

## Fall 2023 Redistricting Study

### Background

In response to current overcrowding at Baker-Butler Elementary and planned developments along the 29N corridor, a new elementary school is planned. Based on the timing of available funding, the school will open for the 2029-30 school year. In the meantime, Baker-Butler will need more immediate capacity relief. With more than 750 students, it is the second largest elementary school in the division and is projected to continue to grow. In addition to Baker-Butler, two other northern feeder pattern schools are also experiencing enrollment challenges: Woodbrook is modestly overenrolled; Stony Point is under enrolled and is currently the smallest school in the division. To take the most comprehensive approach, the entire northern feeder pattern should be studied for potential boundary changes.

Redistricting Advisory Committees are governed by [School Board Policy FB: Facilities Planning:](#)

School Board Policy FB-AP Page 6

#### *REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE*

- 1. A Redistricting Advisory Committee will be convened when a new school is anticipated or as directed by the School Board. The Committee will be comprised of citizens selected by the Superintendent from applications from school communities, a member of the Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee selected by other members, and a member of the Equity and Diversity Committee. The Superintendent supervises and monitors the work of the Committee.*
- 2. The Committee's charge will be to work in cooperation with staff to analyze relevant data and redistricting options to present to the Superintendent. The Superintendent will then make a recommendation to the School Board. The Superintendent's recommendations will be provided to the School Board with supporting documents including all options provided by the committee.*
- 3. As part of its process, the Committee will schedule at least one public meeting to provide an opportunity for citizens to be informed of proposed changes and react to the proposals. The Redistricting Committee's meetings will be open to the public and minutes of the meetings will be available on the School Division's website.*

*Through the above-outlined procedures, the School Board anticipates that effective planning to meet future enrollment trends will occur and that the citizenry of Albemarle County will be involved in and informed about these plans.*

## Study Objectives

The primary objective of the study is to recommend a two-phased approach to creating new boundaries in the northern feeder pattern. The study should produce a recommendation that will address current and projected enrollment issues and a preliminary recommendation for a boundary for the new elementary school.

### *Phase 1 Objectives*

1. Decrease enrollment at Baker Butler
2. Decrease enrollment at Woodbrook
3. Increase enrollment at Stony Point
4. Increase or decrease enrollment at other schools to accomplish above objectives
5. Adjust middle school boundaries if needed based on the other objectives
6. Finalize location of new elementary school
7. Create preliminary boundary for a new elementary school\* and increase or decrease enrollment at other schools to accomplish.

*\*This will be a draft recommendation and for planning purposes only. The boundary recommendation may be revisited closer to the implementation based on the most recently available enrollment data.*

### *Phase 2 Objectives*

- Finalize the boundary for a new elementary school and increase or decrease enrollment at other schools to accomplish this objective.
- Adjust middle school boundaries if needed

## Guiding Principles

*The boundary options created and evaluated by the committee shall be assessed by the following guiding principles:*

- Attendance areas will serve the district for at least 3-5 years with a goal of 5-7 years
- Attendance areas will be largely contiguous
- Walk areas for each school will be considered
- Transportation routes will be as efficient as possible, giving consideration to minimizing ride times within acceptable parameters
- Neighborhoods will be assigned to the same school whenever possible
- Greater demographic balance amongst impacted schools will be implemented where feasible
- Balanced facility utilization (enrollment vs. capacity), while allowing more capacity in higher growth districts
- If it can be avoided, a household should not move in both phases
- Split feeder patterns should be minimized (*A split feeder pattern is when an elementary school boundary is divided and districted to attend two different middle schools.*)
  - If it can be avoided no new ones should be created.
  - If possible current ones should be eliminated or reduced.

*Note: Allowing legacy boundaries for existing students will be considered by the Board on a study by study basis.*

## Committee Composition

The committee should be comprised of the following representatives for a total 26 members:

- Four (4) representatives from Baker-Butler Elementary
- Two (2) representatives from each of the following schools: Hollymead Elementary, Broadus Wood Elementary, Stony Point Elementary, Agnor-Hurt Elementary, Woodbrook Elementary, Greer Elementary, Stone Robinson Elementary, Lakeside Middle, Journey Middle, Burley Middle
- One (1) representative from the Long Range Planning Advisory Committee
- One (1) representative recommended by the Office of Community Engagement

\*Representatives from the schools in the southern or western feeder pattern will be added if needed (i.e. a school gets introduced into a scenario)

\*\*Total number of representatives may be reduced if representative can serve two purposes (i.e. Baker-Butler and Lakeside representative)

## General Timeline

This is a general timeline for planning purposes only. The schedule may be adjusted once the committee starts working as they may need more or less meetings depending on the complexity of the options considered.

### July 2023

- Staff presents recommendation for scope and process of study to the School Board

### August 2023

- Study is on the consent agenda of the August 10 School Board meeting for approval.
- If approved, Superintendent begins to advertise for the committee

### September 2023

- Committee Meeting #1 - Scope, objectives, preliminary data
- Committee Meeting #2 - Community Development: Development pipeline overview

### October 2023

- Enrollment and Capacity Projections are updated
- Committee Meeting #3 - Begin to develop scenarios
- Committee Meeting #4 - Continue to develop scenarios

### November 2023

- Committee Meeting #5 - Finalize draft scenarios
- *Community Meeting #1 - Present multiple scenarios*

### December 2023

- Committee Meeting #6 - Revise scenarios, begin to narrow down options

### January 2024

- Committee Meeting #7 (if needed)
- *Community Meeting #2 (if needed)*
- Committee Meeting #8 - Finalize recommendation to Superintendent

### February 2024

- Superintendent presents his recommendation to School Board
- School Board holds a public hearing
- School Board votes on the Superintendent's recommendation

### February - August 2024

- Families are notified and transition activities take place

### 2024-25 School Year

- New boundaries go into effect (Phase 1)

### Fall 2028

- Revisit draft boundary for new school and determine if any adjustments need to be made

### August 2029

- New school opens
- New boundaries go into effect (Phase 2)