

Elementary School Attendance Boundary Changes

Frequently Asked Questions

In November 2017, we asked for YOUR feedback and questions related to the elementary school attendance boundaries, which will be changing with the construction of a 4th elementary school. Thank you for taking the time to provide us with your thoughts! Below are answers to some of the questions you posed.

Timeline Questions:

1. When will Kamiak Elementary open?

Currently, Kamiak construction is projected to be completed March 2019. Due to feedback from parents and staff, we will not be opening Kamiak midyear. We will open Kamiak in the fall of 2019.

2. When will elementary attendance boundaries change?

Elementary boundaries will NOT change for the 2018-2019 school year. Adopted elementary attendance boundaries will be implemented for the 2019-2020 school year.

3. When will families be notified of their school placement?

The elementary attendance boundary committee will present a proposal for revisions of attendance areas to the school board in April of 2018. After the board approves attendance area revisions, information will be posted to the district website and shared via email, peachjar and Facebook.

4. Will new families attend school based on current attendance guidelines or the new attendance boundaries?

As possible, new families (including incoming kindergarteners without elementary aged siblings) will be placed in the school that their student would attend based on 2019-2020 attendance boundaries. We hope this will minimize the amount of change for those families. Parents of Incoming kindergarteners with an older, elementary-aged sibling, will be given the option of having their kindergarten student attend school with the older sibling for 2018-2019, or attend the school they will be placed at in 2019-2020.

Process Questions:

1. What factors are being considered as elementary school attendance boundaries are revised?

The elementary attendance boundary revision committee, based heavily on community input, developed and agreed to the following list of guiding principles:

- Consider future growth
- Aim to have each school reflect the diversity of our community
- Create boundaries that will maintain continuity in neighborhoods, including rural areas
- Minimize the number of families impacted
- Minimize time to and from school + maximize safety and efficiency

2. What is the process being used to revise boundaries? Will there be an outside party hired by the district to assist and advise the district on the most logical boundaries? Will a number of different scenarios be prepared & proposed?

A committee of parents, community members and staff are working with Flo Analytics (a company that specializes in school district boundary adjustment processes) to review data and develop proposal(s) that will be shared at community forums as well as online.

3. Will the process remain transparent and open to community input? How will the community be informed at various stages in the process?

The committee work sessions are open to the public. The public can observe but not participate in the committee work. At the end of each work session a summary of the meeting will be posted on the district website. In addition, there will be several opportunities for the public to view developing proposals at scheduled community forums.

Placement Questions:

1. What if my student is assigned to a new school but I want them to stay in their current school? Will there be a process by which a family can appeal to keep a child in the "old" school?

The school choice process will remain in effect. Parents wishing to have their student(s) stay at their current school will need to complete a school choice transfer form. Student(s) will then be placed on a waiting list. If space is available, the school will select a student from the waiting list.

2. Will siblings be placed in the same school?

Siblings will be placed at the same school.

3. Will out of district students still be allowed to choose into Pullman Public Schools?

The school district is currently reviewing out-of-district

student school choice procedures for 2018-19 and beyond. Additional information will be provided soon.

4. Will the new boundaries be firm, or will parents be able to select their preferred school? Will there be a "gray" area where families can choose which school their child attends?

Students must attend the school within their attendance boundary unless they have requested and been accepted in accordance with the in-district transfer process.

5. How do I transfer my student to a school other than their assigned school?

Parents wishing to have their student(s) attend a different school will need to complete an in-district transfer request form and be added to a waiting list. Forms can be found in the district office or on the district website (www.pullmanschools.org) under Parents/Forms. Forms should be submitted to the district office. If space becomes available at the requested school, students will be selected from the waiting list.

6. How will rural students be impacted by this change?

Rural students will attend the school within their assigned attendance boundary unless they have requested and been accepted in accordance with the in-district transfer process.

7. Students that live on College Hill attend all three elementary schools currently. Will the new school change this?

Unknown at this time. It will depend on the final elementary attendance boundaries.

8. Will there be any consideration for students on IEP's/504's?

Consideration for students on IEP's/504's will be on an individual basis.

9. Are district employees able to select the school their student will attend?

The students of district certificated staff must attend the school within their attendance boundary, or the certificated staff member may fill out an in-district transfer form and their student will be allowed to attend the school where their parent works in accordance with RCW 28a.225.225. In addition, a new in-district transfer form must be submitted each school year.

Safety + Transportation Questions:

1. How will traffic flow to the new elementary school be managed?

The school design includes thoughtful traffic flow routes with a bus loop separated from parent drop off and pick up. It is anticipated that Terre View will be connected to Greyhound Way some time in the future, dependent on the progress of the housing development.

2. Will there be adequate cross walks across Terre View when the school is built? How will walking children safely cross this very busy road?

We anticipate that there will be a cross walk and crossing guard.

3. Will students still need to transfer buses?

It is our goal to eliminate as many bus transfers as possible.

4. How will bus routes be determined?

Bus routes will be developed when the new elementary boundaries have been finalized.

Staffing Questions:

1. Will all schools have equal class sizes?

An attempt will be made to balance class sizes as much as possible.

2. How will parapro and special education teacher staffing be addressed to accommodate caseloads?

This will be addressed by the special education director.

3. Does the district need to hire a lot of new teachers and school employees to accommodate this new school?

The district will be hiring additional staff to accommodate increased student growth and anticipated K-3 class size reduction.

4. Will current elementary school teachers move to Kamiak, or will new teachers be hired?

The Kamiak elementary teachers will be a combination of experienced and new staff members.

5. Will the new teachers be hired in time to plan and prepare their classrooms?

Yes.

Miscellaneous Questions:

1. Will there be different start times for elementary schools?

We anticipate that there will be different start times for elementary schools. This is due to the number of students, bus drivers, and bus routes needed.

2. Would the district consider having grade-band schools?

Grade band schools are not being considered at this time.

3. Will the elementary school boundaries change again in the future? Is future growth in Pullman being considered?

The committee is considering future growth in order to minimize the number of times that the district will need to change or adjust elementary school boundaries.

4. Is the district considering how growth will impact the middle school and high school?

Yes. The high school is designed to accommodate future growth and we are studying options for the middle school.

5. How will reassigned students be transitioned to a new school?

The district will develop plans to transition reassigned students in the near future.

6. Since the size of the schools are different, how will the schools be balanced?

The committee will look at each school's capacity to balance grade levels across the district.

7. Has the district considered moving a few grades at a time?

The district considered this, but did not pursue this option due to the number of elementary aged students and the K-3 grade class size reduction plan.

PULLMAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Pullman Education Foundation would like to thank the following for their generous donation to the Annual Appeal made by February 1, 2018. Contributions to the Annual Appeal can be made at any time to Pullman Education Foundation, PO Box 151, Pullman, WA 99163.

Friends (\$10-49)

- Gerald Hooper
- Charlene Gustafson

Optimists (\$50-99)

- Lani Walton and Curt Albrecht
- Patrick and Trisha Doumit
- Tim and Diane Marsh
- James Onstad
- Carol Sayles and Mike Rydbom
- Gordon Sedlacek
- Anonymous
- Miranda and Scott Thompson
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- Amy and Chip Tull
- Jean and James Logan
- Partners (\$100-499)
- Pickard Orthodontics
- Midge Bashaw
- Glenn and Kathy Johnson

Leaders (\$500+)

- John and Mary Ramirez

The Pullman Education Foundation offers \$10,000 in college scholarships for graduating seniors at Pullman High School. Applications and more information can be found by visiting the Counseling Center College Funding page at pshs.pullmanschools.org/. Deadline for all PEF applications is April 13.

BOARD REPORT

Food Pantry Program Grows to Include Lincoln Middle School

Amanda Tanner, Board Member

For my first Community Update article as a school board member, I am very excited to share with the Pullman Community about the recent start of a Food Pantry at Lincoln Middle School, thanks to the hard work and support of many people in Pullman.

Through parents involved at the schools, and administrators and staff expressing concerns of food insecurity, a food pantry was started first at Jefferson Elementary in April 2017. After some learning and much success, the organizers decided to expand their efforts to include Franklin Elementary. Now the program has been successfully extended again, to Lincoln Middle School.

While visiting LMS on Tuesday January 23, I was lucky enough to witness a couple passionate volunteers setting up and organizing the new pantry at LMS. It was amazing to see the energy and excitement these volunteers had for helping students. Everything was well thought out, and carefully pieced together. **Linhda Sagen**, an integral volunteer and advocate of the pantries said, "We don't offer cereal, because we can't easily provide milk. So instead, we give them instant oatmeal". She also shared that they are diligently working to be mindful of quality, offering fresh and healthy snacks like cheese and fruit.

After all the effort, work, and organization, it was execution time. On Thursday January 25, the program was officially launched at LMS. Students from the LMS Spirit and Builders Clubs began packing bags of nutritious food for 16 students to take home for the weekend.

Some things that are unique about the LMS Food Pantry:

1. Fellow students are packing the food, and learning how to help their peers.
2. They are directly empowering the students, by having the food go directly with them.
3. 100% of the food is from food drives or donations.

This is an amazing resource in our schools. The incredible people that have made this work in 3 of our schools are excited to continue growing into the other 2 schools, as well as the new elementary school (Kamiak), scheduled to open in 2019. With the continued support of the community, these are very attainable goals.

These weekend food programs are fully run on donations and volunteers. If you are interested in becoming involved or donating to the pantries, please contact the following chairs:



- Jefferson Elementary, **Linhda Sagen** at linhdasagen@yahoo.com
- Franklin Elementary, **Kirstin Lightfoot** at kirstinlightfoot@yahoo.com
- Lincoln Middle School, **Cindy Nazerali** at cnazerali@msn.com

Our kids can't be successful learners if they are hungry. Thank you to everyone that continues to work on addressing food insecurity in our community.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the support of our community in electing me into the school board. I am very excited to embark on this journey, and I look forward to serving. More importantly, I would like to thank **Dean Kinzer**, and **Karl Johanson** for their many years of service on the school board. We have all benefitted from many successes thanks to their dedication and commitment to Pullman Public Schools. Thank you!

Board of Directors

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PULLMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
**KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION**

WHEN THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2018
9AM - 3PM

WHERE PIONEER CENTER
MULTIPURPOSE ROOM
240 SE DEXTER STREET

PLEASE BRING BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND
IMMUNIZATION RECORDS

The Pullman School District Board of Directors and the Pullman School District shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities programs without regard to race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation (including gender expression or identity), marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, participation in the Boy Scouts of America or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. The district will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. District programs will be free from sexual harassment.

The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: **Roberta Kramer**, Assistant Superintendent, Pullman School District Administrative Offices, 240 SE Dexter Street, Pullman, WA 99163, 509.332.3144. Applicants with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations in the application process by contacting the Personnel Coordinator at (509) 332-3584.

Child Find 2017-2018

Early Childhood Developmental Screening

PULLMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ensuring Learning While Challenging and Supporting Each Student to Achieve Full Potential

WHO: Children - Birth through 5 years of age who are living in the Pullman School District, including children who may be living in a temporary or homeless situation.

WHAT: This screening is an opportunity to identify, locate, and evaluate children with disabilities and to address potential concerns.

WHEN: Friday mornings during the 2017-2018 school year:

- September 8th
- October 6th
- November 3rd
- January 5th
- February 2nd
- March 2nd
- April 13th
- May 4th

WHERE: Community Child Care Center/Head Start
530 NW Larry Street (aka Greyhound Way) (behind Pullman High School)
Pullman, WA



For more information or to schedule an appointment please contact:

Paula Bates
State & Federal Special Programs Coordinator
Phone: 509-332-3144



The Pullman School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veterans or military status, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to designated youth groups. This holds true for all district employment and opportunities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the Assistant Superintendent, Pullman School District Administrative Offices, 240 SE Dexter Street, Pullman, WA 99163, 509/332-3144. Applicants with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations in the application process by contacting the Personnel Coordinator at (509) 332-3584.



NEW—SafeSchools Alert

Safety is one of our district's top priorities and to help safeguard our school community, we've implemented a new reporting service called SafeSchools Alert.

SafeSchools Alert is a tip reporting service that allows students, staff, and parents to submit safety concerns to our administration four different ways: Phone, Text, Email, and Online.

You can easily report tips on bullying, harassment, drugs, vandalism or any safety issue you're concerned about through SafeSchools Alert.

Every tip SafeSchools Alert receives about our district is immediately logged in the system and our administration is notified so that they can investigate and take appropriate action. And, tips may also be submitted anonymously if you prefer.

Together, using SafeSchools Alert, we can make our district a safer place to work and learn! Thanks in advance for your support.

A link to the SafeSchool Alert can be found on the homepage of our district website, and on the homepage of each of our school websites.