

CHARGE TO THE 2019-2020 REALIGNMENT COMMITTEE

The future opening of a new elementary and new middle school in the Westerville City School District has created a need for the realignment of attendance boundaries at those instructional levels. The Westerville Board of Education and the Superintendent recognize that community input into the realignment process is critical. Therefore, as part of its efforts to develop an effective, appropriate boundary realignment plan, the Westerville Board of Education hereby creates the 2019-2020 Realignment Committees. District staff who are facilitating and serving on a committee are charged with the task of engaging the community, incorporating community feedback, and bringing recommended changes to current elementary and middle school attendance boundaries to the Board of Education for its consideration or subsequent approval. The Superintendent's Executive Leadership Team and/or his designees will serve as a sounding board "Plan Development Committee" to provide requested guidance to the Realignment Committees as they complete their work and to ensure the recommendations are in line with the standards set forth in this charge.

Realignment Committee Structure

Each Realignment Committee will consist of two co-facilitators, five community members, and other district staff as appointed by the Superintendent. The administrative cofacilitator will be responsible for bringing forth boundary recommendations to the Plan Development Committee. Staff members participating on the committee will be appointed based upon their job functions, areas of expertise, and/or instructional level to which they are assigned.

Committee Responsibilities

The Realignment Committee(s) is charged with developing options regarding possible elementary and middle school attendance boundary adjustments for the Westerville City Schools. The committee(s) will recommend boundary adjustments that conform to the following parameters:

1. Each school should have a total student population consistent with the number of classrooms planned to serve the general population, exclusive of rooms set aside for other uses.
2. Students living within non-transport boundaries for one or more schools should receive strong consideration to be assigned to one of those buildings.
3. When possible, recommended boundaries should eliminate the need to "overflow" students and take into consideration space to accommodate anticipated enrollment growth.
4. Consideration should be given to all schools' demographic profiles during the attendance boundary development process.
5. Change from the present attendance boundaries should be minimized.
6. Students with disabilities should be placed in accordance with applicable laws with consideration given to appropriate services, specialized spaces, and sound educational practices that meet students' identified needs.
7. All students within the new attendance boundaries, with the exception of magnet program students and participants in the Longfellow all-day kindergarten program, shall be required to attend their assigned school except when approved through the open enrollment process or reassigned by the Superintendent/designee for extenuating circumstances.
8. Student travel time on school transportation should be considered (excluding Magnet Schools).

The Realignment Committee(s) will hold a minimum of four public forums and provide other electronic options for the purpose of soliciting feedback on proposed attendance boundary configurations. Feedback from the public shall be utilized by the Committee(s) as it works toward the formulation of its final recommendations.

Meetings of the Realignment Committee(s) will conform to all applicable provisions of the Sunshine Law. Committee chairpersons will make public progress reports to the Board of Education and Superintendent periodically as they work toward the goal of bringing forward boundary adjustments for Board approval on October 12, 2020.