

-Public Information Session-

Redistricting Project
Update on Progress
and
Review of DRAFT Options D4 and E4

March 2020

Cropper 4/5





Welcome and Introductions





Tonight's Purpose

- 1. <u>Learn</u> how the school redistricting process has been working.
- 2. Review DRAFT Options D4 and E4.
- **3.** <u>Complete</u> online surveys related to the options to provide valuable input to the committee.





Who We Are





The Company

Cropper GIS Consulting, LLC

K-12 school planning is our business and our passion. Our specialty is school redistricting.

Cropper works with K-12 school districts to:

- develop redistricting plans,
- facilitate community engagement,
- research, map and write demographic studies,
- prepare long-range facility master plans,
- author site feasibility studies,
- conduct & publish housing impact and yield factor studies, and
- provide GIS implementation & training.





The Company

Recent Projects:

- Richmond Public Schools, VA
- Frederick County Public Schools, VA
- Alexandria City Public Schools, VA
- Cabarrus County Schools, NC
- Union County Public Schools, NC
- Brunswick County Public Schools, NC
- Wayne County Public Schools, NC
- Frederick County Public Schools, MD
- Baltimore County Public Schools, MD











Matthew Cropper

- 20 years experience providing GIS mapping and analysis services to school districts and other clients.
- Manages and Facilitates K-12 realignment and facility planning projects across the U.S.
- Expert consultant for U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Right's Division
- Published numerous papers about using GIS in master planning and educational planning.





Project Objectives

- Efficiently use all available space and to plan for future growth.
- Determine attendance boundaries for the expanded Holladay Elementary School (7300 Galaxie Road). This school will double in size when a new addition opens for the 2021-22 school year.
- Account for the increased building capacity available when replacements for Highland Springs High School (15 S. Oak Ave.) and J. R. Tucker High School (2910 Parham Rd.) open on their current sites for the 2021-22 school year.
- Reduce concentrations of poverty while balancing a neighborhood or community school concept.



An adjustment to the committee objectives

An additional elementary school is being designed for 650 students. However, the target zoned student enrollment is approximately 350 in anticipation of seats filled through special programs and future students from new residential developments.

The new elementary school is expected to impact only the Greenwood and Longdale ES areas.

If funded, the new school is anticipated to be open in the fall of 2022.



An adjustment to the committee objectives

A middle school expansion is being planned for Hungary Creek MS. The expansion is expected to include 164 new seats.

If funded, the middle school expansion is anticipated to begin in the fall of 2022.



Redistricting Criteria

The Henrico County Public Schools has a set of criteria to follow when evaluating school redistricting options. These are rules to follow when considering any potential attendance zone adjustment.

The redistricting committee have been oriented on these criteria and will follow them as best as possible as they consider redistricting options.



Redistricting Criteria

- Major roads and natural boundaries will be used when feasible to define attendance zones
- All reasonable efforts should be made to ensure contiguous geographic zones which minimize division of clearly identifiable community components (e.g. apartment units, residential subdivisions)
- All legal and judicial guidelines for the maintenance of a unitary school system will be strictly adhered to
- Efforts will be made to ensure an efficient system of school bus transportation
- Efforts will be made to establish walking schools and reasonable walking zones where feasible.





Redistricting Criteria

- Provisions should be made to ensure the continuity of a child's K-12 progress. This may be accomplished by offering older students in a school the option to remain at an existing school if parents provide transportation.
 - When the new boundaries take effect, HCPS will allow grades 5, 8 and 11-12 the opportunity to continue to their existing school, but transportation will not be provided.
- Implementation of a rezoning plan over a span of several years would be preferable if it has the effect of minimizing the need for additional line changes for a community in the near or immediate future. (Possibility of phasing in certain changes to avoid additional changes when new school construction is completed)



Review of Timeline

Recommended Process & Timeline for Redistricting: 1-year time frame

	Apr. May June July Aug. Courts No. 150 Day 150													
						Sept. '19	Oct. '19	Nov. '19	Dec. '19	Jan. '20	Feb. '20	Mar. '20	April '20	May '20
	'19	'19	'19	'19	'19	•				,			-	
Data Collection														
Data Analysis / Assimilation														
Internal Logistics Planning with district														
Background Report Development														
Committee Application, Review, Selection Process														
Baseline Options Development														
Public Information Session #1: Present Project Process, Criteria,														
Timeline, and Redistricting Objectives to Community. Information						Sept. 9, 11								
meeting to public, without public comments.														
School Board Update						Sept. 12								
Redistricting Meeting Series 1						Sept. 23,								
- Review background data, Introduce Baseline Options						25								
Redistricting Meeting Series 2							Oct. 7, 9							
- Discuss Background Data & Baseline Options							Oct. 7, 9							
School Board Update							Oct. 10							
Redistricting Meeting Series 3							Oct. 21, 23							
- Options development, Prepare for Public Information Session #2							Oct. 21, 23							
School Board Update							Oct. 24							
Public Information Session #2: Present Preliminary DRAFT								Nov. 7, 13						
Redistricting Options to Community for Comment/Feedback								100.7,13						
School Board Update								Nov. 14						
Redistricting Meeting Series 4									Dec. 4, 9					
- Review public input, continue options development									Dec. 4, 9					
School Board Update									Dec. 12					
Redistricting Meeting Series 5										Jan. 7, 8				
- Continue options development										Jan. 7, 6				
School Board Update										Jan. 16				
Redistricting Meeting Series 6														
- Continue options development, prepare for Public Information											Feb. 4, 5			
Session #3														
School Board Update											Feb. 13			
Public Information Session #3: Present Updated DRAFT								Mo	are h	oro		Mar. 4, 5		
Redistricting Options to Community for Comment/Feedback								VVC	are m	ere		111111111111111111111111111111111111111		
School Board Update												Mar. 12		
Redistricting Meeting Series 7												Mar. 18		
- Review public input, continue options development												14111. 10		
Redistricting Meeting Series 8													Apr. 1	
- Finalize recommendations & Prepare for Board Presentation													71p1. 1	
Redistricting Meeting Series 9		1											Apr.15	
- Finalize recommendations & Prepare for Board Presentation													Прі.13	
Presentation of Final Recommendations to the Board of Education													Apr. 23	
Board of Education vote on redistricting plan														May 2





The Committees

Cropper GIS has formulated two committees, a 46 member Elementary Committee and a 21 person Secondary (Middle School and High School) Committee to work on developing redistricting options.

The charge to create a grassroots redistricting committee was established by the school board and the consultant formulated the group. Both committees consist of a diverse group of stakeholders from across the school district. Every school zone is represented, at all levels.

Volunteer members of the public, including parents and staff members, serve on the committee, with a focus on developing a recommendation that best meets the needs of ALL students in Henrico County.

The committee is one method to engage the public. Any member of the public is welcome to observe the work of the committee at their meetings, in addition to other avenues to provide input/feedback.



Committee Progress

Work done to date

- The committees' work is almost complete.
- Committees have each met eight times since September 2019 and have spent many hours between meetings reviewing information
- Committees have met jointly three times.
- The committee has reviewed 18 variations of DRAFT options since the process started
 - Started with 2 DRAFT options; additional options generated each meeting based on committee and public feedback







Committee Progress

Work done to date

- Data and information examined includes: school enrollment and capacity, demographics, feeder pattern data, student impacts, and feedback from members of the public.
- Options are considered DRAFT throughout the process; continued dialog and consideration of data is always encouraged







Help from the Public

- The public has been very engaged during the entire process, and have provided ongoing input since the process began.
 - 1,000's of comments have been received via the redistricting feedback form, as well as emails received.
 - Concerns from the public have been tracked, so the committee can understand how the public feels about options being considered.
 - Public members have observed all committee meetings since the process began.
 - All materials shared with the committee have been posted online for anyone to view/download.
 - Public has interactive map available, to view options and planning block data.



Committee's Progress

At their February meetings, both committees narrowed down to 2 options to present at the March Public Information Sessions. These 2 options were what the committee felt best adhered to the overall project objectives and criteria.

Map variations have evolved during the course of the committee's work, resulting in the DRAFT options D4 and E4 maps that are being presented tonight.

The committee recognizes that these are still DRAFT and likely to be changed / modified.

Although modifications are likely, it is not expected that brand new concepts or maps will be developed before the final recommendation is made to the board.

Prior concepts for schools could be leveraged to make improvements to existing maps, if it results in better adherence to the project objectives and guidelines.

At the committee's last meeting, they reviewed 14 specific area issues based on school board and public feedback. At upcoming meetings, the committee will work to resolve these issues if possible as well as identify any others as a result of public input.





How can you participate?





Members of the public have the opportunity to participate in the process in many ways:

- All materials shared with the committee are available on the Redistricting Study webpage, located at: https://henricoschools.us/redistricting/
- The redistricting web-page contains a feedback form that allows the public to provide any feedback regarding the process at any time. This information is shared with the committee, and made available to the public.
- The <u>Public Information Sessions on March 4 and 5, 2020</u> are designed to share with the public the DRAFT options that are under consideration, and to solicit feedback on the options from you.
 - An Online Survey is designed to solicit further input from the public regarding DRAFT Options D4 and E4.



Tonight

- Gallery Walk: Review DRAFT Options D4 and E4 and related data, talk to committee members
 - Committee members, HCPS staff, and consultants will be around the maps to discuss any thoughts the public may have
 - The team will be wearing a lanyard, in case you want to have a conversation and discuss your thoughts.
 - Although discussions around the maps are very important, please submit your feedback via the online survey for the entire committee's benefit





Interpreting Maps

- Background colors represent the Option, where bold black outlines show the current boundaries
- Census Tracts: Small areas for examining student populations
 - Map titles and notes clarify what each map represents
 - Labels within census tracts represent the number of students living in the census tract and attending their zoned school.





Online Map

- An online map has been developed to further inform the public on the work of the committee.
- Current zones and the DRAFT options being considered can be viewed on the map.
- Other features can be turned on/off on the map, including census tracts.
- Map is customizable, and can/will be updated during the process to show new options along with other information requested by the committee.
- Site can be viewed on any device, including mobile devices and tablets (with internet connection).
- Site address is:

www.croppermap.com/henrico





Interpreting the Tables

- Statistics that are pertinent to the study accompany the large maps
- The data shown are the data the committee uses to evaluate options





Online Survey:

- <u>Begins March 4th and is available through midnight, March 15th:</u>
- Participate in Online survey, which can be found on HCPS redistricting page.
 - Survey will help provide insight on the public's thoughts about the DRAFT options
 - Public feedback isn't intended to see which option gets the most votes from the public
 - The best feedback is constructive comments regarding changes that better adhere to the project objectives and redistricting guidelines





- Committee will review additional public feedback from online surveys and emails
- Adjustments could be made to DRAFT options, if suggestions help to better adhere to the objectives and criteria
- Committee has 3 more meetings scheduled after this Public Info Session
 - Next committee meetings are March 18th, April 1st, and April 15th.
 - School Board presentation of final recommendation is scheduled for April 23rd, 2020.
 - Final School Board vote is scheduled for May 28th, 2020.



Further Questions/Comments?

- All materials shared with the committee are made available on the Henrico County Schools redistricting study webpage.
- In addition to the survey for the Public Information Session, please provide any other comments on the general feedback form. General feedback form and other materials can also be found at: https://henricoschools.us/redistricting/





Now is time to move to the maps.

Thank you for your continued input and participation regarding this important redistricting process!

