

ABOUT THE APS HIGH SCHOOL BOUNDARY REFINEMENT PROCESS

THE PRESENT CHALLENGE

According to the latest student enrollment projections, Washington-Lee High School will be 400 students above capacity by the 2020-21 school year. The objective is to gradually move students to Yorktown and Wakefield, starting with incoming 9th graders in September 2017, to balance enrollment at all three schools by September 2020. To do this, APS is soliciting feedback from the community on which planning units should be considered by the School Board to move from the Washington-Lee boundary to the other two high schools.

This boundary refinement is based on enrollment projections through the 2020. We may need to revisit high school boundaries as we prepare to add 1.300 H.S. seats in 2022.

BOUNDARY REFINEMENT

The boundary refinement is designed to balance enrollment among the three APS comprehensive high schools and better utilize available and planned instructional spaces. This is <u>not</u> a countywide boundary change.

IMPACT ON STUDENTS

Recommendations for boundary refinements will:

- NOT apply to students who are already enrolled in high school
- Take effect beginning September 2017 (next fall)
- Apply to approximately 100 current grade 8 students (members of the incoming freshman class of 2017-18) and to subsequent freshmen classes in those planning units designated for change
- Include provisions for students who have older siblings that will be enrolled concurrently at Washington-Lee, including transportation provisions for those students if needed
- Be shared as part of the information communicated to our families at this year's High School Information Night on December 12, 2016

PLANNING UNITS UNDER CONSIDERATION

The 51 planning units under consideration are those currently within the Washington-Lee boundary and are also adjacent or in close proximity to the Wakefield and Yorktown boundaries. A few planning units were included at the request of the School Board's Facility Advisory Committee. (See the accompanying map.)

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

APS will host a series of "Getting Started" community meetings to help inform families and community members about the refinement process. The same information will be presented at each "Getting Started" meeting. The four sessions will be held:

- Wed, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. in the Washington-Lee High School Cafeteria (Livestreamed)
- Sat, Oct. 15 at 10 a.m. in the Jefferson Middle School Library (Spanish presentation)
- Mon, Oct 17 at 7 p.m. in the Yorktown High School Cafeteria
- Wed, Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. in the Wakefield High School Cafeteria

An online boundary tool will be available from October 12-24, to provide community members to provide suggestions for recommended refinements to the boundaries. A paper alternative to the online tool is also available.

APS will host and livestream a "What We Heard" community meeting on Thu, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. in the Washington-Lee cafeteria to share the responses received and to gain additional input and perspectives from the community. This discussion will inform recommendations for consideration by the School Board.

Recommendations will be presented to the School Board at the Nov. 3 meeting. The Board will review the recommendations during a Work Session on November 9, and there will be a public hearing during the Nov. 15 School Board meeting. The final high school boundary refinement plan will be approved on Thu, Dec. 1 in time to share with families at the High School Information Night on Mon, Dec. 12.

ONLINE BOUNDARY TOOL

The High School Boundary Refinement Tool provides the APS community an opportunity to work with the most up to date enrollment data that will be used to inform the proposed refinements for high school boundaries in

Arlington County. An online video is available that shows how the tool works and how to submit your recommendations when you finish. Additional data is also on the Boundaries web page.

The boundary tool will allow community members to see walk zones as well as elementary and middle school boundaries to help inform their recommendations. A paper alternative to the online tool will also be available.

The Boundary Tool will be available from October 12-24 at www.apsva.us/APSboundaries.

If you have any questions regarding the tool or need further information, please contact apsboundaries@apsva.us.



