

WAYNE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, NC
FALL 2020 STUDENT REALIGNMENT OBJECTIVES AND CRITERIA

The Wayne County Public Schools has developed a set of objectives and criteria to guide the student realignment study for Fall 2020. The process will be led by a national consultant, Cropper GIS Consulting, and the realignment work will be driven by a volunteer committee. The focus of the realignment committee will be to develop recommendations that meet the following objectives, while adhering to the criteria as best as possible.

Objectives

- Populate the new Meadow Lane Elementary School, with a planned capacity of approximately 700 students
- Maximize efficient use of existing classroom space, especially at the elementary level, in light of the k-3 class size reduction mandate
- Evaluate zones at all levels, and reduce overcrowding where it currently exists
- Anticipated implementation year for realignment is Fall 2020

Criteria

The following criteria are not listed in any particular order of importance:

- **Balance school facility utilization** – Make every effort to have equitable utilization (where possible) across the district and in accordance with school capacities and funded allotment ratios in accordance with state law. Make efficient use of available space.
- **Account for future growth** – Allow for increasing attendance in high growth areas.
- **Close Proximity** – Students should be assigned to the school within the closest proximity to their homes where possible.
- **Maximize busing efficiencies in transportation of students** – Make every effort to account for transportation (school bus and car rider), parent commuting patterns, balance busing travel time, and costs.
- **Establish clear feeder patterns and continuity** – Make every effort to establish a clear feeder pattern system (especially from middle school to high school), although it may be necessary to split an elementary school to feed to two or more middle schools. Make every effort to divide a large enough population so students can continue to the next level with familiar faces.
- **Allow for highest-grade at current school grandfathering** – Allow for students who will be in the exit grade in the first school year of realignment to stay at their current school, however, transportation will not be provided for these students.
- **Minimize impact on students** – Attempt to minimize the amount of students impacted when making boundary adjustments.
- **Consider economic, cultural, and ethnic diversity** – Ensure schools are inclusionary, diverse, and not adversely affected by realignment decisions.
- **Make every effort to establish contiguous zones** – Avoid creating zones that are not connected to the primary attendance zone, where possible.
- **Use major roads and natural boundaries wherever feasible to define attendance zones** – Minimize the amount of students who need to cross major intersections and other barriers to maximize the safety and security of students, and optimize transportation efficiency by containing bus routes within natural boundaries wherever possible to avoid traffic delays and late arrivals.