

DAVID'S BOE MEETING BRIEF

Breaking down Board of Education meetings

SCHOOL BOUNDARY STUDY

Following a work session and presentation by staff, the Board approved an elementary school boundary study to review and make recommendations to balance enrollments at the most overcrowded schools (excluding Delmar). This process follows the Board's policy on School Attendance Areas and Redistricting.

The policy specifies criteria to develop school boundaries, including proximity to schools, student demographics, impact on neighborhoods, capacity trends, geographic features, and transportation.

The public will be able to learn about the process, criteria, timeline, and objectives at a Public Information Session, held at two different locations, mid-September.

The study begins with data collection and continues through the summer with data analysis and assimilation. A background report and baseline options will be developed by the end of October followed by the Planning Team, consisting of staff, consultants, and Wicomico County residents, developing options. Draft boundary changes will be presented to the public mid-November 2024.

Mid-November, the public will be presented with draft changes for feedback. After receiving feedback, the Superintendent will present his recommendation to the Board of Education in early January 2025 followed by a public hearing and additional work sessions as desired by the Board, prior to the Board voting in early February on new School Boundary Plan for the 2025/2026 school year.

During this process there will be a Boundary Study website where the public can access existing maps, videos, and a general feedback form.

CONSENT ITEMS

- **Personnel Matters:** At each meeting the Board approves appointment of staff, leaves of absence for medical or to further the staff member's education, promotions, and separations. Since these are personnel related, discussion occurs in a closed session.
- **Negotiated Agreements:** Annually the Board approves revised agreements with teachers, administrators, and support staff.
- **Revised Policies**
 - Integrated Pest Management Policy
 - Health Insurance Benefit for Retired Employees Policy
 - Evaluation of Administrative Staff Policy
 - Anabolic Steroids Human Growth Hormone Policy
 - Student Records Policy

Consent Items are non-controversial items voted on at once to streamline meetings. Board members either previously discussed the items or they had the opportunity to in advance.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The Board and public received copies of the following renewed Memorandums of Understanding:

- Wicomico County Department of Emergency Services (disaster preparedness)
- Town of Pittsville (ball field use)
- Wicomico Partnership for Families and Children (Language, Literacy and Math Language Kits)

In addition, revised procedures were provided for Community Use of School Facilities and Grading, Promotion, and Retention.