

December 10, 2019

BOUNDARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

STRATEGIC PLAN STRATEGY #2: Ensure a student-focused environment

- **Ensure building and facilities support the success of the educational process**

Why are we changing DPS school boundaries?

**IT'S ALL ABOUT
EQUITY.**

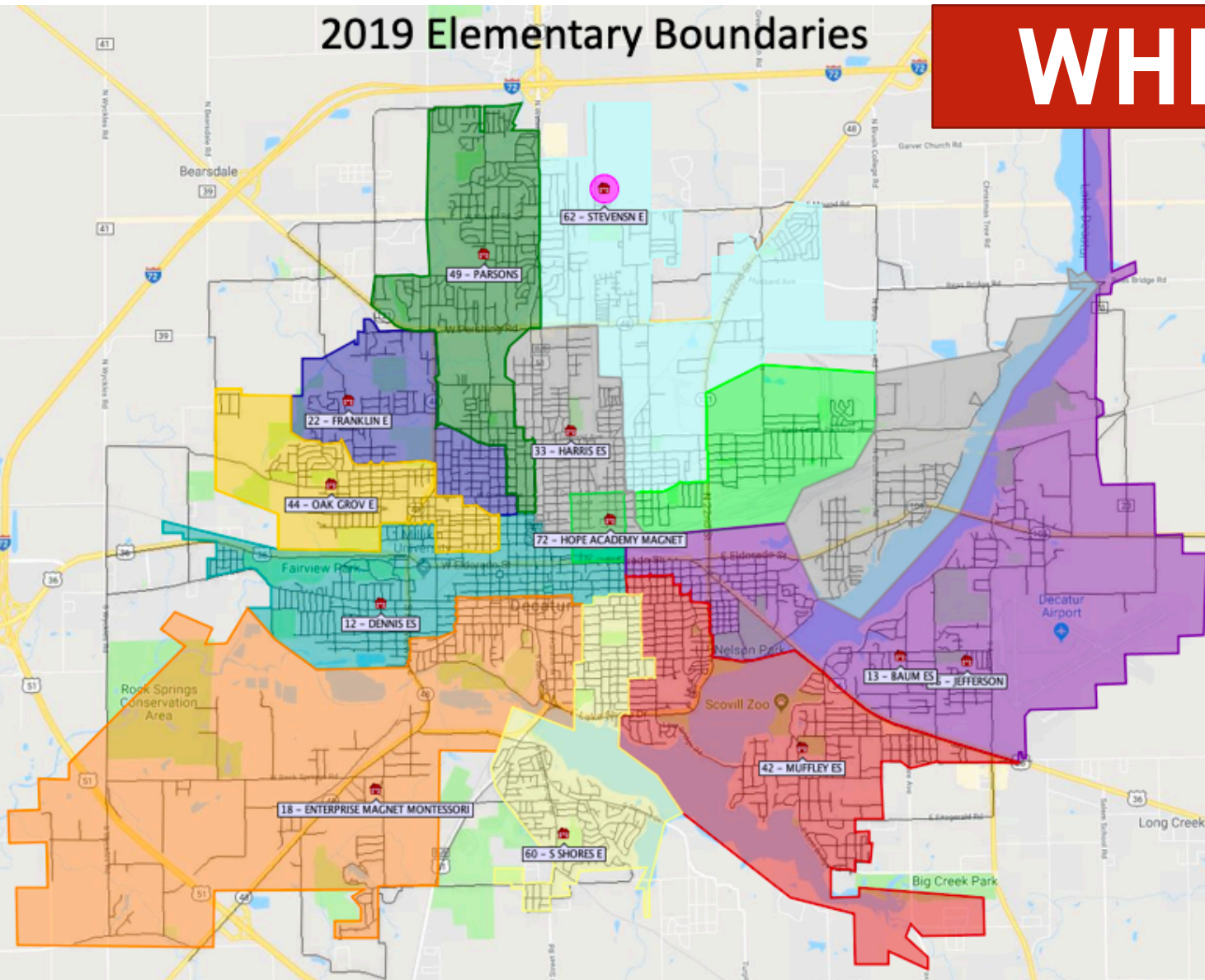


We're working to address the inequities that exist in our current school boundary system and ensure that DPS students have equal access to a high-quality education in their own neighborhood school.

2019 Elementary Boundaries

WHERE WE ARE NOW

- Elementary school boundaries have not been comprehensively evaluated in 20+ years
- Current boundaries:
 - Are hard to define
 - Lack neighborhood emphasis for certain schools
- Pod system and enrollment balancing created inequities
- 89% of respondents to community survey said yes to evaluating and reforming boundaries



DPS FAMILIES SHARE THEIR PERSONAL STORIES

Family
Perspective



Student
Perspective



500+

Students Impacted
by Enrollment
Balancing & Pod
Transfers Last Year

THE WORK OF THE BOUNDARY COMMITTEE

Community Committee Members

- Michelle Hazelrigg
 - Dianne Brandt*
 - Rob Prange*
 - Eric Dabner
 - Jeffrey Perkins*
 - Jami Hallam
 - Jill Andrews*
 - Sara Cothorn*
 - Cassie Mann*
 - Deborah Rapson*
 - Amber Carr*
 - Tony Wilkins*
 - Nick Crim*
 - Susie Neisman
 - Chrissy Pettit*
 - Krystal Johnson
 - Michael Sexton*
 - Tom Brinkoetter
- *Attended 4+ meetings
Present at final meeting
when decision was made

Meeting Dates

- February 6, 2019
- March 5, 2019
- April 2, 2019
- May 7, 2019
- June 4, 2019
- August 5, 2019
- September 3, 2019
- October 1, 2019
- October 29, 2019
- November 12, 2019
- November 20, 2019
- December 3, 2019
- **August = 10 open house events at impacted schools**
- **November = 8 open house events at impacted schools**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Throughout the Boundary process, we've worked to engage with parents, staff, and stakeholders to get as much community involvement as possible.



Parent Meetings



Staff Meetings



**Community
Conversations**



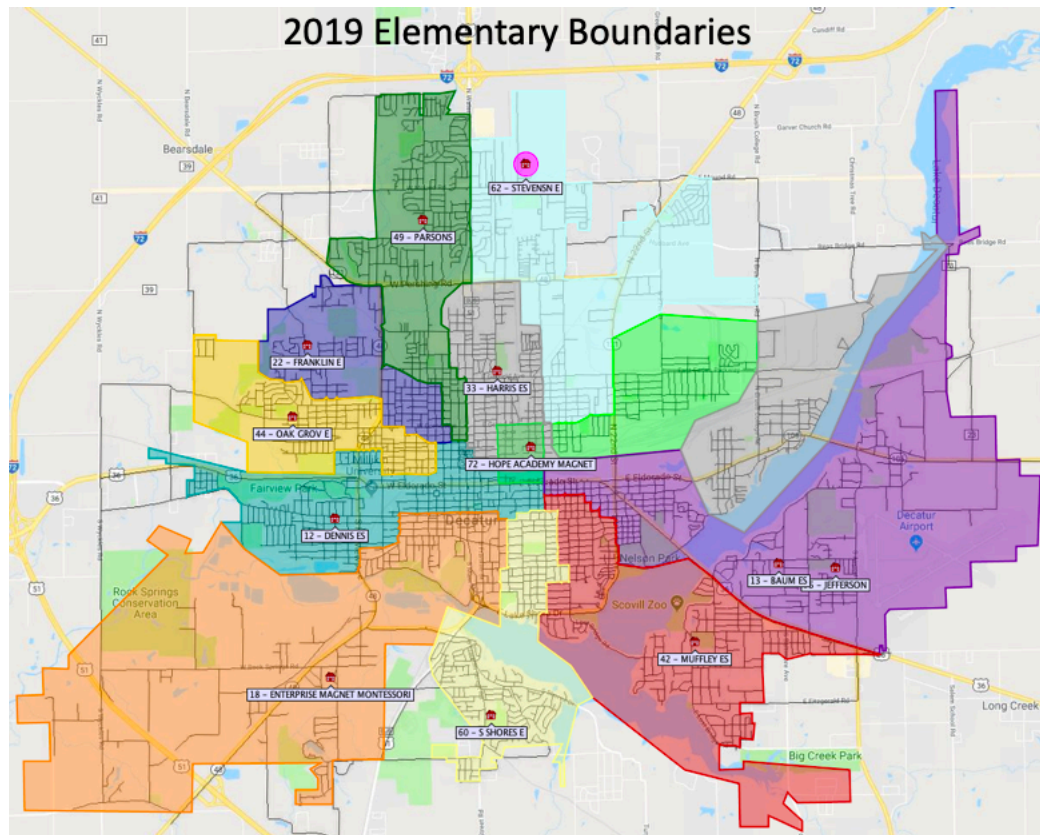
**Feedback
and Input**



Survey Results

IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS

COMMITTEE EXAMINED THE FOLLOWING FOR ALL ATTENDANCE AREAS



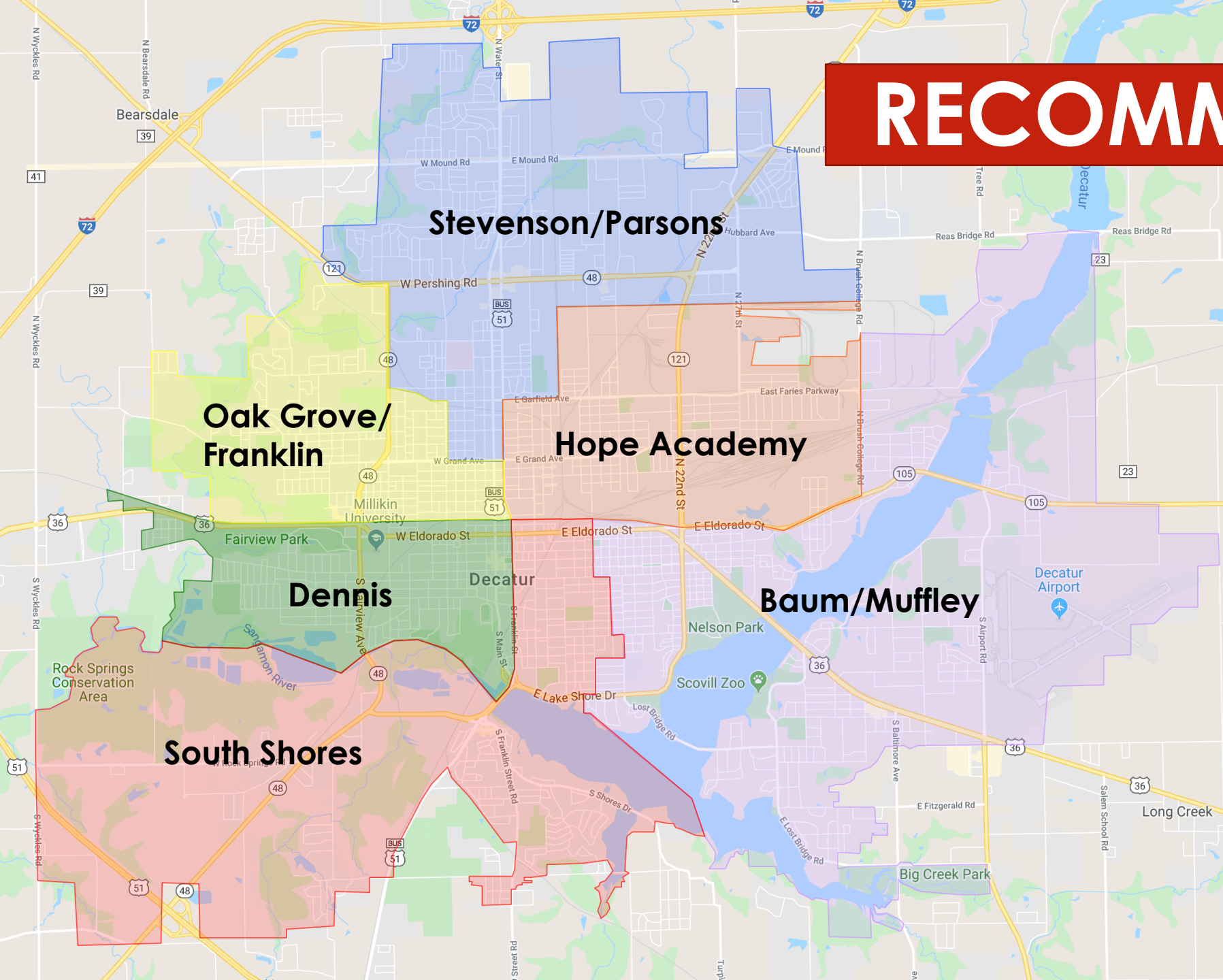
MAP + DATA

- Total DPS population
- Magnet population
- Diversity percentages
- Free/reduced percentages

RECOMMENDATION

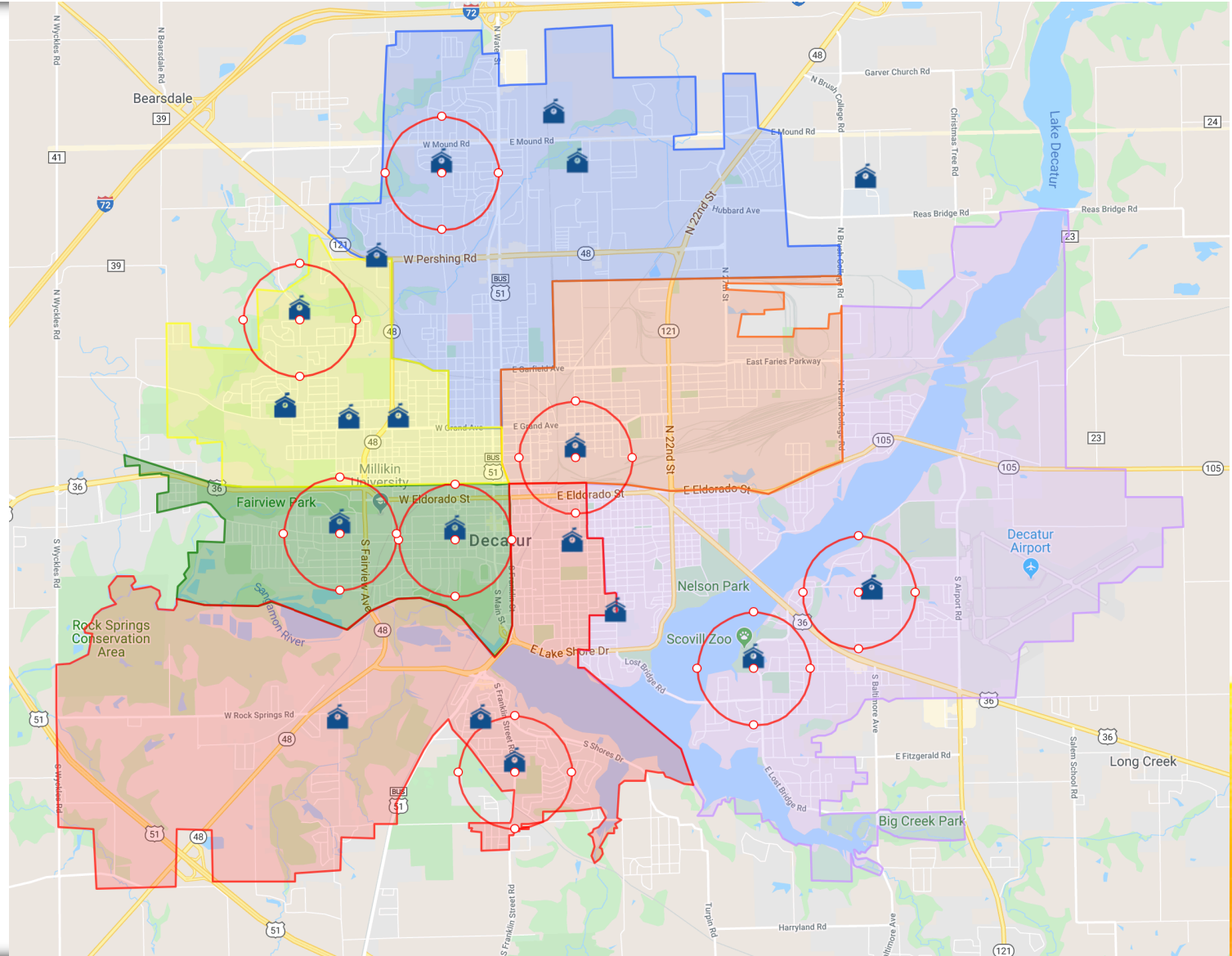
NEW BOUNDARIES FOR DPS K-8 & ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Unanimous recommendation
from those in attendance at
Boundary Committee final
meeting on Dec. 3, 2019



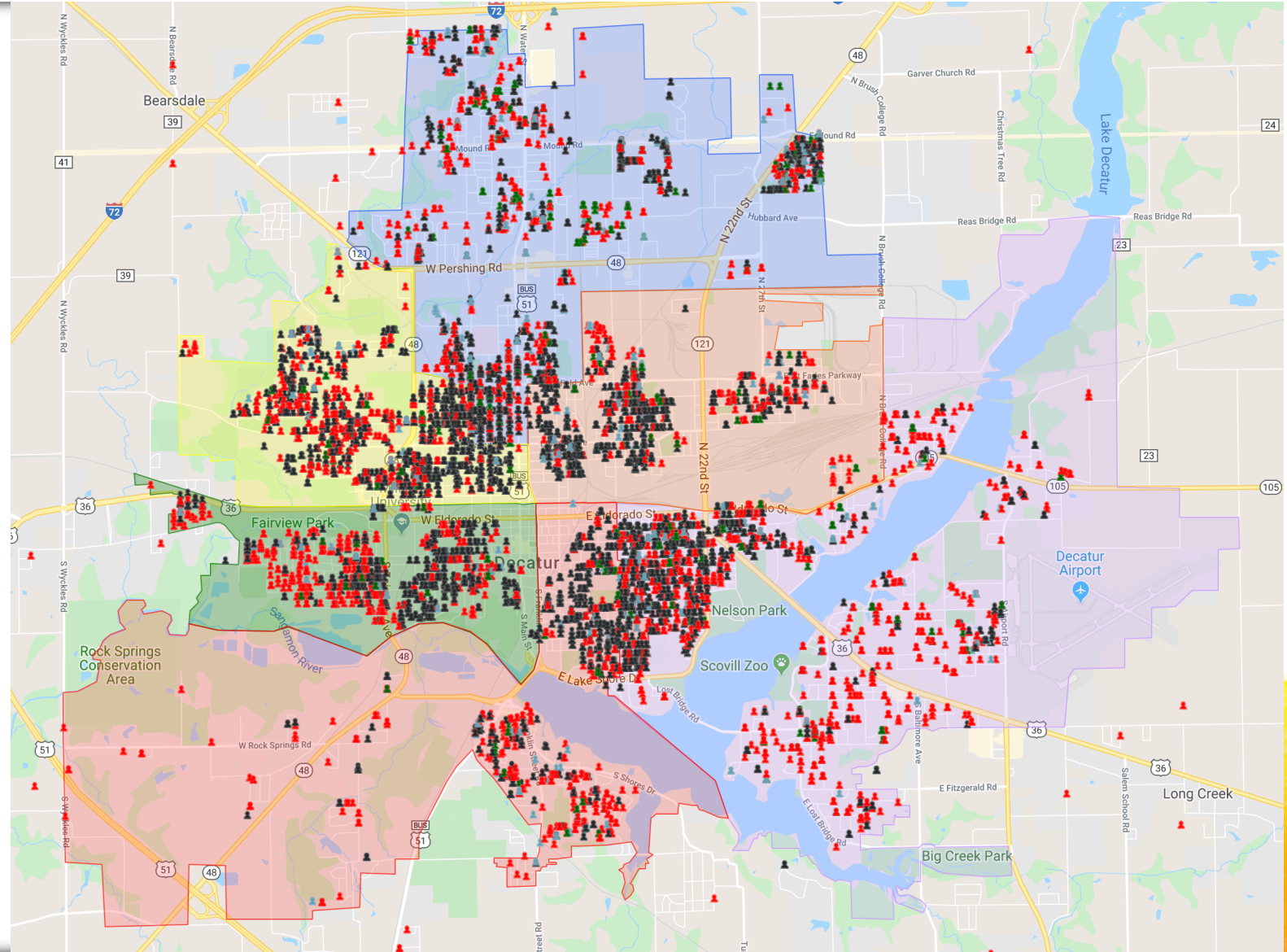
NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL EMPHASIS

80% of respondents
to community survey
said students should
have the opportunity
to attend their
neighborhood
school



LOCATING OUR STUDENTS

Mapping tool used
to determine where
students live,
demographics, etc.



BAUM/MUFFLEY

Scenario Q

Current Combined Enrollment	718
-----------------------------	-----

Currently Attend Other DPS School Outside Boundary	40
----------------------------------------------------	----

Currently Attend DPS Magnet Program (not including Durfee)	330
------------------------------------------------------------	-----

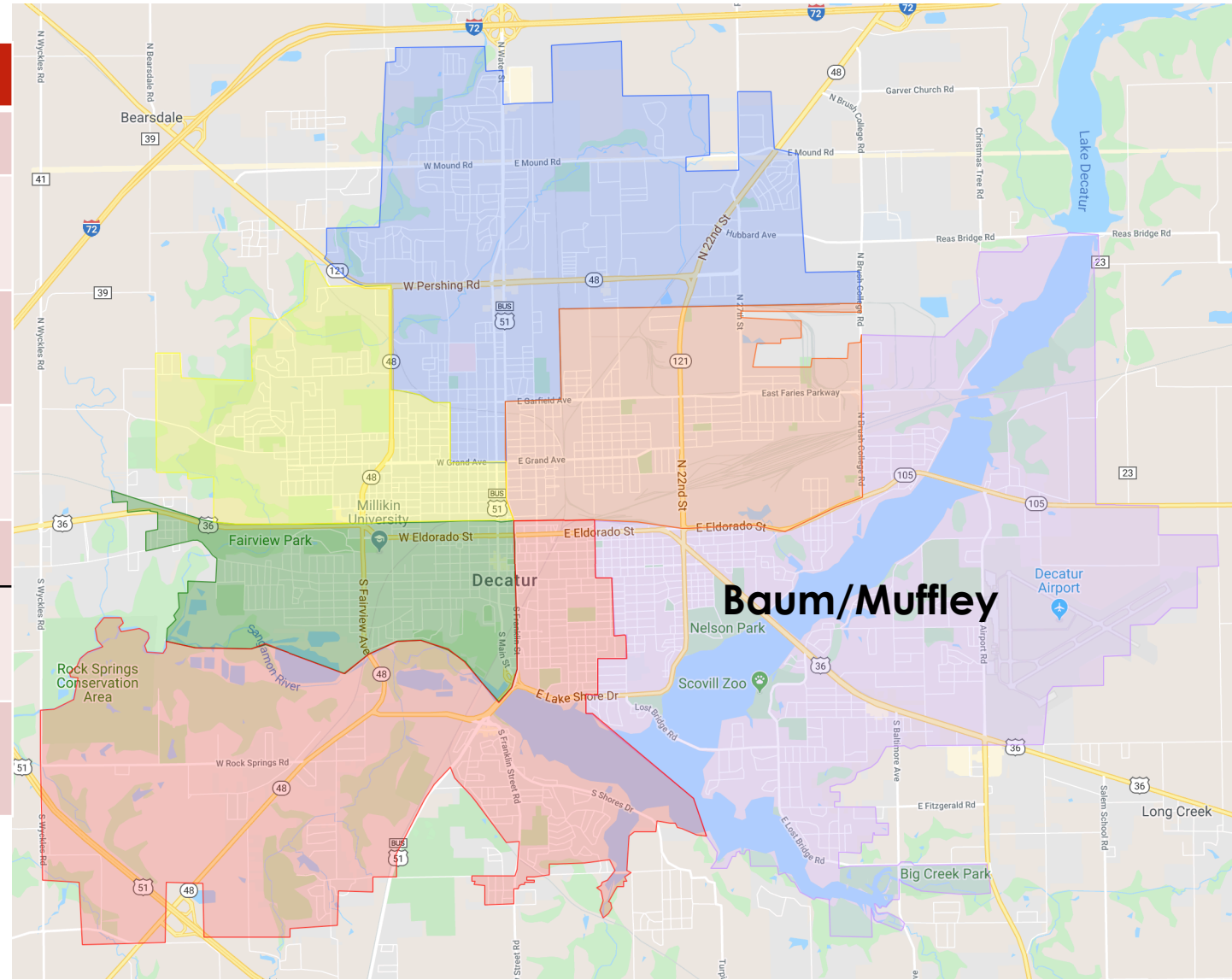
Total Student Population in New Boundary	984
------------------------------------------	-----

Anticipated Enrollment

670

New Boundary Demographics	42.3% Black 45.9% White
---------------------------	----------------------------

New Boundary % Receiving Free/Reduced Meals	74.3%
---------------------------------------------	-------



RECOMMENDATION



KEEP BAUM OPEN AS DUAL CAMPUS WITH MUFFLEY

The Boundary Committee evaluated both the student population and BLDD's plan for school additions. The Committee realized the need for flexibility during and beyond the BOLD Plan transitions and recommends keeping Baum open as a solution.

STEVENSON/PARSONS

Scenario Q

Current Combined Enrollment	528
-----------------------------	-----

Currently Attend Other DPS School Outside Boundary	47
----------------------------------------------------	----

Currently Attend DPS Magnet Program (not including Durfee)	372
------------------------------------------------------------	-----

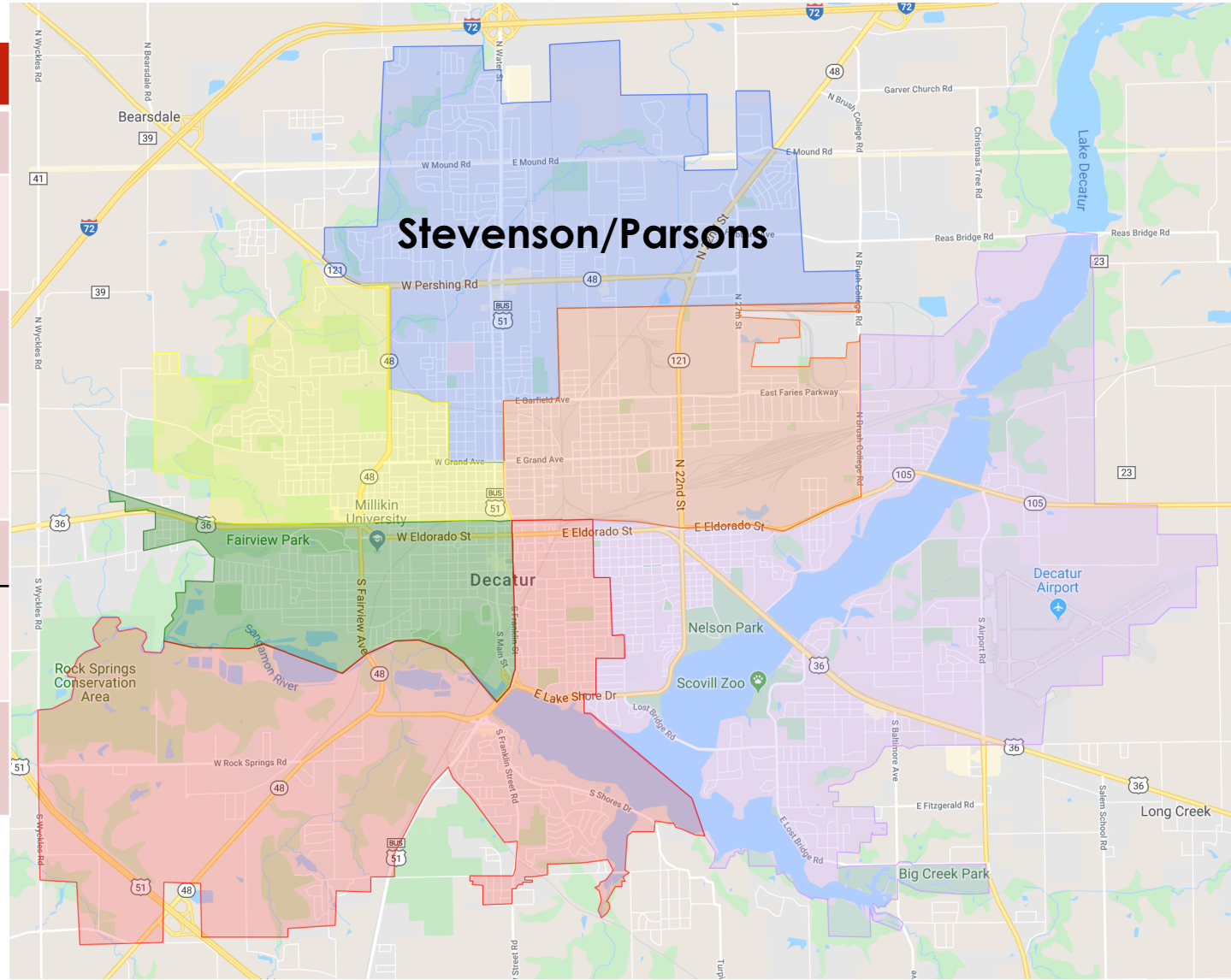
Total Student Population in New Boundary	874
------------------------------------------	-----

Anticipated Enrollment

Anticipated Enrollment	550
------------------------	-----

New Boundary Demographics	51.4% Black 33.5% White
---------------------------	----------------------------

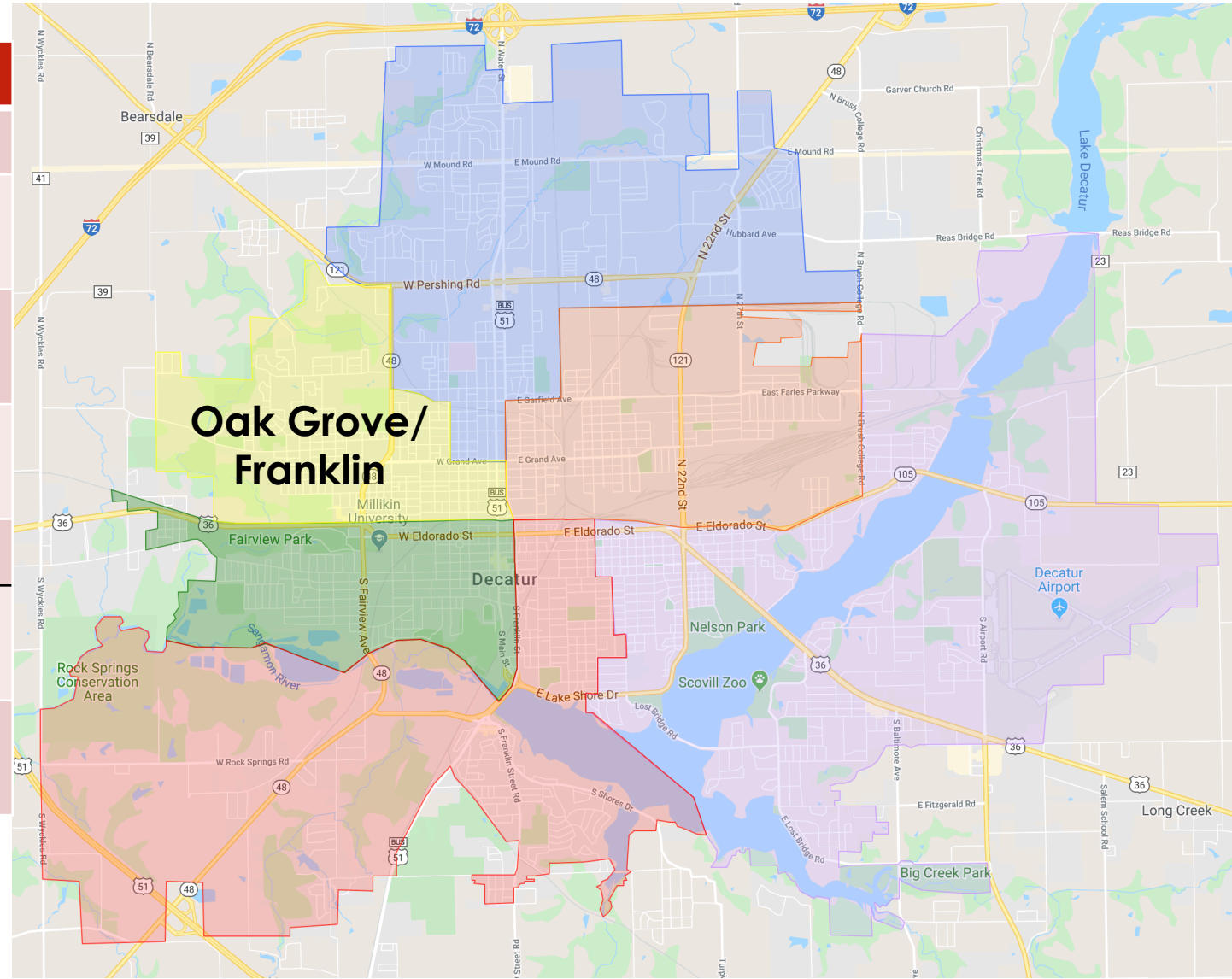
New Boundary % Receiving Free/Reduced Meals	70.6%
---------------------------------------------	-------



OAK GROVE/FRANKLIN

Scenario Q

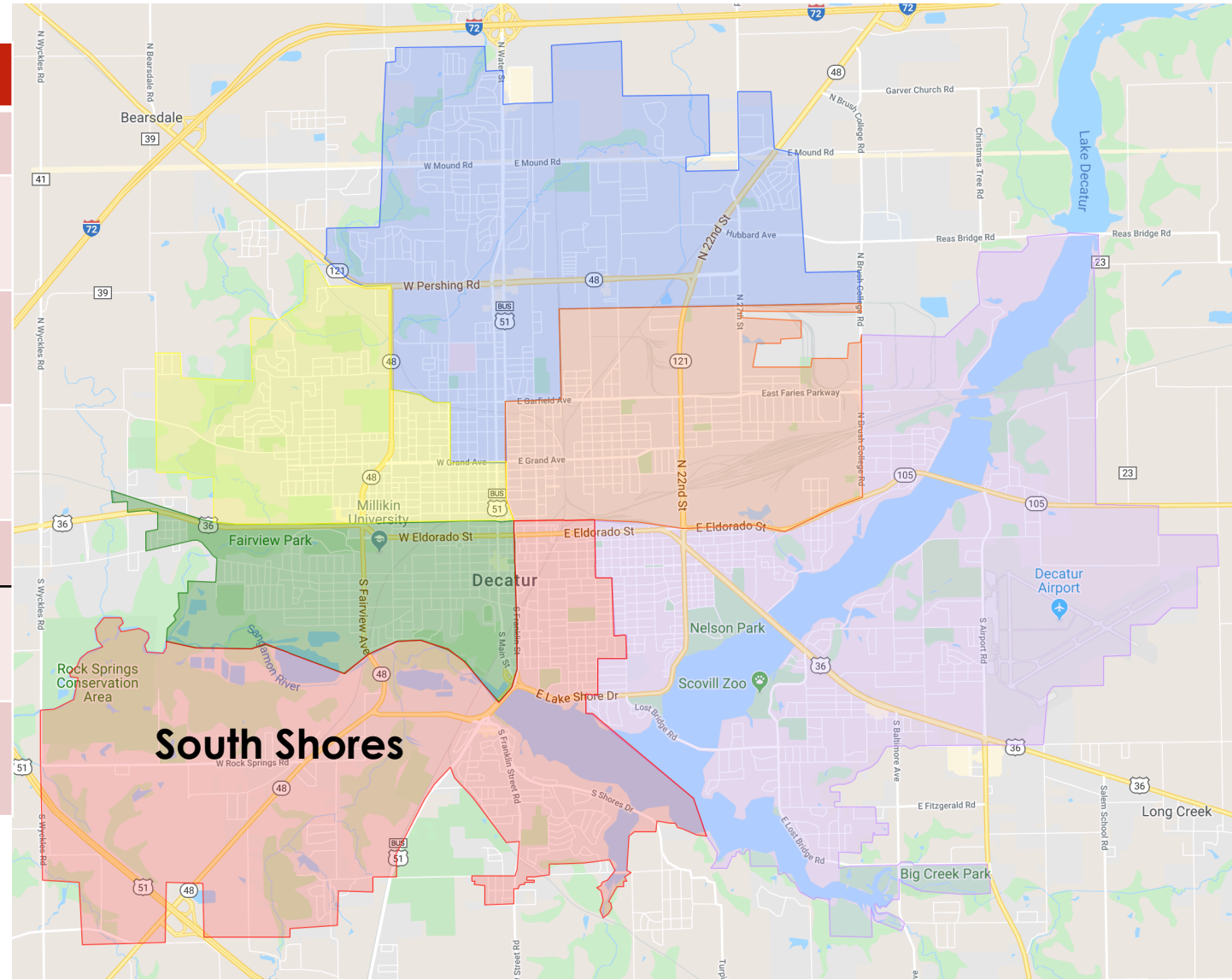
Current Combined Enrollment	522
Currently Attend Other DPS School Outside Boundary	70
Currently Attend DPS Magnet Program (not including Durfee)	233
Total Student Population in New Boundary	756
Anticipated Enrollment	540
New Boundary Demographics	62.4% Black 28.8% White
New Boundary % Receiving Free/Reduced Meals	75.6%



SOUTH SHORES

Scenario Q

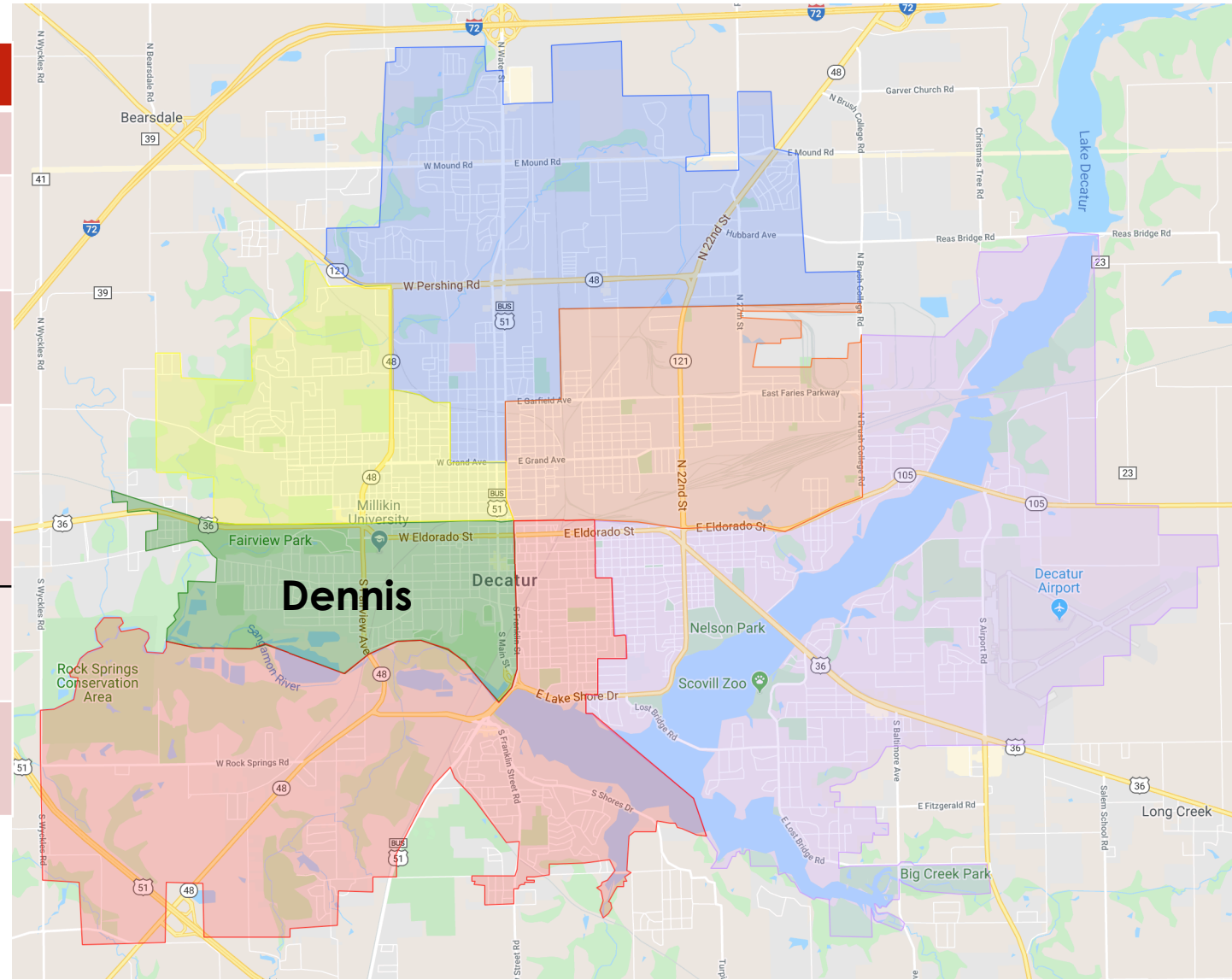
Current Enrollment	291
Currently Attend Other DPS School Outside Boundary	97
Currently Attend DPS Magnet Program (not including Durfee)	253
Total Student Population in New Boundary	569
Anticipated Enrollment	350
New Boundary Demographics	54.4% Black 34.0% White
New Boundary % Receiving Free/Reduced Meals	65.8%



DENNIS LAB SCHOOL (K-8)

Scenario Q

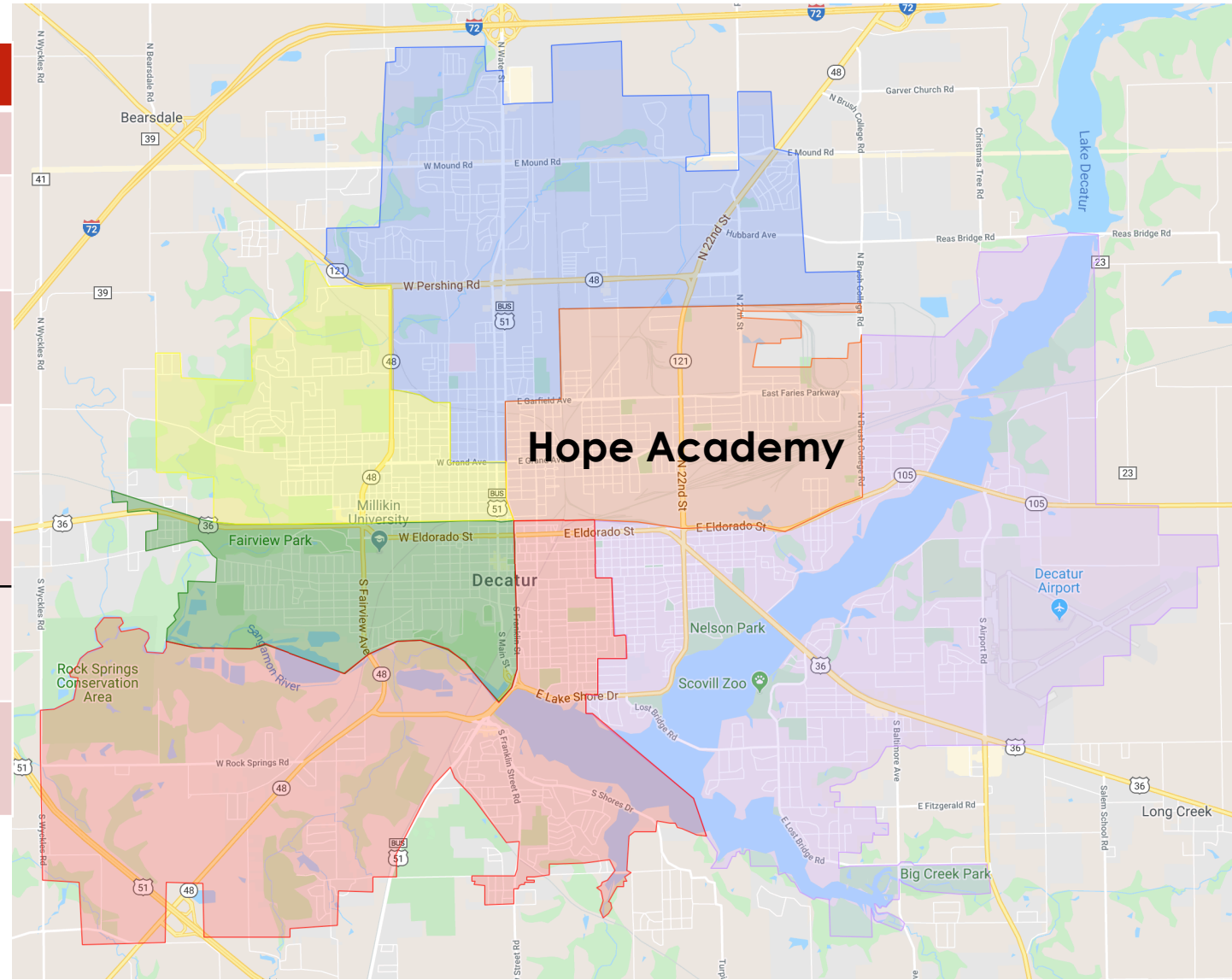
Current Enrollment	463
Currently Attend Other DPS School Outside Boundary	130 (Elementary) 75 (Middle School)
Currently Attend DPS Magnet Program (not including Durfee)	286
Total Student Population in New Boundary	896
Anticipated Enrollment	690
New Boundary Demographics	52.1% Black 43.6% White
New Boundary % Receiving Free/Reduced Meals	63.6%



HOPE ACADEMY (K-8)

Scenario Q

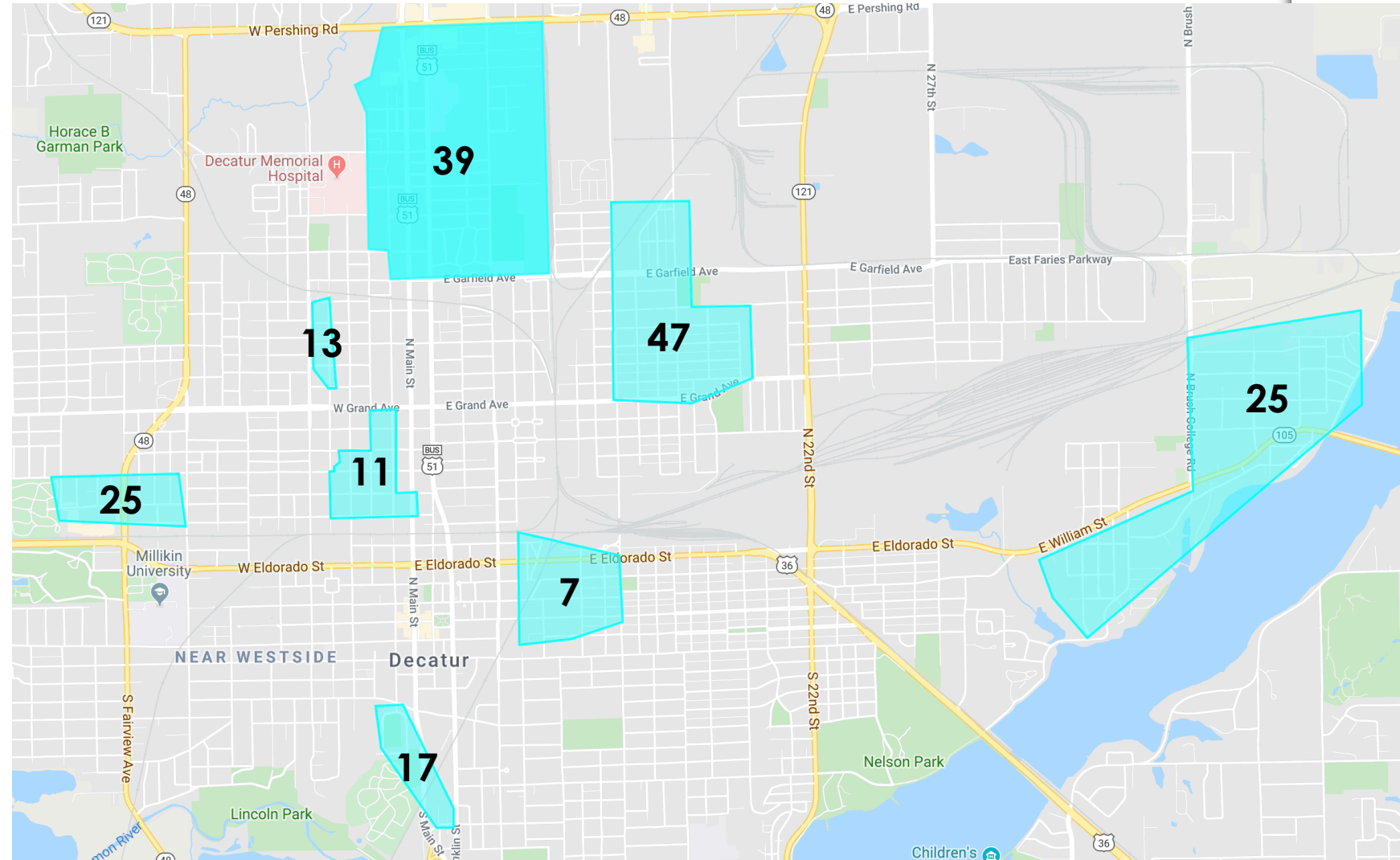
Current Enrollment	733
Currently Attend Other DPS School Outside Boundary	123 (Elementary) 97 (Middle School)
Currently Attend DPS Magnet Program (not including Durfee)	136
Total Student Population in New Boundary	668
Anticipated Enrollment	600
New Boundary Demographics	65.3% Black 23.5% White
New Boundary % Receiving Free/Reduced Meals	77.1%



IMPACTED AREAS

Map shows areas that are impacted by these changes in boundaries, compared to if we simply combined current school attendance areas

**= 184 ELEMENTARY
BOUNDARY
STUDENTS IMPACTED**



PHASED-IN IMPLEMENTATION

August 2020

- Students who live in but do not currently attend Dennis and South Shores will have the option to attend those schools OR stay in their current building
- Closing of Durfee Magnet
 - Durfee students will be assigned back to their new boundary schools
 - Durfee families also have the option to apply to a different magnet program
 - Administrators receiving students will meet with Durfee families prior to transition
- New boundaries will apply to all new students, including Kindergartners
- Pod System exists another year
- If enrollment overruns occur, we will do our best to place those students in their future neighborhood school or the school that they are combining with in August 2021

August 2021

- All students will be assigned to their new neighborhood schools (not including Magnet students)
- Students/families can go through the appeal process to stay at current schools outside of neighborhood boundary



ESTABLISH APPEAL PROCESS

- Grandfathering: We will continue to be kind to our families throughout these transitions
- Establish appeal process, including clear parameters and deadlines, for staying at current schools outside of neighborhood boundary
- Create District Appeal Committee, made up of a wide range of District stakeholders, to review appeals



OTHER AREAS OF CONCERN

BOUNDARY COMMITTEE EXPRESSED CONCERN IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS

Hope Academy

- The Boundary Committee overwhelmingly believes that Hope Academy would be more successful as a neighborhood school.
- DPS research shows few parents select Hope as a magnet – it's been used primarily for enrollment balancing.
- The Committee believes Hope should find a school theme that best meets the needs of its students.

Equity of Resources

- Ensuring equity of program resources for all students
- The committee requests District leaders compare PD opportunities and instructional assistance offered to boundary and magnet schools

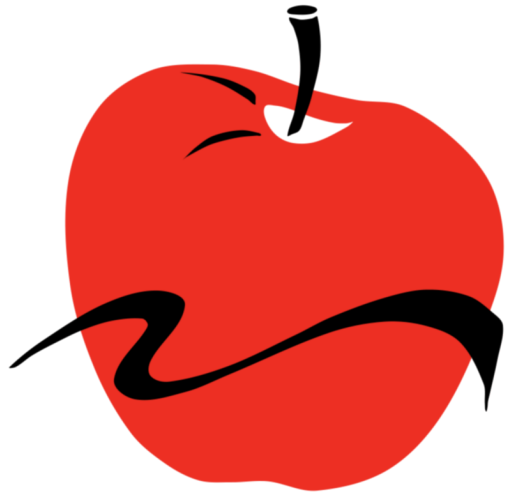
Magnet Access

- Ensuring equity of access to magnet schools
 - Example: Johns Hill recruiting from students living in the neighborhood
- Identify possible barriers to access that keep parents from applying to magnet programs

COMMUNICATION PLAN

- Essential to communicate frequently with parents, families, and our community before and during boundary transitions
- Communication plan includes:
 - Personal conversations
 - Updated webpage
 - Online form to submit questions
 - FAQ document
 - Videos
 - Fact sheet
 - Letter to parents
 - Podcast





**Decatur
Public
Schools**

Educating for Success

QUESTIONS?

Boundary Committee
Recommendation