

# Fall 2020 Elementary School Boundary Process: Superintendent's Recommendation

(To take effect in August 2021)

**School Board Meeting**

**Information Item**

**November 5, 2020**

*Revised Nov. 5, 2020, 6 p.m.*



## Frequent updates throughout each engagement process on APS Engage, including:

- Links to School Board Work Session/Meetings
- Community Meeting Presentations & Recordings
- Timeline
- Maps
- Data
- Community Input

Follow processes at:

[www.apsva.us/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/](http://www.apsva.us/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/)

## Additional communications shared throughout the process via:

- School Talk Engage messages
- Social media
- School Ambassador updates
- News release

Questions? Write to: [engage@apsva.us](mailto:engage@apsva.us)

All Arlington Public Schools (APS) budget and operations decisions are based on the best information available at the time. Staff and community members are reminded that funding forecasts from Arlington County and the state may change, based on many external factors. Similarly, student enrollment and projections are based on the best available information, but are also subject to change due to employment, housing and other economic factors. For these reasons, APS and the Arlington School Board may adjust future budget allocations, staffing and other operations decisions to reflect the existing community and operating landscape.

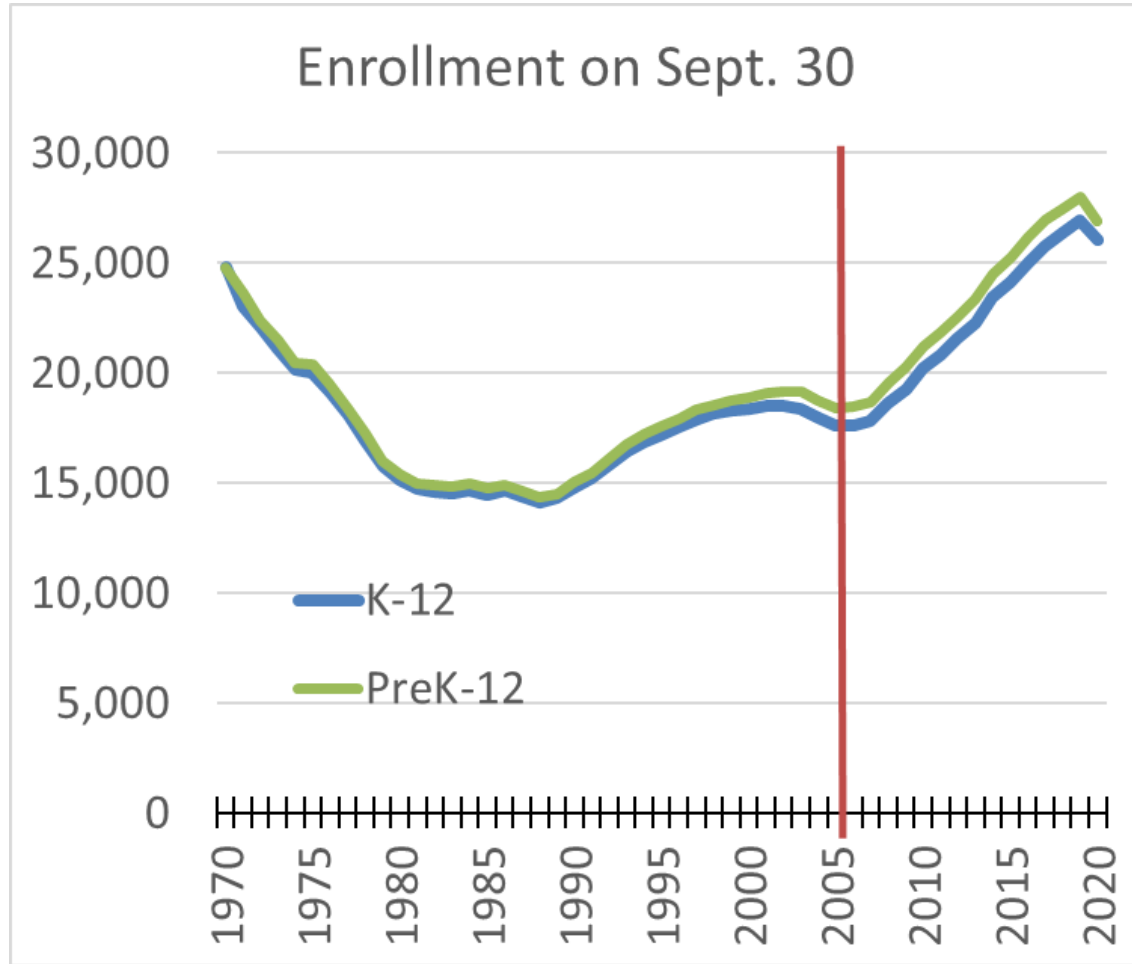
- APS Planning
- Fall 2020 Boundary Process
- Community Engagement
- Community Input
- Superintendent's Recommendation
- Timeline and Next Steps
- Nov. 12 School Board Work Session Agenda
- Questions

# APS Planning



## Managing Enrollment

- APS undertakes planning initiatives to meet projected capacity needs so all students can learn and thrive in safe, healthy and supportive learning environments
- We use all available tools to ensure APS capacity can meet growing enrollment at all levels, including:
  - Relocatables, CIP/construction, policy, school moves, countywide program moves, boundary adjustments
- As enrollment has grown, APS has faced an imbalance across the county between where elementary school students live and where APS has neighborhood school capacity



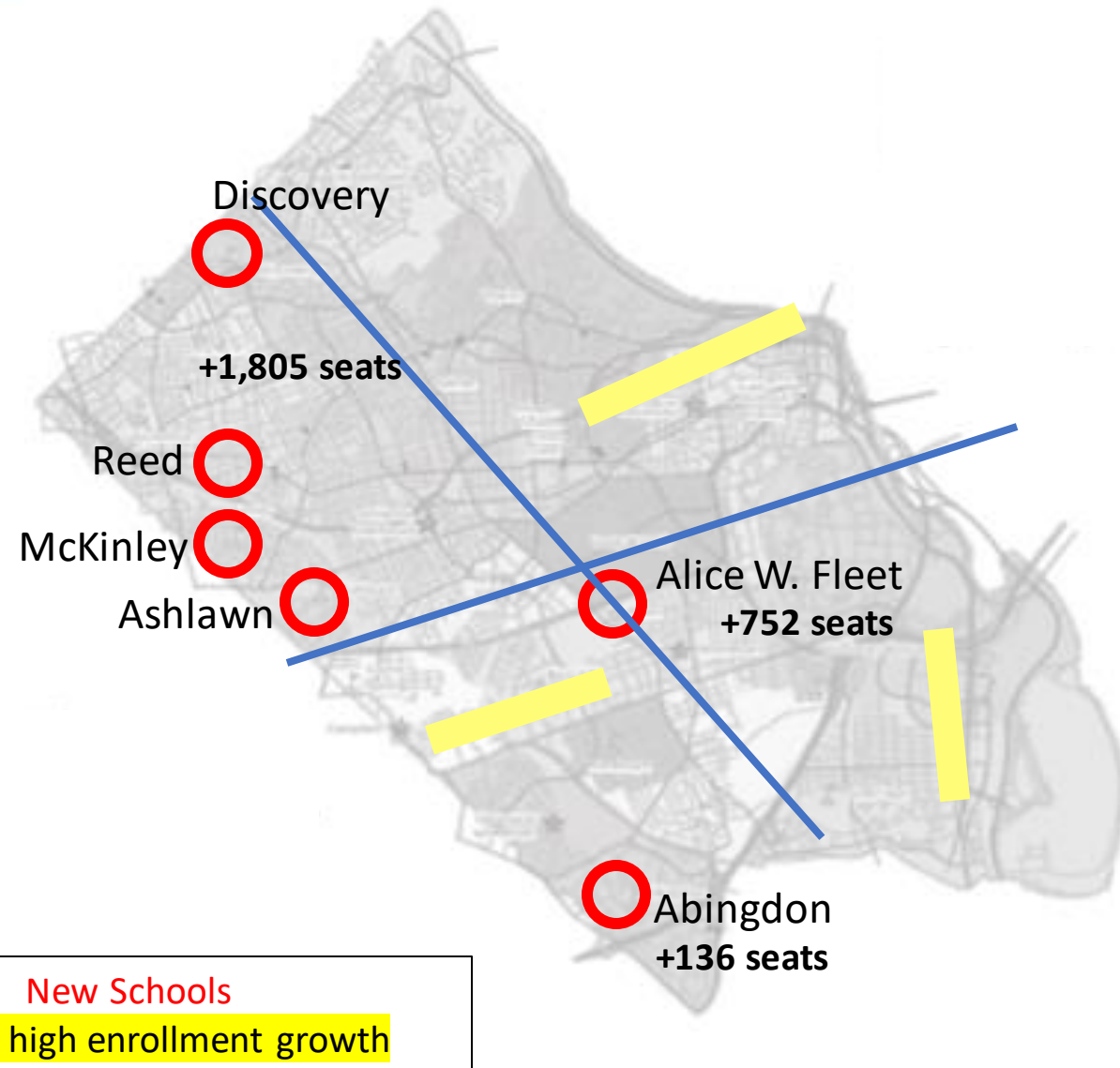
## APS History

- Enrollment has been on the rise since 2006
- By 2009, it became a priority for APS to address enrollment growth
- Capital projects are long-term projects to build more capacity

**Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)** projects had to add elementary school capacity quickly at sites that could be developed; enrollment continues to grow along transportation corridors.

## Elementary CIP Projects have included:

- 2014 – Addition to Ashlawn
- 2015 – New Elementary School: Discovery
- 2017 – Addition to McKinley
- 2017 – Addition to Abingdon
- 2019 – New Elementary School: Alice West Fleet
- 2021 - Opening of Reed site



## Reed Site

- The previous Capital Improvement Plan project at Reed was planned before rapid enrollment growth
- APS had to demolish the new building for the Children's School and rebuild from the ground up to repurpose the site as an elementary school
- The 2017 School Board charge for Reed Building Level Planning Committee (BLPC) designated the Reed site as a neighborhood elementary school and the BLPC process featured opportunities for students in the surrounding neighborhoods to walk to the school
- The school moves adopted by the School Board in Feb. 2020 identified Reed as a highly walkable neighborhood school
- APS is taking incremental steps in the direction of increasing walking at the Reed site
  - In Superintendent's recommendation, 350+ McKinley students are in Reed walk zone
  - Focus in next boundary process (tentatively 2022) will be on policy considerations and efficiencies:
    - Additional walkable planning units to Reed will be considered for reassignment to the school
    - All planning units that require transportation to their neighborhood school will be considered for reassignment to a different nearby school with capacity





## Non-Capital Planning Processes for Elementary Schools

- **2018 Boundary Process**
  - Boundary adjustments to create attendance zone for Fleet
  - Focused process to allow flexibility for broader process in 2020
- **2020 School Moves**
  - School Board adopted proposal to move three schools concurrent with opening of a new school at Reed site
  - Vital to APS efforts to address imbalance of capacity in NW Arlington and growth in other parts of the county
- **2020 Boundary Process**
  - Initially planned to address all neighborhood elementary schools
  - Due to the pandemic, scope was narrowed to keep PU reassignments to a minimum
  - Focus is on creating attendance zones for 2021 opening of new neighborhood elementary school at Key site and placing ASFS in its attendance zone
- **(Tentative) 2022 Boundary Process**
  - Focus will be on boundary policy and efficiencies
  - Seek to provide longer term relief for schools experiencing significant overcapacity
  - Any Planning Unit that remains with current school community in 2020 process could be considered for reassignment in the next process



## Nov. 12 Work Session: Steps for Managing 2021-22 Elementary School Enrollment

Review steps in Annual Update to address elementary schools that are not part of this 2020 boundary process

### Schools that are not part of this 2020 boundary process include:

Neighborhood Schools		Option Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abingdon</li> <li>• Alice West Fleet</li> <li>• Barcroft</li> <li>• Barrett</li> <li>• Carlin Springs</li> <li>• Discovery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Charles Drew</li> <li>• Hoffman-Boston</li> <li>• Jamestown</li> <li>• Nottingham</li> <li>• Oakridge</li> <li>• Randolph</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ATS</li> <li>• Campbell EL</li> <li>• Claremont Immersion</li> <li>• Key Immersion</li> <li>• Montessori Public School of Arlington</li> </ul>

**Note:** The Superintendent will implement an enrollment reduction plan for Abingdon Elementary School that takes effect in the 2021-22 school year



## Nov. 12 Work Session: Steps for Managing 2021-22 Elementary School Enrollment

### Short-Term Tools

- Adding relocatable classrooms
- Changing how some classrooms are being used
- Moving, or postponing moves, for PreK and/or Countywide special education programs
- Offering transfers to nearby neighborhood schools that have space for additional students (targeted transfers)
- Increasing or decreasing the number of students or classes accepted via the admissions lottery at each of the option schools/programs

### Long-Term Tools

- Boundary process within the next two years
- Instructional planning via the IPP (instructional visioning framework)
- Capital Improvement Plan (CIP): seeking creative ways to add elementary school capacity on the western end of Columbia Pike as the FY 2022 CIP is developed this year

# Fall 2020 Boundary Process

## Boundary Policy B-2.1

Boundary changes may be considered upon the recommendation of the Superintendent when the Superintendent determines that one or more of the following conditions is met and other measures are less feasible or less desirable:

1. A school building's projected enrollment is expected to be significantly over capacity across the projections.
2. Capital expansion to relieve overcrowding is not feasible and would not address the needs.
3. An insufficient number of students is enrolled or projected to be enrolled to allow cost effective operation of a school.
4. A new school building is planned for construction.
5. There are other administrative, cost-efficiency or service advantages to making such a change



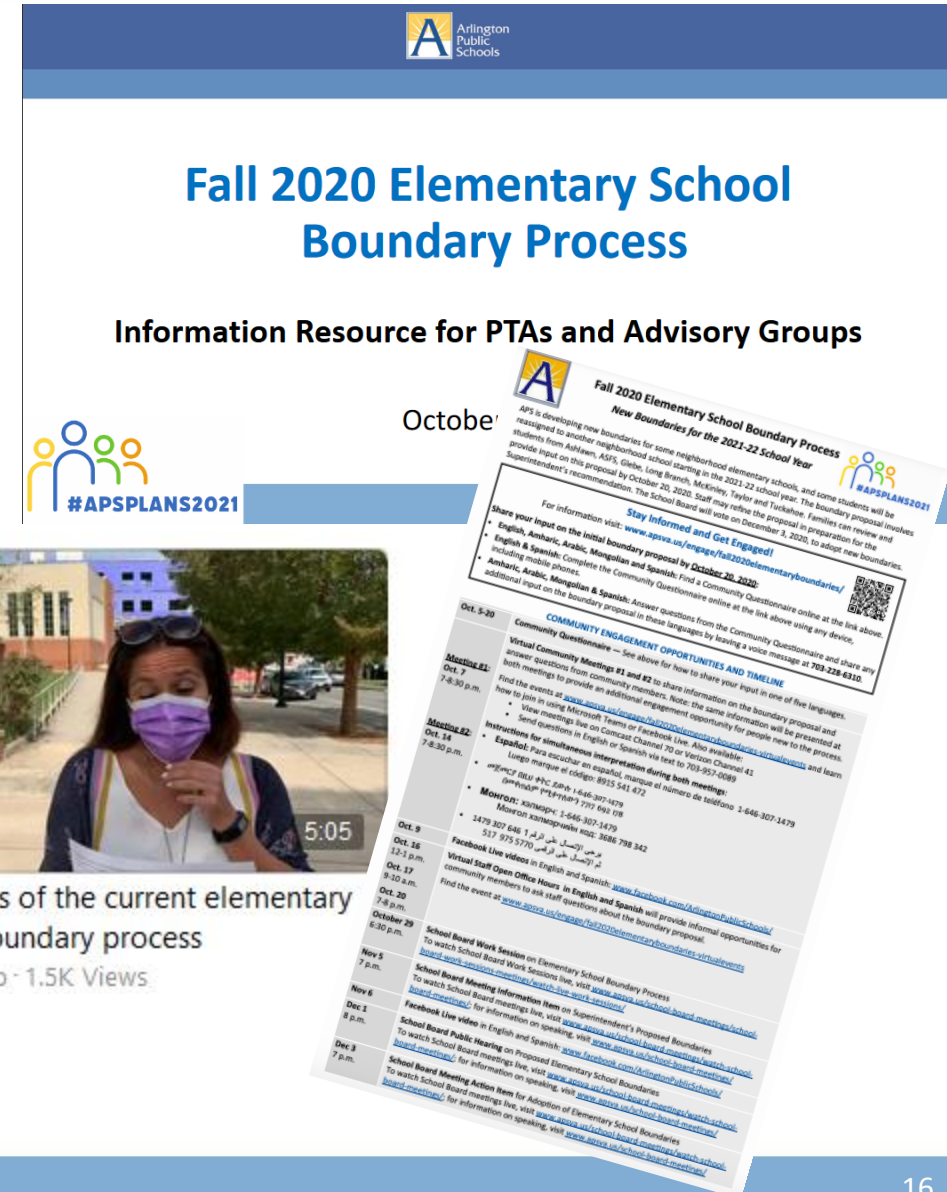
## Impact of Pandemic on this Process

- Construction of the building at the Reed site is on track and is expected to open on time for the 2021-22 school year
- APS narrowed the focus of this boundary process to make only changes needed as a result of the Fall 2021 opening of a new neighborhood school at the Key site and the construction of a new building at the Reed site
- Superintendent's boundary recommendation makes minimal adjustments needed for 2021-22 boundaries and preserves flexibility for a broader, countywide boundary process as soon as 2022 (tentative)
- Impact of pandemic on APS enrollment and projections to be discussed at Nov. 12 School Board Work Session

# Community Engagement

## Both Spring and Fall 2020 Processes

- Aligned with engagement recommendations from County Council of PTA (CCPTA), taking a countywide perspective to share information and encourage discussion across the system
- Information shared online at APS Engage, at virtual meetings, and at APS meal sites
- Use of varied communication channels and information in multiple languages
- Community input informed the final data and the Superintendent's recommendation on boundaries



**Fall 2020 Elementary School Boundary Process**  
Information Resource for PTAs and Advisory Groups

October

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND TIMELINE**

Oct 5-20	Community Questionnaire – Get above for how to share your input in one of five languages. Answer questions from community members. Note: the same information will be presented at both meetings to provide an additional engagement opportunity for people new to the process.
Meeting #1: Oct 7 7:8-9:30 p.m.	Find the events at <a href="https://www.apsva.us/en/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/">www.apsva.us/en/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/</a> how to join in using Microsoft Teams or Facebook Live. Also available: • View meetings live on Comcast Channel 10 or Verizon Channel 41 • Large map and an Arabic, Mongolian and Spanish: Find a Community Questionnaire and share any additional input on the boundary proposal in these languages by leaving a voice message at 703-528-6310.
Meeting #2: Oct 14 7:8-9:30 p.m.	Instructions for simultaneous interpretation during both meetings: • English: 1-646-307-1479 • Spanish: 1-646-307-1479 • Arabic: 1-646-307-1479 • Mongolian: 1-646-307-1479
Oct 9	Facebook Live videos in English and Spanish: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/ArlingtonPublicSchools/">www.facebook.com/ArlingtonPublicSchools/</a>
Oct 16 12-1 p.m.	Virtual Staff Open Office Hours in English and Spanish will provide informal opportunities for community members to ask staff questions about the boundary proposal.
Oct 17 9-10 a.m.	Find the event at <a href="https://www.apsva.us/en/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/virtualopenoffice/">www.apsva.us/en/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/virtualopenoffice/</a>
Oct 20 7-8 p.m.	School Board Work Session on Elementary School Boundary Process To watch School Board Work Session live, visit <a href="https://www.apsva.us/en/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/school-board-work-session/">www.apsva.us/en/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/school-board-work-session/</a>
Nov 5 7 p.m.	School Board Meeting Information Item on Superintendent's Proposed Boundaries To watch School Board meetings live, visit <a href="https://www.apsva.us/en/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/school-board-meeting/">www.apsva.us/en/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/school-board-meeting/</a> for information on speaking.
Nov 6 8 p.m.	Facebook Live video in English and Spanish: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/ArlingtonPublicSchools/">www.facebook.com/ArlingtonPublicSchools/</a>
Oct 1 8 p.m.	School Board Public Hearing on Proposed Elementary School Boundaries To watch School Board meetings live, visit <a href="https://www.apsva.us/en/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/school-board-meeting/">www.apsva.us/en/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/school-board-meeting/</a> for information on speaking.
Dec 3 7 p.m.	School Board Meeting Action Item for Addition of Elementary School Boundaries To watch School Board meetings live, visit <a href="https://www.apsva.us/en/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/school-board-meeting/">www.apsva.us/en/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/school-board-meeting/</a> for information on speaking.

Highlights of the current elementary school boundary process  
a week ago · 1.5K Views



## Both Spring and Fall 2020 Processes

- APS Engage Web page: [www.apsva.us/engage](http://www.apsva.us/engage)
  - Timeline and engagement opportunities
  - Live virtual events and recordings
  - Data table, data analysis, and (in Fall) boundary proposals
  - FAQs and Information resources
- Virtual Community Meetings (with interpretation) and Staff Open Office Hours
- School Talk Engage messages, press release, APS School Ambassador weekly updates, Friday 5
- Community Questionnaires (in five languages)
- Social media posts, including Facebook Live video sessions
- Email messages received via [engage@apsva.us](mailto:engage@apsva.us)



## Additional Outreach in Fall Boundary Process

- Virtual meeting with elementary school PTA Presidents & Ambassadors, and advisory group representatives
  - Brief presentations for PTAs and advisory groups to share with families
  - Handout in five languages available to PTAs and at all APS meal sites
- Presentation to elementary school Bilingual Family Resource Liaisons and materials for them to share information with families
- Text message in English and Spanish to all families at all elementary schools involved to encourage participation in Community Questionnaire
- Multilingual voicemail system for input on initial boundary proposal
- Information shared with AHC and in person with Woodbury Park residents
- WhatsApp message to Spanish-speaking families about process and questionnaire



# Community Engagement: Participation

Activity	Spring 2020	Fall 2020 (metrics Sept 1-Nov 2)
Total visitors to elementary school boundary APS Engage webpages	2,520	19,600
Facebook Live videos in English and Spanish	3,900 views	2,500 views
Participation and views at virtual sessions with staff	280	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 700 participants &amp; views</li> <li>• Facebook reach: 10,000 views</li> </ul>
Community Questionnaire responses	655	1,210
Engage email messages on this initiative	25	330
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) posted	10	25
Number of Woodbury Park residents who staff spoke with on Oct. 15	—	About 20 (including 12 Key families)

# Community Input

## Input on Process

- Timing of this boundary process—possibility of delaying this during the pandemic and doing a more comprehensive process later
- Leaving the school populations as they are today and conducting a boundary process in Fall 2022 or later
- Consider grandfathering
- Middle school alignment
- The reassignment of Planning Units (PU) in multiple boundary processes
- Impact of proposal on school demographics
- Concerns over specific PU walk zone information

## Input on Capacity

- School enrollment above or below building capacity
- The use of relocatables and concerns about shared spaces (i.e. cafeteria, outdoor play space, etc.)
- Proposed reassignment of specific planning units
- Facility considerations (social distancing and HVAC)

## Input on Enrollment Data and Projections

- Accuracy of projections and impact of current enrollment on projections
- Specific future housing developments
- Impact of COVID on projections

Find Input and FAQs at [www.apsva.us/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/](http://www.apsva.us/engage/fall2020elementaryboundaries/)

(includes FAQs for schools that are not part of this boundary process)

# Superintendent's Recommendation

## The Superintendent's recommendation does the following:

- Involves six schools (ASFS, Ashlawn, McKinley, Taylor, Tuckahoe, and new school at Key site)
- Reassigns 22 Planning Units and 800+ students (projections for 2021) to another neighborhood school
- Adds 600 additional walkers across the schools involved

## The Superintendent's recommendation achieves these objectives:

- Creates a new attendance zone for new neighborhood elementary school at the Key site and an adjusted attendance zone for most of McKinley in the new building at Reed
- Places all schools within their attendance zones
- Brings enrollment to manageable levels at ASFS, Ashlawn, McKinley and Taylor
- Preserves flexibility for broader countywide process in 2022 (tentative)
- Allows for instructional visioning and FY 2022 CIP to be used as guidance in next process

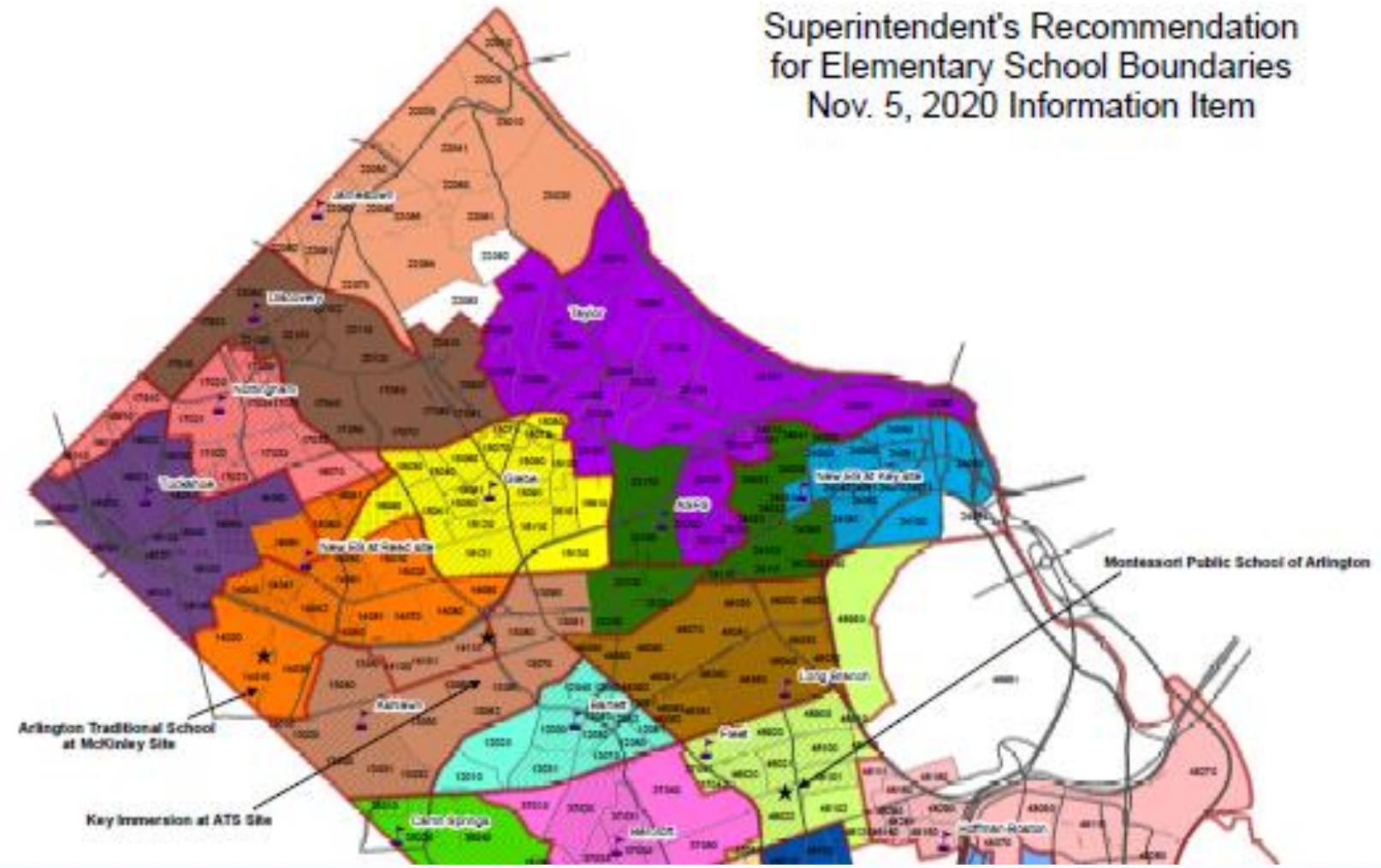


Policy Considerations	Superintendent's Recommendation
<p><b>Alignment</b> – Reassigned planning units or clusters of planning units that had:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24 or more students, or</li> <li>• if less than 24 students, when they were in closer proximity or aligned with middle/high school cohorts</li> </ul>	Yes
<p><b>Stability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not moving Planning Units that were reassigned in 2018 boundary process</li> </ul>	Yes
<p><b>Demographics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moving F/RL rate for schools towards the countywide average</li> </ul>	Yes, at New ES @ Key & Ashlawn but not at other schools
<p><b>Proximity &amp; Efficiency</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing the proportion of students who live in the walk zone for the neighborhood school they are assigned</li> <li>• Reducing the distances for bus riders</li> <li>• Bring enrollment to more manageable levels</li> </ul>	Yes
<p><b>Contiguity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining attendance zones that are contiguous</li> <li>• Containing the school to which students are assigned</li> </ul>	Yes

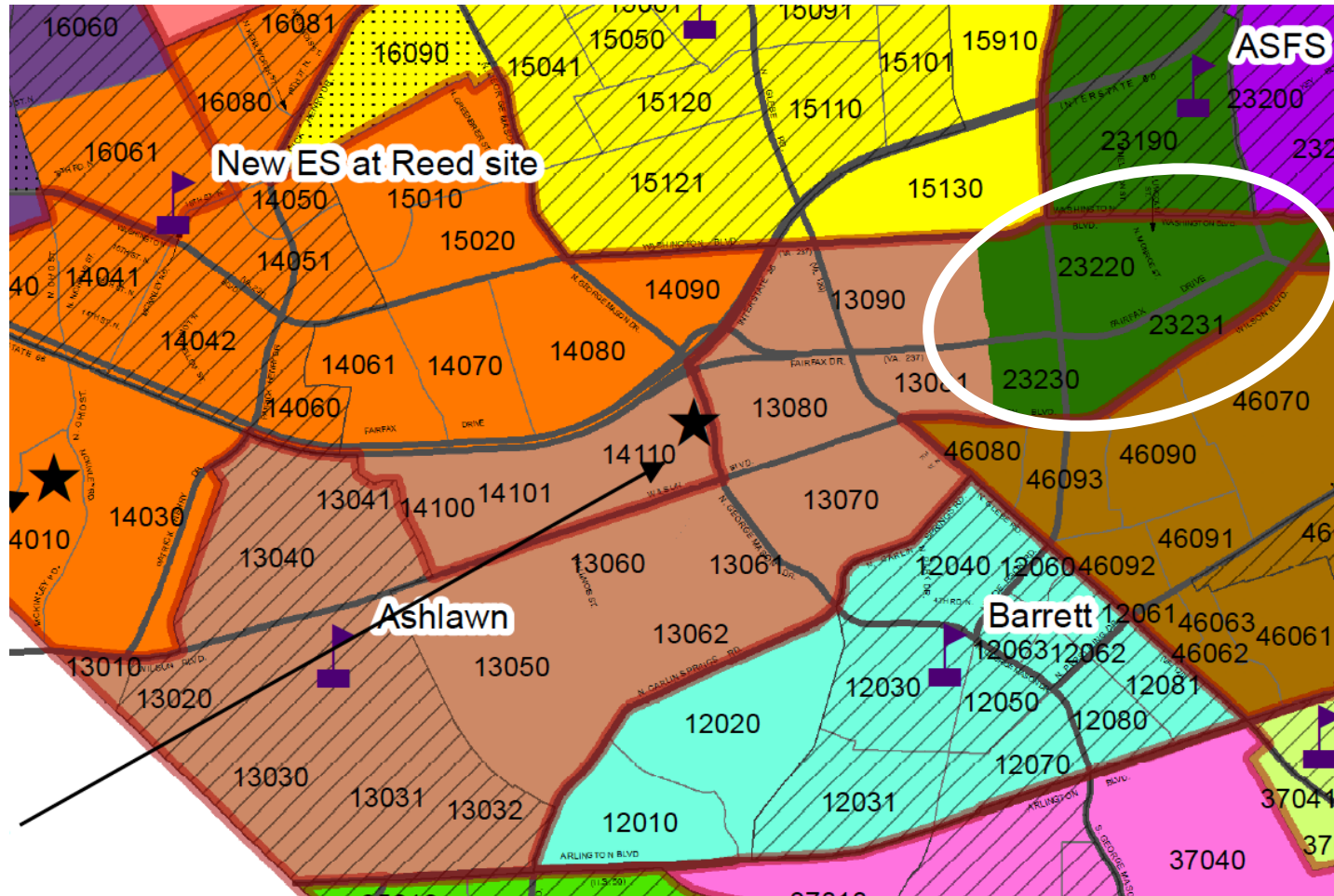
# Superintendent's Recommendation

## Fall 2020 Elementary School Boundary Process

Superintendent's Recommendation  
for Elementary School Boundaries  
Nov. 5, 2020 Information Item



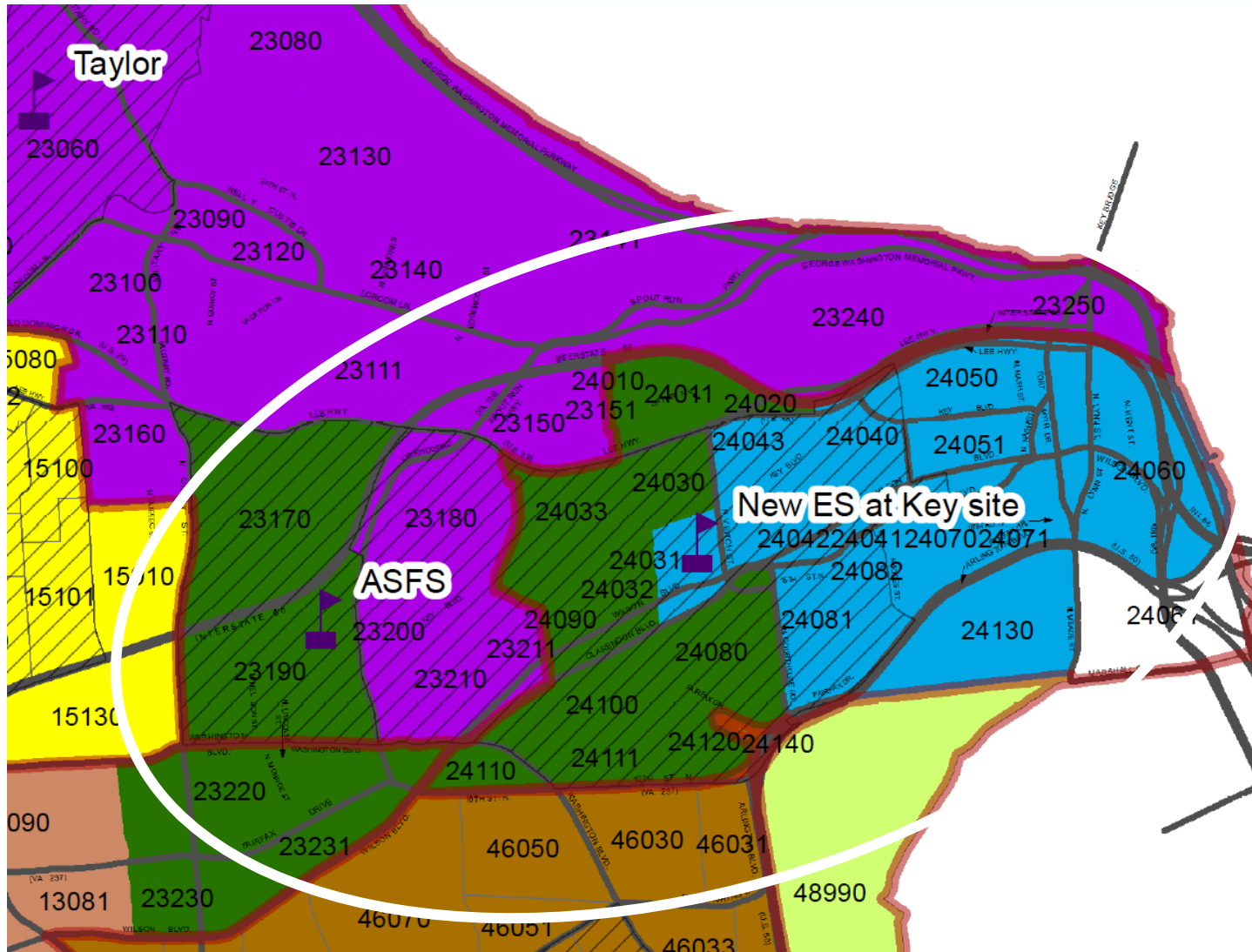
# Superintendent's Recommendation: Ashlawn



PU	Projected # of students (2021)	Current School	Superintendent's Recommendation
23220	21	Ashlawn	ASFS
23230	69	Ashlawn	ASFS
23231	52	Ashlawn	ASFS

Free/Reduced Lunch Rate	2019	Superintendent's Recommended Boundaries
Ashlawn	14%	16%

# Superintendent's Recommendation: Arlington Science Focus School

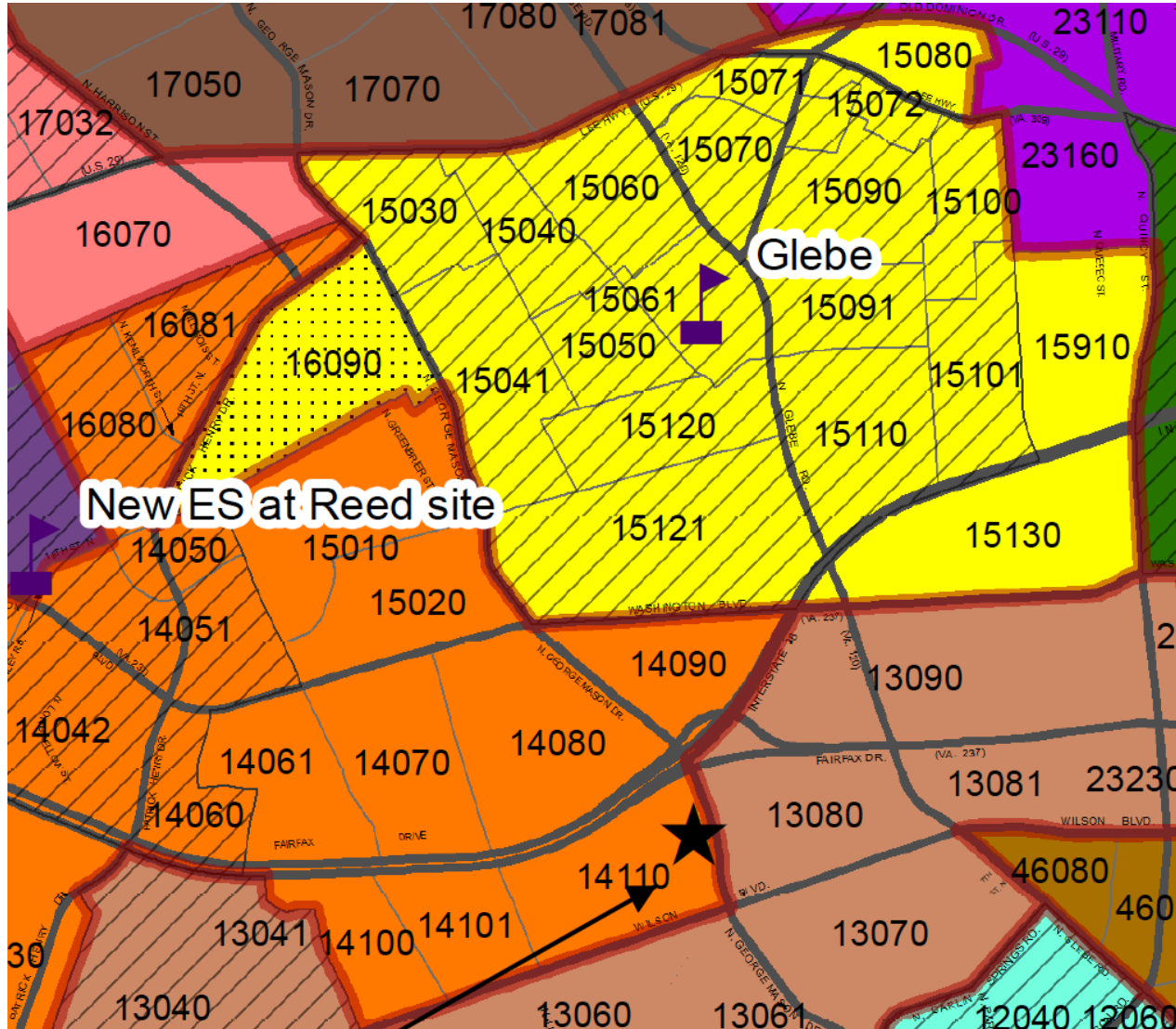


PU	Projected # of students (2021)	Current School	Superintendent's Recommendation
24060, 24050, 24051, 24070, 24071, 24130, 24081, 24082, 24042, 24041, 24043, 24040, 24031	521 Total	ASFS	New ES at Key

Free/Reduced Lunch Rate	2019	Superintendent's Recommended Boundaries
ASFS	20%	7%*

\*The F/RL rate will go back to 20% in 2023 when the American Legion development is completed (Located in PU 23190)



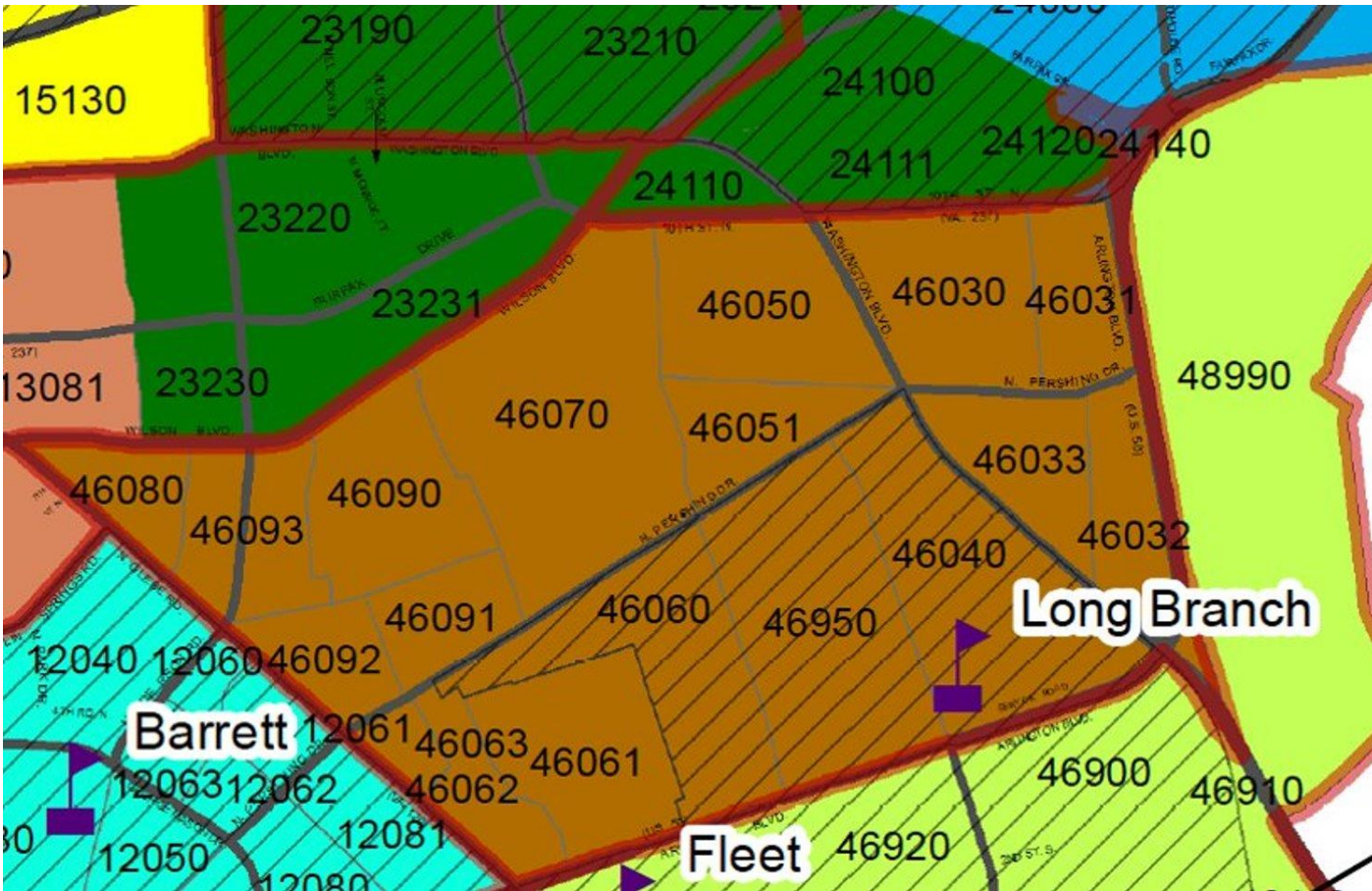


## No Boundary Change

(School was in the initial boundary proposal but is not included in the Superintendent's recommendation)

Free/Reduced Lunch Rate	2019
Glebe	15%

# Superintendent's Recommendation: Long Branch



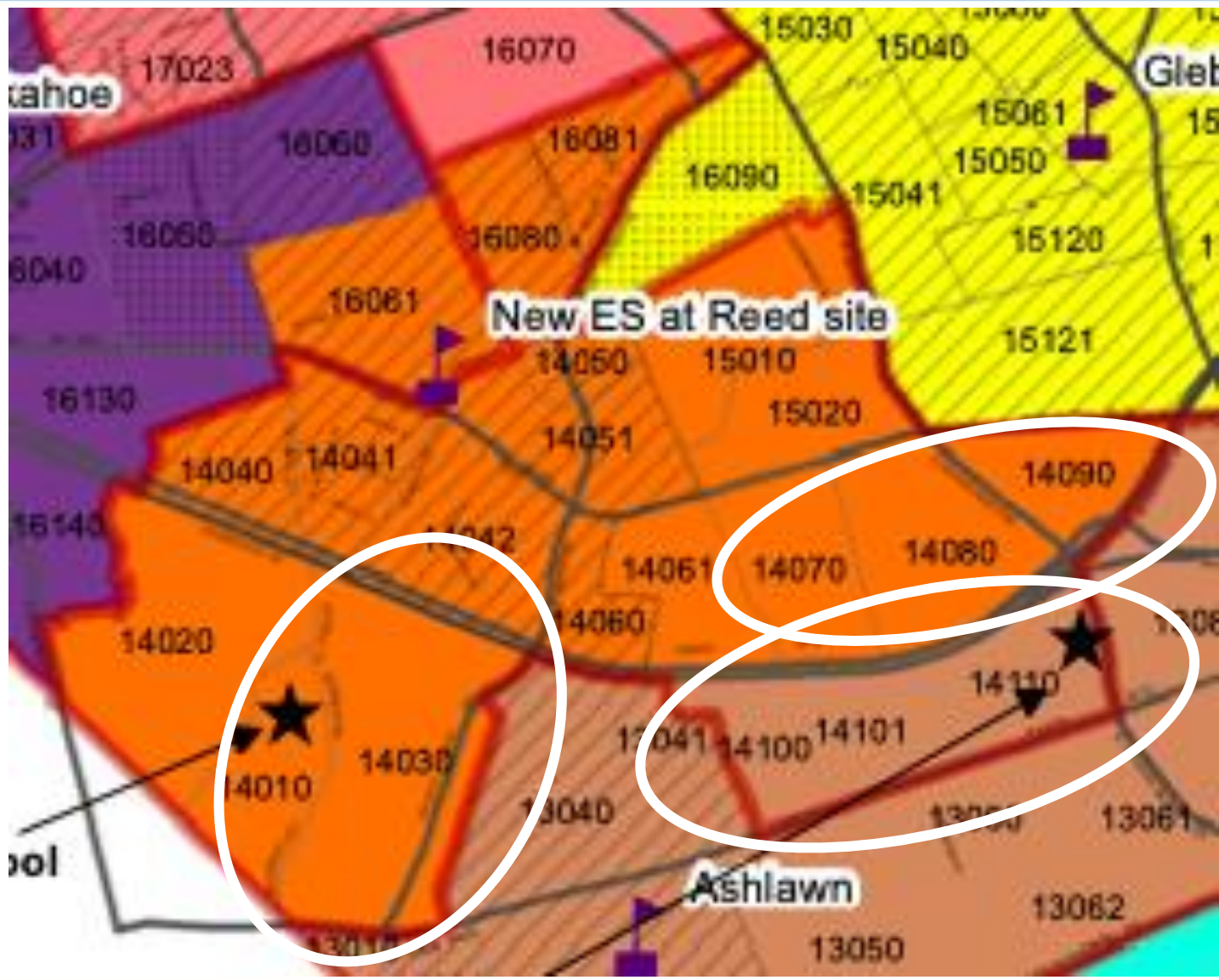
## No Boundary Change

(School was in the initial boundary proposal but is not included in the Superintendent's recommendation)

Free/Reduced Lunch Rate	Current School
Long Branch	31%



# Superintendent's Recommendation: McKinley



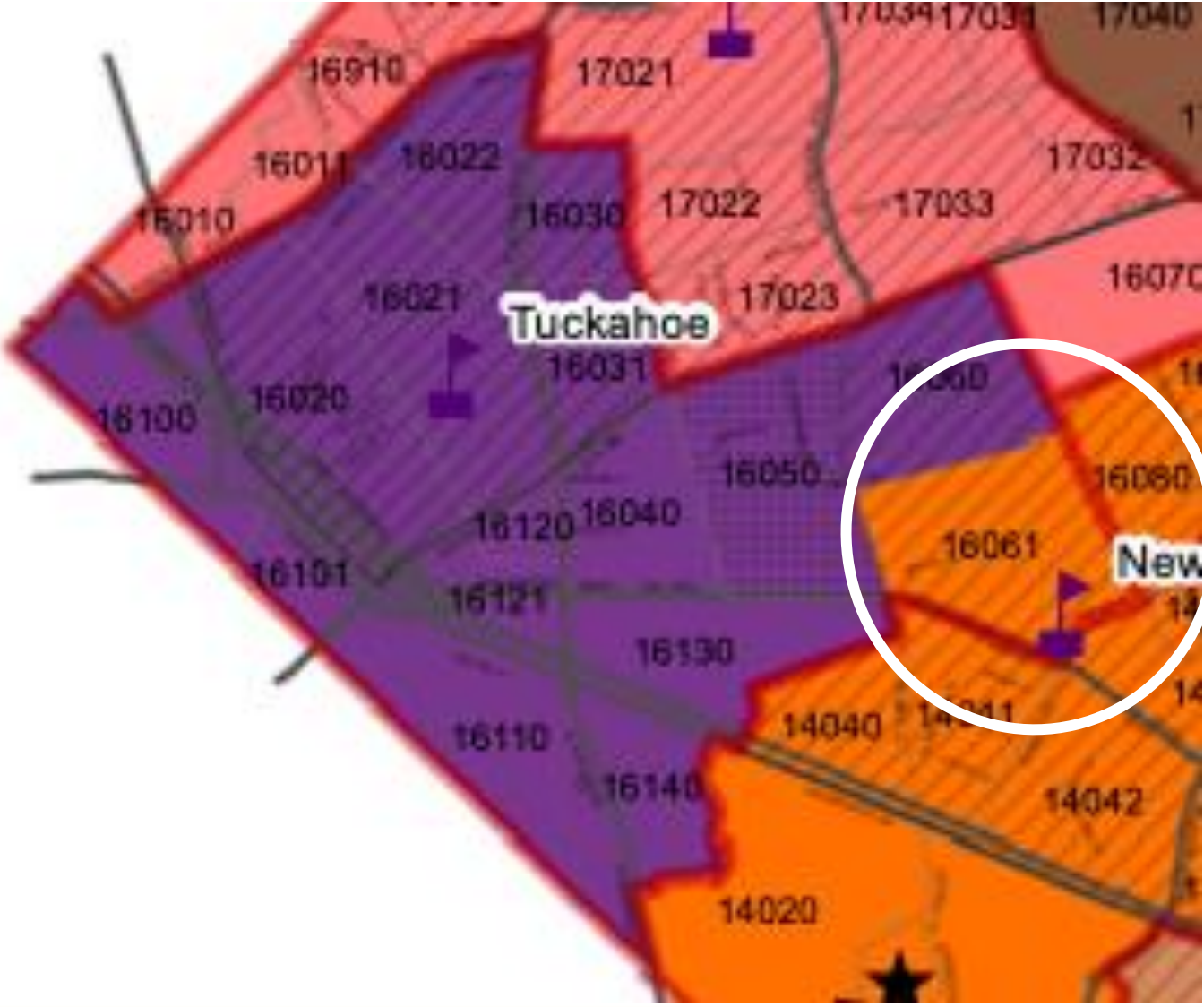
PU	Projected # of students (2021)	Current School	Superintendent's Recommendation
14030	108	McKinley	Continues with McKinley at Reed
14100 14101 14110	20 8 23	McKinley	Ashlawn
14070 14080 14090	35 35 13	McKinley	Continues with McKinley at Reed

Free/Reduced Lunch Rate	2019	Superintendent's Recommended Boundaries
McKinley	9%	8%





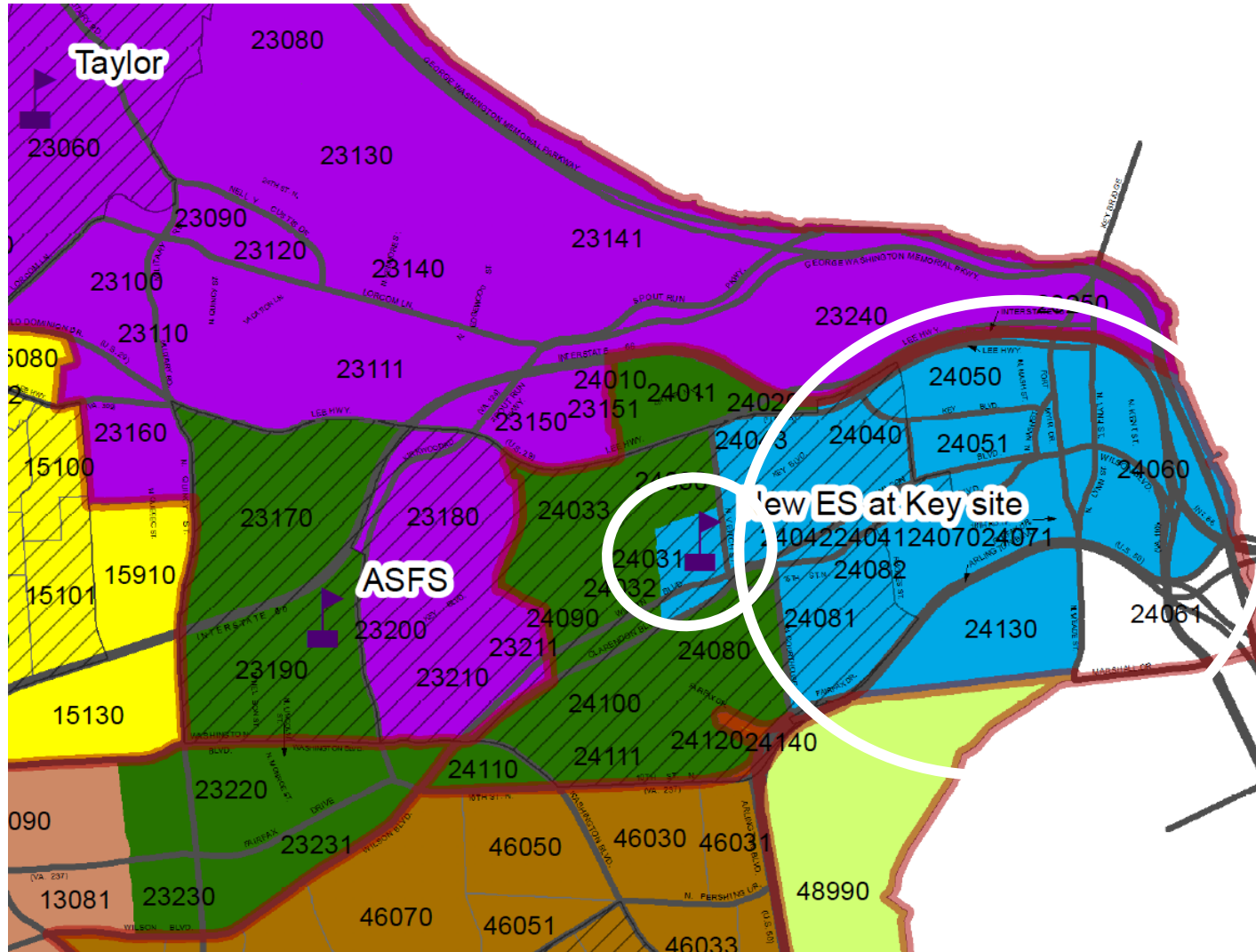
# Superintendent's Recommendation: Tuckahoe



PU	Projected # of students (2021)	Current School	Superintendent's Recommendation
16061	52	Tuckahoe	New building at Reed, with most of McKinley

Free/Reduced Lunch Rate	2019	Superintendent's Recommended Boundaries
Tuckahoe	1%	1%

# Superintendent's Recommendation: New School at Key Site



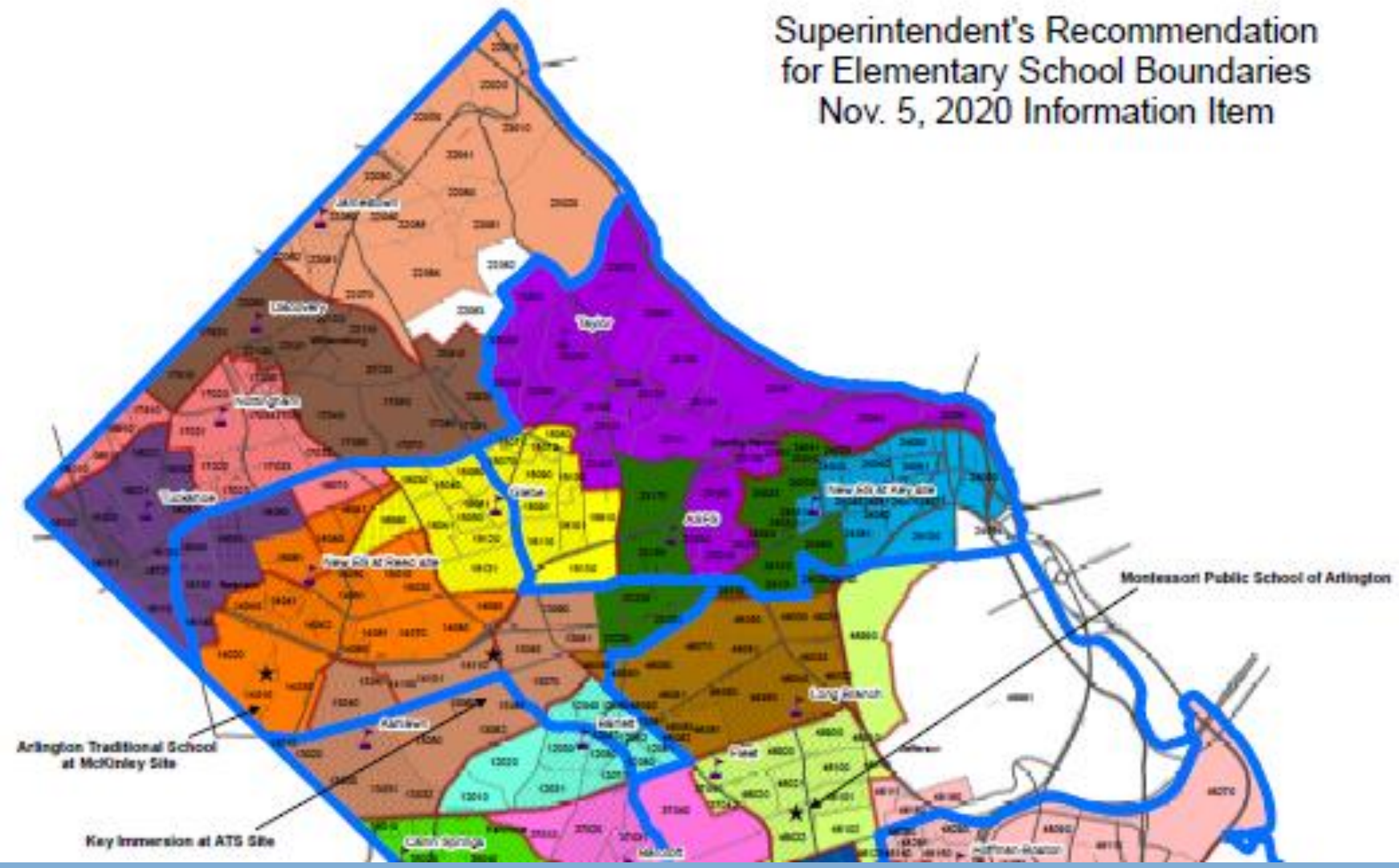
PU	Projected # of students (2021)	Current School	Superintendent's Recommendation
24060	521 Total	ASFS	New neighborhood school at Key site
24050			
24051			
24070			
24071			
24130			
24081			
24082			
24042			
24041			
24043			
24040			
24031			

Free/Reduced Lunch Rate	2019	Superintendent's Recommended Boundaries
New school at Key	N/A	32%

# Middle School Alignment

## Fall 2020 Elementary School Boundary Process

Superintendent's Recommendation  
for Elementary School Boundaries  
Nov. 5, 2020 Information Item





# Middle School Alignment: Elementary School Boundary Process



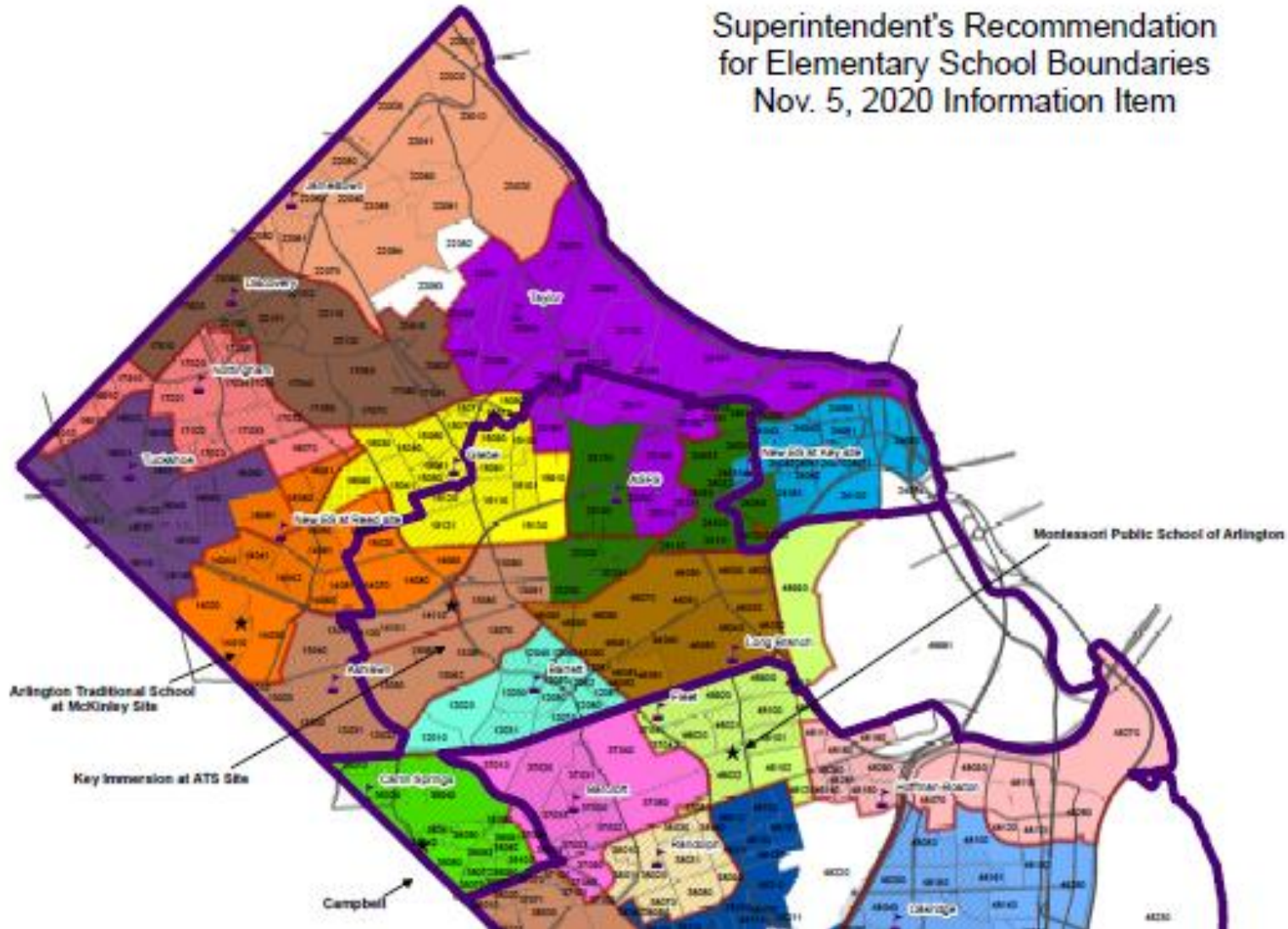
<b>PU</b>	24110 & 24120	23220, 23230, 23231
<b>Total # of Students (2021)</b>	71	142
<b>Current School</b>	ASFS	Ashlawn
<b>Superintendent's Recommendation</b>	ASFS	ASFS
<b>Middle School</b>	TJ	Swanson
<b>Alignment</b>	All other ASFS students matriculate to Hamm	All other ASFS students matriculate to Hamm

\*2020 Elementary School Boundary process will inform the 2021 Middle School Boundary Process

# High School Alignment

## Fall 2020 Elementary School Boundary Process

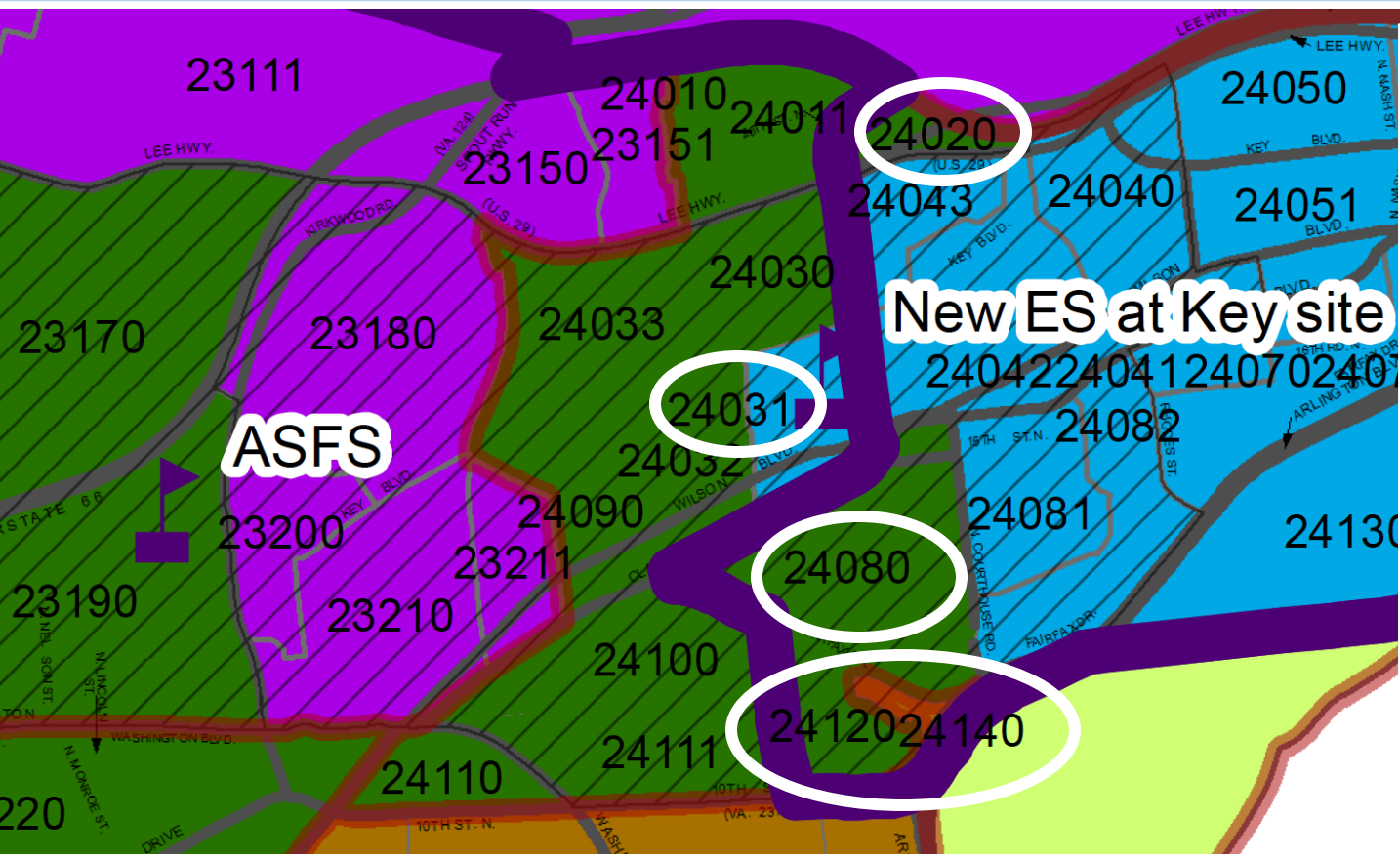
Superintendent's Recommendation  
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Nov. 5, 2020 Information Item



Legend



# High School Alignment: Elementary School Boundary Process



\*2020 Elementary School Boundary process will inform 2021 High School Boundary Process

PU	24031	24120 24080 & 24020	24140
# of Students (2021)	5	148	15
Current School	ASFS	ASFS	Long Branch
Superintendent's Recommendation	New school at Key	ASFS	Long Branch
High School	W-L	Yorktown	Yorktown
Alignment	All other students at new school at Key would matriculate to Yorktown	All other ASFS students would matriculate to W-L	All other Long Branch students matriculate to W-L

## Next Elementary School Boundary Process

- Conduct a broader countywide boundary process to take place in 2022 (tentative)
  - APS will seek to avoid reassigning the Planning Units (PU) that are reassigned in the 2020 process
  - Any PU that is not reassigned to a different school in this current process could be considered for reassignment in the next process
  - All PUs currently zoned to McKinley that will continue at the Reed site could be reassigned in the next boundary process; these PUs are not designated as “reassigned” PUs in this 2020 process
- Manage enrollment to provide relief at schools that are over capacity

## Number of students reassigned

Based on Sept. 30, 2020 enrollment and possible grandfathering

Current School	Reassigned to	No. of Students in 2021-22		
		Grade 4	Grades K-3	Total
ASFS	New ES at Key	51	235	286
Ashlawn	ASFS	19	63	82
McKinley	Ashlawn	7	27	34
Taylor	ASFS	4	47	51
Tuckahoe	McKinley at Reed	12	34	46

**For discussion at Nov. 12 Work Session**

**This proposal**

- is not recommending grandfathering of students.
- does NOT recommend transportation for grandfathered students.



# Timeline and Next Steps

- Community can continue to share input with staff via [engage@apsva.us](mailto:engage@apsva.us)
- **Tonight:** Superintendent's recommendation presented to School Board
- **NEW—Nov. 12** (6 p.m.): School Board Work Session on Elementary School Boundaries: Steps for managing 2021-22 elementary school enrollment
- **Dec. 1** (7:30 p.m.): School Board Public Hearing on Elementary School Boundaries
- **Dec. 3** (7 p.m.): School Board **adoption** of new boundaries for 2021-22
- **Jan. 25, 2021:** Virtual Kindergarten Information Night for 2021-22

Nov. 12 Work Session (6 p.m.) can be viewed live online:

[www.apsva.us/school-board-meetings/school-board-work-sessions-meetings/](http://www.apsva.us/school-board-meetings/school-board-work-sessions-meetings/)

For more information:

<https://www.apsva.us/engage/fall2020/elementaryboundaries/>

## Work Session Tentative Agenda

- APS 2020 enrollment and projections
- Boundaries
  - Community input on the Superintendent's recommended boundaries
  - Options for addressing issues identified for specific planning units, 24031 and 16061
  - Considerations for grandfathering
- Managing 2021-22 enrollment at schools not in this boundary process, including plans for:
  - Reducing enrollment at:
    - Abingdon Elementary School
    - Claremont and Key (and realigning feeder school structure)
  - Increasing enrollment at:
    - Arlington Traditional (larger building)
    - Montessori Public School of Arlington
  - PreK classes
  - Aligning start times for Claremont and Key
  - Process for coordinating needed adjustments via the Annual Update
- Any Additional Items



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## Questions

# Fall 2020 Elementary School Boundary Process: Superintendent's Recommendation

(To take effect in August 2021)

**School Board Meeting**  
**Information Item**  
**November 5, 2020**