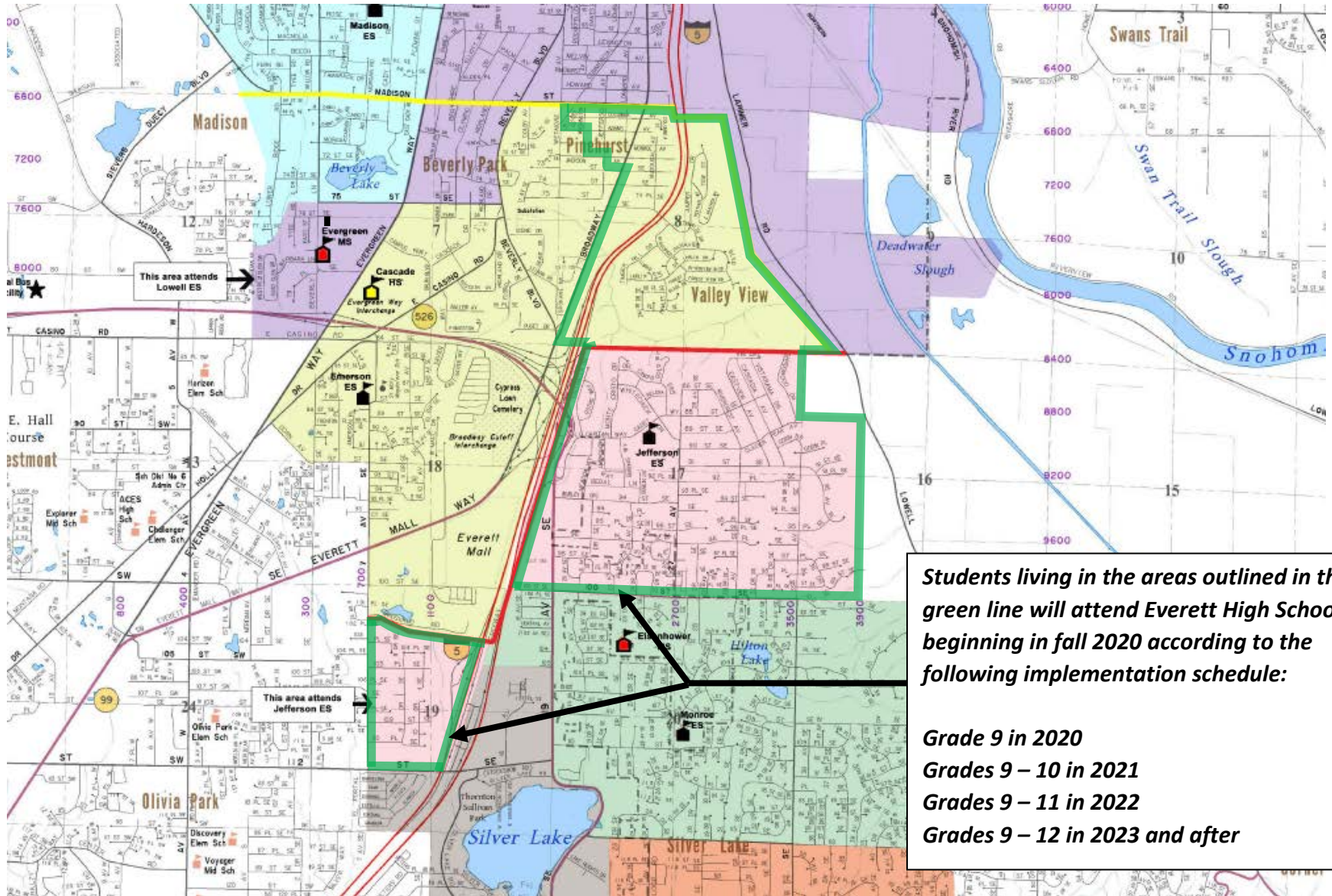
Scale in statute miles





Attachment B

Recommendation for Changes to Cascade High School Boundaries from the High School Growth Mitigation Planning Committee



Students living in the areas outlined in the green line will attend Everett High School beginning in fall 2020 according to the following implementation schedule:

- Grade 9 in 2020*
- Grades 9 – 10 in 2021*
- Grades 9 – 11 in 2022*
- Grades 9 – 12 in 2023 and after*



Scale in statute miles

