



Student Assignment Meeting Summary

1/29/2025

Miller Grove High School Library

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Meeting Agenda

- ✓ Welcome and housekeeping
- ✓ Understand the vision and outcome
- ✓ Learn DCSD Boundaries
- ✓ Understand the difference between redistricting and reimagining
- ✓ Explore opportunities and challenges related to boundaries
- ✓ Spend time with DCSD maps
- ✓ Share out
- ✓ What's next
- ✓ Complete exit ticket

Key Takeaways

Effective redistricting and reimagining must balance fiscal responsibility, community needs, and operational efficiency, while also considering how to foster engagement and build stronger relationships with families.

Topics

Redistricting and Fiscal Responsibility

- Running schools with low capacity is financially unsustainable as costs remain high regardless of student numbers.
 - The operational costs for schools, including staff, safety, and maintenance, remain constant regardless of enrollment levels.
- Redistricting needs to address overcrowding and underutilization to optimize resource allocation.

Community Engagement and Support



- Families often value clear, one-to-one feeder patterns (elementary to middle to high school), but proximity-based redistricting may be more efficient.
- 1/3 of the student population shifts annually, so while feeder patterns are important, there may need to be flexibility to accommodate constant population changes.
- Engaging families in the planning process is crucial, and transparent, open communication will help mitigate concerns and resistance. Marketing and highlighting the positive aspects of schools, especially at student competitions and performances, is key to altering community perceptions.
 - Building trust requires showing the community how schools are improving, not just focusing on structural changes.

Challenges and Opportunities in Mapping and Planning

- One suggestion of this committee could be to align schools' offerings and programs with their feeder patterns to create smoother transitions for students and families, which will help maintain educational consistency.
- There is a desire to rethink boundaries and possibly create a more flexible system that could allow students to access schools based on proximity, which could reduce transportation costs.

Reimagining the School Experience

- There is discussion about redefining what educational experiences could look like, such as offering more hands-on learning opportunities and greater flexibility in student programs.
- Consideration is given to how schools engage families in a modern context—using technology and social media, for example, to promote school activities and make PTAs more accessible.
 - Online engagements can offer more opportunities for parents to be involved.
- Potential Next Step: Develop a long-term vision for the district, identifying key priorities and goals for the next 20-50 years.
 - This could involve shifting the district's approach to boundaries, staffing, and educational offerings.

Next Steps



Review additional data posted to Google Drive and website.

Continue analyzing assigned data sets and brainstorming ideas.

Southwest & Southeast Committee's next meeting is scheduled for February 26 at the AIC for the Meeting of the Whole.