

2025-26 Enrollment Planning 2025-26 Public Information Session #3 Fast Facts



Background

McLean County Unit District 5 is undertaking an enrollment planning study to achieve the following objectives:

- To evaluate school utilization and programming across the district at all levels (Early Learning, Elementary, Junior High, and High School), and recommend potential boundary and facility changes that achieve the best utilization of Unit 5 schools.
- While utilization is the focus of the effort, the district also wants to ensure that the impacts on other criteria, such as feeder patterns, proximity, and demographics, are taken into account.

The outcome of this process will inform an enrollment plan for the district.

Enrollment Planning Process Criteria

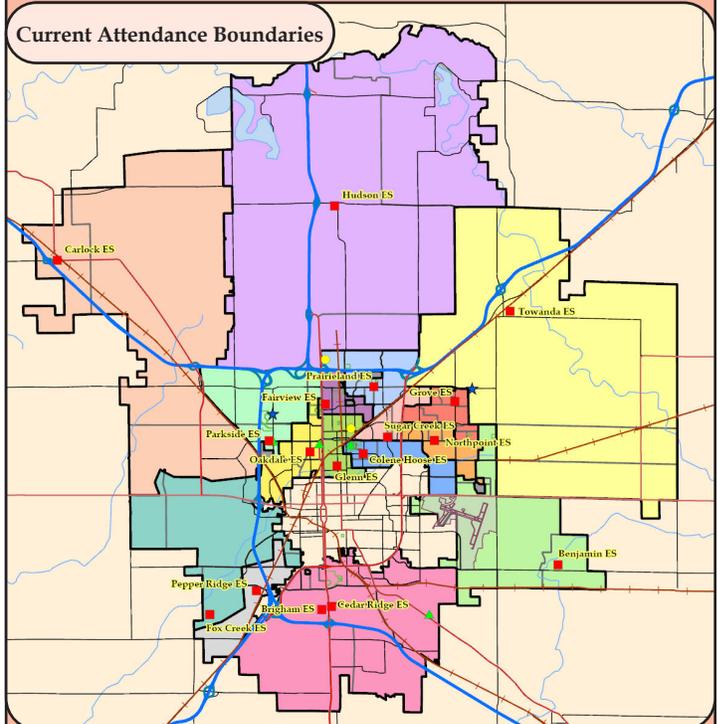
Cropper GIS has developed a body of criteria to guide this enrollment planning study. The following criteria are not listed in any order of importance and the recommended plan will be one that best adheres to these criteria as a whole as best as possible:

- a) Balance school facility utilization.
- b) Account for future growth.
- c) Close Proximity.
- d) Minimize impact on students
- e) Consider economic, cultural, and ethnic diversity
- f) Make every effort to establish contiguous zones
- g) Use major roads and natural boundaries whenever feasible to define attendance zones.

Notes

- Updates can also be found at: unit5enrollmentplanning.com
- Important upcoming dates
 - March 1st, 2026: Enrollment Planning Survey Ends
 - March 18th, 2026: Board of Education Presentation
 - April 15th, 2026: Board of Education Vote

Use this QR Code to visit the enrollment planning website.



Use this QR Code to complete the enrollment planning survey open through March 1st



Common to Both Proposals

- **Close Brigham**
 - A new Early Learning Center (ELC) is proposed, combining Brigham and Sugar Creek early learning students in one location. Sugar Creek would become a K-5.
- **Eugene Field**
 - Close existing Eugene Field facility. (Students will be served in another facility)
- **Benjamin boundary change**
 - Neighborhoods north of Empire (currently zoned to Benjamin) are moved to Towanda, assuming an expansion, to relieve enrollment pressure at Benjamin.
 - The area west of Hershey (currently zoned to Benjamin) will go to Hoose.
- **Cedar Ridge boundary change**
 - Moving the western portion (west of Morris Avenue, west of N 1375 East Rd) of the zone to Pepper Ridge, providing enrollment relief to Cedar Ridge.
 - Tracy Drive, Oak Creek Plaza, Donnie Drive, and Urban Street become Open Attendance Area, providing enrollment relief to Cedar Ridge.
- **Parkside Elementary boundary change**
 - The neighborhood south of Raab Road and north of Orlando Avenue (Northbrook/Golfcrest) becomes an Open Attendance Area, providing enrollment relief for Parkside Elementary.
- **Sugar Creek boundary change**
 - The northeastern corner of Sugar Creek (east of Veteran's Parkway) is moved to Grove due to its proximity to the school. In addition, it provides Sugar Creek additional enrollment capacity.
- **Towanda expansion**
 - Addition to Towanda, increasing capacity by an additional 250-300. Eliminates the need for portables and provides enrollment relief to Benjamin.
- **Junior High**
 - Relief is provided to Evans by sending students to another junior high school.
- **High School**
 - The neighborhoods east of Linden Street, north of Pine Street, and west of Henry Street are moved to Normal West, providing enrollment relief to NCHS.
 - All Pepper Ridge students will attend Normal West
 - *Some Specialized Services (SS) classrooms will be moved to schools with available space

Differences Between Proposals

Proposal 1

- **Close Carlock**
 - Hudson takes on the former Carlock zone, predominately north of Interstate 74, north of 1800, west of 1200 East, and one small area south of Interstate 74.
 - Fox Creek takes on most of the former Carlock zone south of Interstate 74 bordered by 900 East, 1400 North.
- **Repurpose Glenn for 18-22 program**
 - Glenn zone will be redistricted to Sugar Creek, which will have 11 open classrooms with the removal of Early Learning.
- **Parkside Junior High**
 - Pepper Ridge (including above referenced changes) is sent to Parkside Junior to provide enrollment relief to Evans. An addition to Parkside Junior is recommended to support our special education programs, and to create additional capacity.

Proposal 2

- **Early Learning & Eugene Field**
 - A new facility will be constructed to house both an Early Learning Center and an 18-22 Center. While the building will serve students from Brigham, Sugar Creek, and Eugene Field, the programs will remain distinct, featuring separate wings and dedicated entrances for each age group.
- **Carlock enrollment adjustment**
 - The Traditions neighborhood becomes an Open Attendance Area to allow for an increase in enrollment at Carlock (approx. 50 students).
- **Fox Creek boundary change**
 - The northern part of Pepper Ridge, north of Six Points Road, moves to Fox Creek.
- **Kingsley Junior High**
 - Pepper Ridge (including above referenced changes) is sent to Kingsley to provide relief to Evans.