



# **Boundary Change Implementation Plan**

## *2022-2023 School Year Implementation*

***Presented: February 9, 2021***

**SUMMARY**

During the 2018-19 and 2019-20 school years, administration presented potential options for secondary boundary changes to address growing enrollment at Discovery Middle School and Davies High School. At the December 8, 2020 Board meeting, the Board adopted attendance boundary Scenario A (outlined on page 3) effective for the 2022-2023 school year and directed administration to develop a transition plan and bring it back to the Board for approval at a future Board meeting.

At the February 9, 2021 Board meeting, administration presented a boundary change implementation plan to start in the 2022-23 school year in accordance with the adopted boundaries outlined in page 3. The intent of this boundary change is twofold:

- 1) to increase enrollment at Carl Ben Eielson Middle School and South High School, allowing more usage of the capacity at those schools, and;
- 2) to create more space at Discovery Middle School and Davies High School to alleviate capacity concerns at those buildings.

This report reviews all items considered by administration for the boundary implementation process, including:

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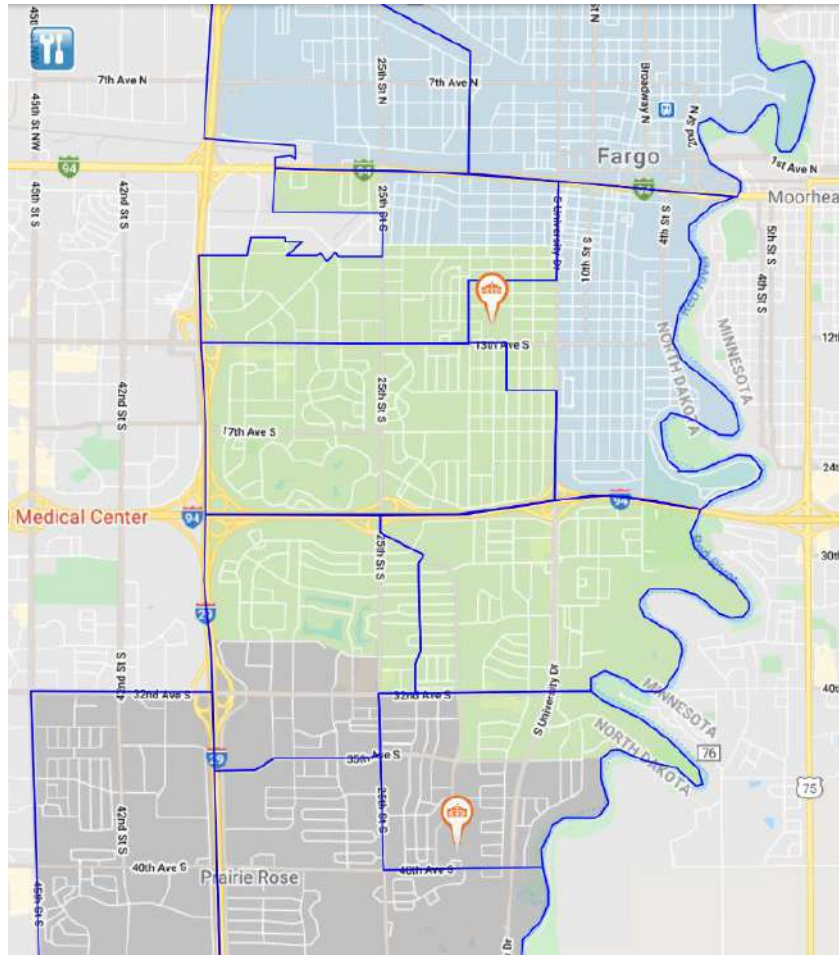
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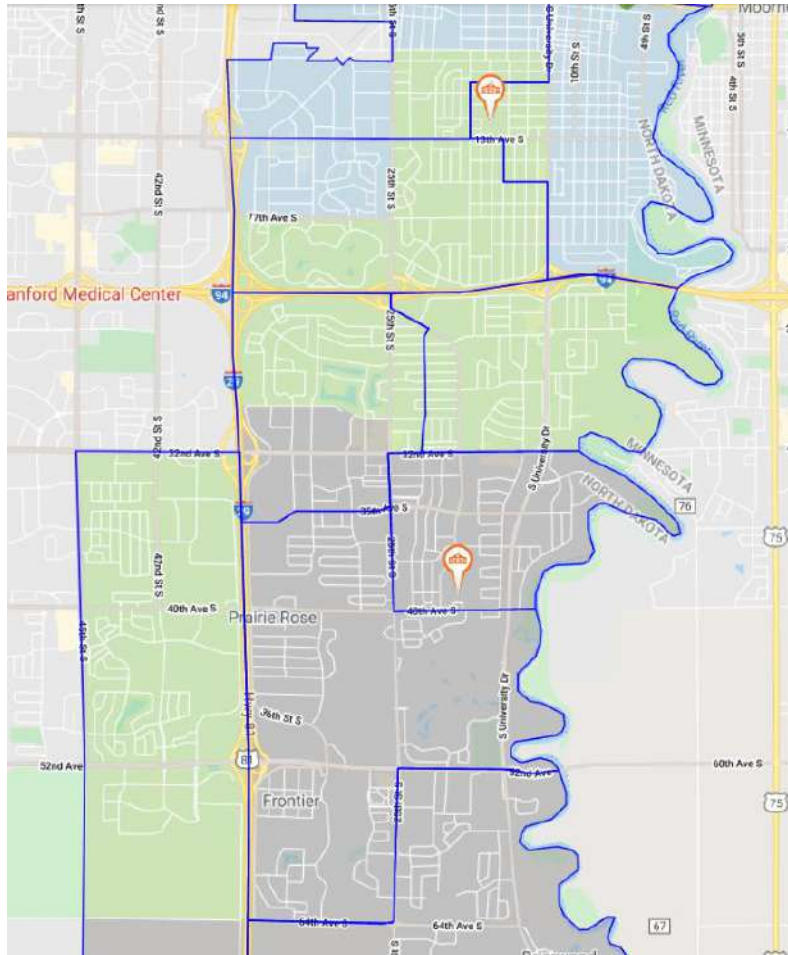
## CURRENT SECONDARY BOUNDARIES



Using 2020-21 Student data as of September 2, 2020		Ben Franklin Middle School		Carl Ben Elson Middle School		Discovery Middle School		
	Total Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Total Enrollment	2728		902		697		1129	
<b>Ethnicity</b>								
Caucasian	1933	71%	697	77%	432	62%	804	71%
African American	356	13%	52	6%	91	13%	213	19%
Hispanic	128	5%	35	6%	48	7%	25	2%
Asian	100	4%	17	2%	41	6%	42	4%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander								
Native American	82	3%	32	4%	34	5%	16	1%
Two or more	125	5%	47	5%	49	7%	29	3%
Students of Color (Calculated)	795	29%	205	23%	265	38%	325	29%
<b>ESL</b>								
Is not ELL	2528	93%	890	95%	618	89%	1050	93%
Is ELL but no Level Defined	185	7%	36	4%	75	11%	74	7%
Entering								
Beginning								
Developing								
Expanding								
<b>Special Ed</b>								
Special Ed	399	15%	135	15%	127	18%	137	12%
Non-Special Ed	2329	85%	767	85%	570	82%	992	88%
<b>Free and Reduced</b>								
Full Pay	1760	65%	587	65%	357	51%	816	72%
Free	804	29%	259	29%	291	42%	254	22%
Reduced	164	6%	56	6%	49	7%	59	5%

Using 2020-21 Student data as of September 2, 2020	Total		Davies High School		North High School		South High School	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Total Enrollment	3265		1341		1064		860	
<b>Ethnicity</b>								
Caucasian	2451	75%	1017	76%	873	82%	561	65%
African American	385	12%	200	15%	52	5%	133	15%
Hispanic	124	4%	32	2%	46	4%	46	5%
Asian	124	4%	49	4%	25	2%	60	7%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	13	0%						
Native American	86	3%	17	1%	34	3%	35	4%
Two or more	70	2%	19	1%	31	3%	20	2%
Students of Color (Calculated)	812	25%	324	24%	190	18%	298	35%
<b>ESL</b>								
Is not ELL	3060	94%	1251	93%	1041	98%	768	89%
Is ELL but no Level Defined	171	5%	80	6%	11	1%	80	9%
Entering								
Beginning	10	0%						
Developing	17	1%						
Expanding								
<b>Special Ed</b>								
Special Ed	385	12%	127	9%	128	12%	130	15%
Non-Special Ed	2880	88%	1214	91%	936	88%	730	85%
<b>Free and Reduced</b>								
Full Pay	2381	73%	1059	79%	808	76%	514	60%
Free	721	22%	217	18%	198	19%	286	33%
Reduced	163	5%	45	3%	58	5%	60	7%

## ADOPTED SECONDARY BOUNDARIES BEGINNING 2022-23 SY



	Total	Ben Franklin Middle School	Carl Ben Eielson Middle School	Discovery Middle School
	Count %	Count %	Count %	Count %
Total Enrollment	2728	978	831	919
<b>Ethnicity</b>				
Caucasian	1933 71%	736 75%	561 68%	636 69%
African American	356 13%	72 7%	120 14%	164 18%
Hispanic	128 5%	57 6%	40 5%	31 3%
Asian	100 4%	19 2%	38 5%	43 5%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander				
Native American	82 3%	39 4%	25 3%	18 2%
Two or more	125 5%	53 5%	45 5%	27 3%
<i>Students of Color (Calculated)</i>	795 29%	242 25%	270 32%	283 31%
<b>ESL</b>				
Is not ELL	2528 93%	929 95%	754 91%	845 92%
Is ELL but no Level Defined	185 7%	43 4%	75 9%	67 7%
Entering				
Beginning				
Developing				
Expanding				
<b>Special Ed</b>				
Special Ed	399 15%	148 15%	135 16%	116 13%
Non-Special Ed	2329 85%	830 85%	696 84%	803 87%
<b>Free and Reduced</b>				
Full Pay	1760 65%	610 62%	507 61%	643 70%
Free	804 29%	303 31%	267 32%	234 25%
Reduced	164 6%	65 7%	57 7%	42 5%

	Total	Davies High School	North High School	South High School
	Count %	Count %	Count %	Count %
Total Enrollment	3265	1122	1133	1010
<b>Ethnicity</b>				
Caucasian	2451 75%	827 74%	902 80%	722 71%
African American	385 12%	170 15%	79 7%	136 13%
Hispanic	124 4%	25 2%	48 4%	41 4%
Asian	134 4%	49 4%	28 2%	57 6%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	13 0%			
Native American	86 3%	17 2%	38 3%	31 3%
Two or more	70 2%	18 2%	35 3%	17 2%
<i>Students of Color (Calculated)</i>	612 25%	295 26%	230 20%	287 28%
<b>ESL</b>				
Is not ELL	3060 94%	1035 92%	1098 97%	927 92%
Is ELL but no Level Defined	171 5%	61 7%	19 2%	71 7%
Entering				
Beginning	10 0%			
Developing	17 1%			
Expanding				
<b>Special Ed</b>				
Special Ed	385 12%	116 10%	139 12%	130 13%
Non-Special Ed	2880 88%	1006 90%	994 88%	880 87%
<b>Free and Reduced</b>				
Full Pay	2381 73%	854 76%	832 73%	695 69%
Free	721 22%	226 20%	237 21%	258 26%
Reduced	163 5%	42 4%	64 6%	57 6%

## **PHASE IN PLAN**

### ***Middle School***

During the 2022-23 school year, sixth grade and seventh grade students would attend middle school according to the new secondary boundaries.

Eighth grade students would remain at their middle school. This would allow eighth grade students to complete their middle school experience in one building (sixth, seventh, and eighth grade).

Since seventh grade students would be required to attend middle school according to the new secondary boundaries, which may have a student attending one middle school for one year (sixth grade) and one middle school for two years (seventh and eighth grade), the secondary principals' recommendation is that parents be informed and allowed to have their sixth grade student attend middle school according to the new secondary boundaries one year early. This would allow a student to attend one middle school for all three years (sixth, seventh, and eighth grade). Transportation (bussing) would be available to families.

During the 2023-24 school year, all middle school students would attend middle school according to the new secondary boundaries.

The following form will be utilized for this circumstance:

**MIDDLE SCHOOL (6-8)**  
**2021-22 EARLY ATTENDANCE FORM**

School boundaries are established with regard to student population within each school, and students are expected to enroll at the school assigned to their residential area. Since seventh grade students would be required to attend middle school according to the new secondary boundaries, which may have a student attending one middle school for one year (sixth grade) and one middle school for two years (seventh and eighth grade), the secondary principals' recommendation is that parents be informed and allowed to have their sixth grade student attend middle school according to the new secondary boundaries one year early. This would allow a student to attend one middle school for all three years (sixth, seventh, and eighth grade). Transportation (bussing) would be available to families.

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade Requested** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Requested**

\_\_\_\_\_ Ben Franklin \_\_\_\_\_ Carl Ben Eielson \_\_\_\_\_ Discovery

**Current School of Residence** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent(s) Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Day Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Effective Date of Desired Placement** \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Request** \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Continuing

What, if any, special education or adaptive services are required? \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

District's Decision: (circle one)      Enrollment Granted      Enrollment Denied

Reason if Denied \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal Requested School and Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal Resident School and Date

**Extracurricular Eligibility: Exceptions to Attendance will not be granted for athletic or activity participation reasons. Any student in grades 7-12 who is changing schools on an Exception to Attendance petition will be ineligible to register and participate at the varsity level of all NDHSAA- sponsored athletic and fine arts activities for a period of one calendar year. Any student in grades 7- 12 who returns to attend the school in his/her area of legal residence, will be considered a transfer student and ineligible to register for and participate at the varsity level of all NDHSAA- sponsored athletic and fine arts activities for the remainder of the school year.**



## High School

During the 2022-23 school year, ninth grade students would attend high school according to the new secondary boundaries. Tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade students would remain at their high school.

During the 2023-24 school year, ninth and tenth grade students would attend high school according to the new secondary boundaries. Eleventh and twelfth grade students would remain at their high school.

During the 2024-25 school year, ninth, tenth, and eleventh grade students would attend high school according to the new secondary boundaries. Twelfth grade students would remain at their high school.

During the 2025-26 school year, all high school students would attend high school according to the new secondary boundaries.

Current	Next								
School Year	School Year	School Year	School Year	School Year	School Year	School Year			
20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27			
Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6			
Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7			
Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8			
Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9			
Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10			
Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11			
Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12			
Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12				
Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12					
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12						
Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12							
Grade 11	Grade 12								
Grade 12									
<b>School Year: 2021-22</b>									
6th grade students provided option of attending middle schools under new attendance boundaries one year early									
<b>School Year: 2022-23</b>									
6th and 7th grade students attend middle school under new attendance boundaries									
8th grade students continue at current middle school									
9th grade students attend high school under new attendance boundaries									
10th, 11th, and 12th grade students continue at current high school									
<b>School Year: 2023-24</b>									
Middle school students attend middle school under new attendance boundaries									
9th and 10th grade students attend high school under new attendance boundaries									
11th and 12th grade students continue at current high school									
<b>School Year: 2024-25</b>									
Middle school students attend middle school under new attendance boundaries									
9th, 10th, and 11th grade students attend high school under new attendance boundaries									
12th grade students continue at current high school									
<b>School Year: 2025-26 and Beyond</b>									
Middle school students attend middle school under new attendance boundaries									
High school students attend high school under new attendance boundaries									

## YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION

The Board asked that the implementation of boundary changes begin for the 2022-2023 school year. The district will plan for the subsequent school year while the current school year is in progress.

## GRANDFATHERING/PETITIONING PROCESS

The recommendation is that there would be no grandfathering of students to secondary schools under the new secondary boundaries. However, Fargo Public Schools desires to keep families together for their **high school** experiences. For this reason, the building principals have agreed to the following petition acceptance plan:

- **No two or more students from the same dwelling would attend two different high schools at the same time.**

The following form will be utilized for this circumstance:



**HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)**  
**2022-23 BOUNDARY CHANGE GRANDFATHERING/PETITION REQUEST FORM**

School boundaries are established with regard to student population within each school, and students are expected to enroll at the school assigned to their residential area. However, Fargo Public Schools desires to keep families together for their **high school** experiences. For this reason, no two or more students from the same dwelling would attend two different high schools at the same time. The following guidelines are considered in the enrollment decision:

- 1) Parents reside within the Fargo School District.
- 2) Parents assume responsibility for reliable transportation through the 2024-25 school year.
- 3) Form must be submitted by January 31

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade Requested** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason for Preference:**

\_\_\_ My child has a sibling who will attend \_\_\_\_\_ (school) next year.

Sibling Name(s) and Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Other Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

**School Requested** \_\_\_\_\_ Davies \_\_\_\_\_ South \_\_\_\_\_ North

**Current School of Residence** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent(s) Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Day Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Effective Date of Desired Placement** \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Request** \_\_\_\_\_ **Initial** \_\_\_\_\_ **Continuing**

What, if any, special education or adaptive services are required? \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

District's Decision: (circle one)

Enrollment Granted

Enrollment Denied

Reason if Denied \_\_\_\_\_

Principal Requested School and Date

Principal Resident School and Date

**Extracurricular Eligibility:** Exceptions to Attendance will not be granted for athletic or activity participation reasons. Any student in grades 7-12 who is changing schools on an Exception to Attendance petition will be ineligible to register and participate at the varsity level of all NDHSAA- sponsored athletic and fine arts activities for a period of one calendar year. Any student in grades 7-12 who returns to attend the school in his/her area of legal residence, will be considered a transfer student and ineligible to register for and participate at the varsity level of all NDHSAA- sponsored athletic and fine arts activities for the remainder of the school year.

## **COURSE OFFERINGS**

Since the suggested phase in plan impacts only three grade levels in year one and then one additional grade level each year until full implementation, it appears that the current courses offered at each school will continue through the phase in plan of the new secondary boundaries. Adjustments or a balancing of sections will be needed as students' enrollments move within the system.

## **TEACHER TRANSFER/ASSIGNMENT**

Since the suggested phase in plan impacts only three grade levels in year one and then one additional grade level each year until full implementation, the teacher transfer/assignment process will follow the existing process that is used each year by the Associate Superintendent for Teaching and Learning and the building principals.

It appears there may be minor additional traveling teachers during the first few years of implementing the new boundaries. This will depend on student enrollment choices at the secondary schools. In the long term scenario, balancing numbers may decrease the need for traveling teachers since the number of sections at Ben Franklin and North will increase and present a better opportunity to fill out teacher schedules within each building rather than splitting teacher sections between two buildings.

## **EXTRACURRICULAR IMPACTS**

### ***Middle School Activities***

There will be minor impacts on the staffing levels for middle school activities due to the shifting student populations caused by boundary changes. A great deal of staffing for middle level activities is based on the numbers of participants in a program. As the numbers shift across the district, the staffing levels at the various middle schools will change accordingly.

### ***High School Activities***

There will be less of an impact at the high school level than at the middle level as each of our comprehensive high schools offers a very complete program of activities. The activities that offer unlimited participation opportunities will see slight staffing changes as students move from one school to another across the district. We anticipate the overall staffing level to remain fairly consistent across the district at the high school level.

### ***Transfer Questions***

The most challenging part of boundary line changes, from an activities perspective, is determining how we are going to provide for student transfers within the NDHSAA transfer rules without jeopardizing the eligibility of currently participating students. Currently, we have a number of programs governed by the NDHSAA which are programs for grades 7 – 12. Examples of these programs are golf, tennis and swimming/diving. A student establishes their eligibility at a high school upon beginning participation in the seventh grade and has the opportunity to reestablish eligibility at that school or another high school upon entering the ninth grade. Middle school students competing in high school sports that have established eligibility in seventh grade will be allowed to remain at their current middle school until they can reestablish eligibility in ninth grade. This will prevent students from losing a year of eligibility.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

The recommended boundary adjustment represents an effort to relocate existing students to balance attendance in the three middle schools and high schools. Fargo Public Schools is currently providing transportation to all of the current students enrolled.

Although this adjustment is not adding new eligible riders, there will be a need for increased transportation. Based on currently enrolled students in the designated area, the addition of three busses would be required at an estimated cost of \$180,000.

Administration feels comfortable, in working with our transportation provider, that these adjustments can be made seamlessly.

## **COMMUNICATIONS PLAN**

Once boundary changes are approved, a communications plan will be enacted to inform families of the changes, similar to the plan used to inform families of prior boundary changes. Plan components would include:

- Direct mail sent to addresses affected by the boundary adjustments within PowerSchool
- FPS website promotions – rotator slide, school pages, etc.
- Newsletter articles – Journey, School Talk, and building newsletters