

# Results Summary

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## 2. Demographic Information

1. If your student(s) attend an elementary school, please check all that apply for you and your family this school year. If you do not have a student attending an elementary school, skip to Question #2.

	Student(s) in grades K-3	Student(s) in grades 4-6	Respondent Total
Clive	67% (6)	33% (3)	9
Crestview	88% (14)	31% (5)	16
Crossroads Park	76% (38)	42% (21)	50
Fairmeadows	77% (10)	38% (5)	13
Hillside	67% (4)	50% (3)	6
Jordan Creek	79% (61)	55% (42)	77
Phenix	100% (1)	0% (0)	1
Western Hills	95% (18)	53% (10)	19
Westridge	63% (15)	63% (15)	24
		<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>212</b>
		(skipped this question)	20

2. If your student(s) attend a junior high, please check all that apply for you and your family this school year. If you do not have student(s) attending a junior high, click on [Next](#) to continue.

	Student(s) in grade 7	Student(s) in grade 8	Respondent Total
Indian Hills	61% (14)	43% (10)	23
Stilwell	58% (19)	45% (15)	33
		<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>56</b>
		(skipped this question)	176

## 3. Boundary Options

3. Three boundary options are still under deliberation. These options are designed to relieve enrollment overload in some schools and better utilize available space in others. You may view any of the boundary maps by clicking on their link.

In order to get back to the survey, be sure to click on the [Back](#) button of your web browser to continue the survey.

<a href="#">Option A2</a>	<a href="#">Option A3</a>	<a href="#">Option F2</a>
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Please rate the following:

	strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	Response Average
Option A2	27% (45)	<b>32% (53)</b>	11% (18)	31% (51)	<b>2.45</b>
Option A3	17% (29)	24% (40)	13% (21)	<b>46% (76)</b>	<b>2.87</b>
Option F2	<b>38% (63)</b>	24% (39)	6% (10)	32% (53)	<b>2.32</b>
				<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>170</b>
				(skipped this question)	62

4. Other options/comments:

<a href="#">View</a>	<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>66</b>
	(skipped this question)	166

#### 4. Grandfathering

5. The following two grandfathering options are currently favored by the School Boundary Study Committee. Please rate the following:

	strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	Response Average
Grandfather only students <b>currently</b> in grades 4 and 5; do not include younger siblings enrolled in school.	16% (25)	14% (23)	21% (34)	<b>49% (79)</b>	<b>3.04</b>
Grandfather students <b>currently</b> in grades 4 and 5 and include younger siblings enrolled in school.	<b>45% (76)</b>	23% (39)	11% (18)	22% (37)	<b>2.09</b>
				<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>173</b>
				(skipped this question)	59

6. Other options or comments:

<a href="#">View</a>	<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>63</b>
	(skipped this question)	169

#### 5. Voluntary Transfer

7. The following two voluntary transfer options are currently favored by the School Boundary Study Committee. Please rate the following:

	strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	Response Average
Allow voluntary transfers on a case-by-case/special needs basis.	39% (66)	<b>44% (75)</b>	8% (13)	9% (16)	<b>1.88</b>
Return voluntary transfer students to their assigned neighborhood school, except those who have been in the building for three years or more.	21% (35)	<b>33% (55)</b>	25% (41)	22% (36)	<b>2.47</b>
				<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>176</b>

(skipped this question) 56

8. Other options or comments:

[View](#) Total Respondents 29  
(skipped this question) 203

## 6. School Change?

9. Will your student potentially change schools under the boundary options presently being considered?



## 7. Other Comments

10. Other comments:

[View](#) Total Respondents 63  
(skipped this question) 169

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## Boundary Survey- Feb. 3 cutoff

### Boundary Options Comments

1. We have a child that begins kindergarten at Jordan Creek in Fall '07. We have a child in first grade at Jordan Creek this year. We DO NOT want to have our children split between two schools under any circumstances.
2. F2 should move JC kids to westridge who are around Maffit lake
3. If you are going to try and keep neighborhoods in tact, this option better suits that idea by dividing along the major streets through town. This also allows more children from JC to attend Western Hills, and may help ease that change for the students by having more of their familiar peers there as well.
4. F2 boundary option would diminish home value for residence north of i235 going to CrossRoads today. I strongly disagree with F2 plan. Are the new boundary numbers bases off of enrollment, or residence. We know of a family in the Golf Estates neighborhood and none of their surrounding neighbors go to the same school. So my question is for F2 option, would this end up reducing the number of students for CrossRoads. Last, most of the families around us rely on a balance of taking/picking up kids and using the bus. Grandfather our kids to CrossRoads there will be no bus available. If we decide to switch schools will the bus be free or is this an additional cost.
5. Option F2 is the least disruptive for MY children, but I'm not sure it is the best solution. It is still splitting my children from many of their friends
6. Don't divide neighborhoods. Use major streets such as Ashworth, but not streets within neighborhoods such as Woodland. It seems ridiculous to send kids who can walk across the street to Crossroads to another school further away. Proximity to school is a motivating factor when buying a house and a reason why the prices of those homes are higher. They should "get what they pay for" so to speak.
7. We do not feel that the need for these changes have been adequately explained to the parents, students & families that will be impacted. Hard to believe this situation was not predicted - for example when Hillside was being built. Whole housing developments do not emerge overnight. It seems evident fore-thought & planning were not applied to this situation.
8. We are 100% for changing the boundaries as this yr. we have 1 child at W.Hills and 1 at Fairmeadows. I am very happy that something is being done to allow children to go to their neighborhood schools and attend school with siblings. I hope this means that more sections are being opened up at W.Hills to allow all neighborhood kids to attend!
9. It seems the current boundaries need to be changed. Option F2 appears to require shorter busing routes.
10. From reviewing the boundaries my children would not be impacted by any of the proposed plans. Therefore, it is hard for me to have strong feelings about the various plans. For families that it does impact this has to be a huge issue and they should be listened to very closely and their thoughts and feelings weighed heavily.
11. We are strongly against any boundary changes that will effect my family leaving their current elementary. We purchased our home because we wanted our kids to attend the elementary school they currently attend. We feel our school board is a HUGE disappointment. The school board clearly does not have the children as their main focus. Leave our kids alone. Stop punishing them because of your lack of planning!
12. Applied against the criteria . . . these options do not meet the "impact" criteria. You propose to change the make-up of 3 schools by 50% or more in a short time. This weakens neighborhoods, PTA's and volunteers that our schools DEPEND on. The "proximity" criteria is in question also.
13. This option allows us to attend the school closest to us. There have been 3 houses on our street for sale for a year, and realtors are saying families don't want to have their children bussed so far to Crestview. F2 would send us to Crossroads, which is much closer. We may move if F2 is not implemented.
14. Option F2 seems to be better aligned with the goals of the project.

15. There seem to be areas that need to be drawn into Western Hills (35th to 42nd Street N of Ashworth) and the area directly across Ashworth at 50th should be drawn back into Crossroads. Also, there seems to be some areas around the Westridge area that should be changed. Specifically by the EP True/I35 area. Was there any thought into the socioeconomic breakdown of the proposed boundary lines?
16. Has any thought been given to partnering Clive and Crestview. One could be Pre K - 3rd and the other 4 - 6. This would create some new transportation problems unless start times were staggered, but it would address the issue of them being so close together. I also think the district needs to look at putting preschools in more buildings.
17. My son started Jordan Creek in Kindergarten and now is at Stilwell. My daughter is in 3rd grade. Last August we moved from S 49th str ( Jordan Creek) in WDM to Walnut Str (Westridge). I called Dr. Moorhead and our move was based on if she could be grandfathered in. Dr. Moorhead said no problem. Now you want to change these kids schools, friends and for some Junior High in the future. In todays times, kids need stability and I am so dissappointed in WDM Schools and their thinking process on this. This is unfair to do to parents and children. Start your new rule for any incoming children. This really does not say much for WDM Schools to do this to our kids. I would say WDM Schools let it get like this, you deal with the problem that you created , don't make the children have to handle what I would say is very poor adult planning.
18. grandfathering with siblings
19. I would be able to agree with one of the three options, if I knew my kids could be grandfathered in. My daughter's will be in fifth and first grade next school year and we feel very strongly about having them finish their education at Jordan Creek. In all three proposals, my neighborhood is zoned to Fairmeadows.
20. All options I think would work I would like to have 2 question answered 1 Is the district going to Grandfather all students that are at the schools now 2 If not what is the hurry to change the boundaries by the fall of 2007
21. All of these plans are irresponsible and lack thought and appear to motivated by the Teachers Union. The School Board must realize that families choose to purchase certain real estate and live in certain neighborhoods to attend certain schools. A realignment of this nature will likely expose the district to litigation from many property owners who believe their real estate values have or will be impacted by these plans.
22. All 3 options effect our neighborhood in the same manner; moving us from Jordan Creek to Fairmeadows. We are strongly opposed to moving between these two schools. However, we support the new boundaries assuming that our 5th grader and 1st grader can be grandfathered into Jordan Creek. If this were to occur, we are fully supportive of any of the 3 proposals. If not, we are opposed to all due to the impact on our neighborhood and school community.
23. Crestview is not a "neighborhood" school for families west of the interstate. There is no easy route to get there, commute time is unfairly long. We should not be penalized in our commute distance so that others can be within such short distances. To be fair everyone should have similar distances to commute. Bus times this year have been ridiculously long, 40 minutes to get our child home...how much worse would it become by making us go even further?
24. a2 or a3 should be the choice
25. Take bike trails into consideration! Move the Western Hills boundary farther north on all scenarios. Those of us in the Westwood Drive & Tamara Ln. area have waited many years for the Ashawa park bike trail! Our children can get to Jordan Creek without crossing a street. It would be completely ridiculous to make these kids cross EP True to Western Hills when they can easily and safely walk or bike to Jordan Creek!
26. I am all for rezoning... we all know it's important. I hope to see the maps change with more proximity in mind. We live so close but yet the Cumming area will stay?? I'm confused by that. I am holding onto the grandfathering of the kids that are in 5th and 6th grade and their siblings (all siblings including future ones). I fear for the social and educational impact it would bear on my kids to uproot them from their home school...just as much as I fear my kids going to separate schools. I know this is a tough and very emotional issue. I know you will be as fair as can be. I don't think we should be forced out of our home school--we have been there for over 3 years. We can still reach the ultimate goal here by grandfathering current students and only accepting new students within the new boundaries. Each year 100+ kids will be out, making room for more. It may not be an immediate fix, but it is the right way to do it. We CAN make it work. Good luck and thank you!
27. grandfather 5&6 and family members of 5th&6th

28. Good luck, you are all working hard and have a difficult road ahead. There is support for all of you; the best decision will be made and work out fine!
29. We are currently in the Crestview area, but are closer in proximity to Crossroads, so option F2 would work well for us. We also have a 4 yr old that will be entering kindergarten next year, so if we will be switching schools, this would be the best time for us. Most of all, I hope which ever option is decided on, it will remain that way for at least the next 7 years.
30. Leave Crossroads alone. It isn't under or overutilized and the demographic issues of the district concern other schools. Additionally, I don't think any of the current proposals adequately provides for the future needs of the district, specifically in the southern, fastest-growing region.
31. Make Western Hills a kindergarten center rather than renting churches for all day Kindergarten. No one wants these changes!!!! How will the changes benefit education?? What is the financial impact of these changes?
32. option A3 would send a very small group of children to Crossroads.They would not be at all connected with any neighborhood students. This would not be a good option at all....
33. It makes no sense to have my daughter (currently at Crossroads) travel to a school that actually has to jump over a zone, to get to a school in yet another zone. I am not sure why you would move so many kids when it is just a few areas that are influenced. If either A2, or A3 are adopted, it will also severely damage the property value in our area wich is curently west of I-35 and currently attends Crossroads. I know you will have several upset families in my area. Several will choose to attend private school if either A2 or A3 is adopted.
34. You are not making very smart decisions. The boundries should not let kids from farther away from Jordan Creek attend JC. My daughter's friend is from Cumming, and she lives soooo far away. But she should go to her own school district. I encourage you to let option F2 pass!
35. We moved into the WDM school district in 2006-2007 school year, I wanted to open enroll my children in Western Hills, they told me they were full. Now, I hear that they are only half full. This frustrates me because now my children have established friendships at Crossroads and they all may not go to the same school next year.
36. I don't think plan A3 makes very much sense. We are pulling large neighborhoods out of Jordan Creek, in which many children are within walking distance of JC, and putting them into Western Hills. I would also imagine that this fills Western Hills beyond what it can realistically serve, creating a new problem. Also, removing a larger portion of the Westridge area does not make sense, as this could make some grade levels lose a section. Again, it creates overcrowding some place else, when Westridge is designed to handle four sections of each grade level. We should find a plan that makes sense for the long term and also considers what is best for the children, parents, staff, and community.
37. We live on 54th St. Our children go to Westridge. It doesn't make sense to us that kids who live north of Ashworth must be driven to Westridge when Crossroads is within walking distance. In both options - A3 and F2, we are one house away from attending Crossroads. We think that Ashworth Road,(which is a very busy street)should be considered a "natural barrier."
38. My family has lived in our current neighborhood, Jordan Grove, for 9 years. We just purchased a home in our same neighborhood last year to avoid having to switch elementary schools. I have a 3rd grader, 1st grader and 4year old. My first grader is autistic. It would be absolutely detrimental to our family to have to switch schools. I am fairly confident that my Level 2 autistic son will be allowed to stay at Jordan Creek, however I want the committee and others involved to understand the extreme importance of keeping our family together and allowing his sisters to attend Jordan Creek. It would be devistating to him not to have that family support throughout his school day. Living with a child with a disability is stressful enough for a family unit and to divide that family further and add undo stress to an already stressed out family would be absolutely devistating. Please give families like my own the opportunity to keep our children together and provide that support for our son. Sometimes just seeing his sister during the day helps him to calm down enough that he's able to finnish out the day in a positive manner. It is vital to his progress that he stay at Jordan Creek with his sibilings. I can't' stress this enough. Please understand how devistating a change would be to our son and our family.
39. Under current and proposed boundaries, we live in the Jordan Creek district. However, prior to moving from the Western Hills district a few years ago, the principal of Western Hills confirmed that we would be able to continue attending Western Hills through sixth grade. Based on that confirmation, we proceeded with our move. If we had known that this voluntary transfer rule would mean that our children would be forced to attend a school other than Western Hills, we would NOT have moved. I strongly encourage you to consider grandfathering ALL children (K-6) interested in attending their current schools. It is NOT in

the best interests of the children to separate siblings and place them in separate schools by grandfathering only 5th and 6th graders.

40. Based on the numbers that I have seen, the goal is to get the elementary schools between 80-90% capacity. F2 does this. That being said, I would be a very strong proponent of grandfathering all students/families that would like to stay at their current school. This would initially keep the higher capacity schools near 95%, but would gradually decrease this percentage the next few years. A few years from now, everything would be near the 80-90%, and the families that are in the boundary changes won't feel too much of an effect. It's very obvious that a change needs to be made, and I commend the people that have put the time and effort into developing the 3 maps. It is apparent that they have taken into consideration all of the factors that play a role in these types of decisions and come up with 3 very viable solutions. I do not agree with the plans that put Hillside at 100% capacity. To me, it is just shifting the burden from Jordan Creek and the other higher capacity schools. Again, I truly believe that we could look at grandfathering all existing families to their prospective schools.
41. Please consider using the option that impacts the fewest students. Preschool enrollment has already occurred and many families are set for next year. Why consider sending a busing neighborhood to Crossroads when you have a neighborhood that already carools and drives. You would be creating more money with busing costs to Crossroads if you went with option F2-and you would be moving the most amount of children.
42. This is a very upsetting issue for my family. We purchased and built our home for our children to go to Crossroads Park Elementary. We built it specifically so I could run our business from there as well. For us to move would financially ruin us. I am pleading with you to keep the boundary lines as they are and come up with another solution. This decision seriously will affect our life, please do not take this lightly. Sincerely, Brenda Shank
43. I don't know why the boundaries of all schools need to be changed when you could alleviate the current problems by changing the boundaries on 1/2 the schools.
44. For the Crossroads area, you are taking a few families out on all 3 plans east of 50th for junior high. If you are trying to increase enrollment at Indian Hills, why not keep those families in the same area they should be now instead of overcrowding Stillwell even more? Also, families from both sides of 50th are very close in proximity and as a neighborhood to Crossroads. They are also within walking distance of this school but not Western Hills. The neighborhood should be kept together and not split in either grade school or junior high. This is a tough enough age for kids (pre-teen age). Why would you want to take away their security by splitting up this area so much? I strongly oppose sending this area south of Ashworth (on both sides of 50th) to Western Hills since you are remodeling it and sending them to yet another school partway through the school year. Children at this age need stability in order to maintain good grades along with not having to worry about making new friends one year and turning around and having to adjust to a new junior high which is bigger. Keep the neighborhoods together as they are and think of the children and their adjustment process. Then think about in the future building schools farther out west and south before you have to do this all over again.
45. Leave us at Crestview. Please.
46. We have four children. When our oldest was going into first grade, we decided to locate to a house that would remain our kids' school through their years of education in West Des Moines. Our oldest is in eighth grade at Indian Hills Jr High. We have one in fifth grade and one in second grade at Crossroads Park. They are looking forward to having the same teachers that their oldest sister had. It is their school and they are looking forward to having their little brother go there. We are less than a third of a mile south of Ashworth Road (within walking distance) of Crossroads Park. It does not make sense to us that we may have to leave our home school and drive to Western Hills. Our kids would never be able to walk to school.
47. I feel that the area between 50th and the interstate is too small to be considered a viable neighborhood without causing social isolation. This area is unique to this part of West Des Moines with smaller houses and the area split by deep ditches, a creek and a retention pond. Also this area is sandwiched by I-35, EP true and 50th which will soon be 4 lane. How will children be able to cross the boundaries in order to socialize with their friends. This has always been a North-South neighborhood not East-West. Keep in mind that these homes are in the price range of single mothers who find it hard to devote time to helping children socialize. The typical home price for Westwood / Tamara is 115,000-165,000. We also have no park areas for group socialization with kids that may be going to different schools. It would be a real shame to isolate so many children.
48. I'm not seeing a clear difference in these maps.
49. Leave Jordan Grove/Countryside area in Jordan Creek School area for all three boundary options. Or, grandfather all Jordan Creek students and siblings attending JC now and for siblings of JC graduates!



66. In all options, it looks like Stilwell has too many vs Indian Hills. From someone that moved from WDM to WDM during elementary school - I STRONGLY disagree with not grandfathering everyone in. It was very traumatic and kids want to stay with their friends.

## Boundary Survey- Feb. 3 cutoff

### Grandfathering Comments

1. Keep it simple.
2. It seems like if we need to change the boundaries, just do it maybe with no grandfathering except at the Jr. High level.
3. PArents should be given the option to move the whole family now or after the 4/5 grandfather period is over. Carpooling is the issue. What about 7th graders.... will you allow 7th graders who will move middle schools to finish middle school at the current school?
4. If you are going to change the boundaries, then students should attend the proper schools. You can not offer a Grandfathering clause without including siblings as that would be unfair to the families involved .
5. There should be a three year plan. This is the first I've heard of Boundary changes and it's for next school year. Oh My! I strongly do not want to change schools for my kids who are both excelling. Changing schools would diminish their grades and take on more stress for the parents by adding 40 minutes cummuting time daily. Just think if we have to take two kids to two different elementaries and given the traffic around Crestview and 86th this would add another 20 minutes daily.
6. I don't think splitting siblings into separate schools is an option at all.
7. Grandfather all children currently attending Jordan Creek
8. From experience, I know how difficult it is to have children at different elementaries. With all the functions, fundraisers, activities, it is hard to feel like a contributing member of a school when you are dealing with two schools. I believe the best option will be to always keep siblings together at the elem. level. It provides that family/neighborhood/community atmosphere that is so important.
9. All of our children need to be grandfathered. Again, as previoulsty stated, we live in the area we live, because we want our entire family to attend their respective elementary school. Why on earth would you want to only grandfather part of my family. This is not fair to my children and or their friends!
10. Wouldn't grandfathering cause an imbalance in the new boundary scenarios!!!
11. transportation for grandfathered children should be considered for families receiving free and reduced price lunch as many of those families cannot afford to provide transportation for their children.
12. We were grandfathered in . My daughter is in 3rd grade. We based our move on this grandfather clause. I will be very disappointed with the WDM school system. You let this get out of hand , you need to deal with it and not the children or the parents. We were always very impressed with your WDM handling of the schools. Now we are very disappointed and the lack of responsibility , you let the problem get like this now who suffers, our children.
13. grandfathering with siblings
14. I now have the convenience of my girls riding the bus to and from Jordan Creek, however if it would happen that my older daughter was able to stay at Jordan Creek and my younger daughter was not, I can't imagine what an inconvenience that would be. I would have to take my older daughter to and from school. (No more busing) and I would have to take my younger daughter as well. I would be more than happy to forego busing as long as my kids could stay at Jordan Creek together.
15. i think it is very important for current fourth or fifth graders to have the choice to stay with their friends!!!!!!!
16. I feel it would make sense to allow any student that is enrolled in a school to continue at that school. If there is a younger sibling that is not of school age, that sibling would have to go to the school in the new boundaries. If the parent chooses to move their older child to the new boundary school that is up to them, but the younger sibling would not be allowed in the old boundary school.
17. Why would the district want tobreak up families?

18. Grandfather anyone who is currently enrolled in the school if the school has room regardless of their age. Especially at Westridge that does not appear to have significant change based on the north boundary.
19. should include ALL students that choose to remain at their current school and also include siblings who are not yet enrolled in the district
20. We are very opposed to splitting our two sons into separate schools. We feel, and the Jordan Creek parents feel, that this would be detrimental to our community. A neighborhood does not define a community; rather a school defines a community. However, it should be noted that a current 5th grader should not have to go to a different school for their final year of elementary school.
21. All of us have created ties to our current school, 4th or 5th grade is too high to start this. The amount of time spent from kindergarten on in fostering healthy friendships, like minded sporting teams, and parent teacher and parent staff relationships begins in kindergarten. This would be a pathetic attempt to bandaid this overhaul.
22. Please rework boundry options keeping bike trails in mind - work with the WDM parks department. I went to many planning meetings regarding bike trails and recreation in WDM and a major focus was on linkage with schools. Cross-utilize the research already done within WDM! I will not have my elementary age child cross 50th or EP True when Jordan Creek is accessible by bike trail.
23. It will be challenging for many parents to do multiple drop-offs for school.
24. I think it is vital to keep families together. We MUST include siblings and younger siblings that are yet to start school. PLEASE take this into consideration. It has to be all or nothing. Thank you!
25. Make a clean cut and do not grandfather any students.
26. I don't want my family split between schools, but I also don't want my kids going to different schools than their next door buddies.
27. Grandfathering in such a limited way stinks. Many families have a long history at the school but don't have children in these fore mentioned grades.
28. Grandfathering all students/siblings must be an option!
29. All students who are currently attending a school should not be moved.
30. if our children are not able to go to the 'neighborhood' school, we'll send them to private school rather than be bussed clear to Crestview!
31. If you are going to Grandfather some students, you should Grandfather all students as the impact is the same to all students.
32. We need to respect our families and be sensitive to their needs. We should not be splitting up families between two schools, therefore siblings should be included.
33. I feel that all students currently at Jordan Creek should be allowed the option of Grandfathering. They should be allowed to finish out their elementary school years where they began. In the world today there are so many uncertainties, divorces, transfers and the like, students should feel a sense of security with their schooling. No student should be forced to move from a school they've come to love. Allow families that choice. You can still achieve your goal of redistribution, it will just be at a slower pace but it will be less of an negative impact on students. Direct families who have not yet begun their elementary educations to the new boundry schools and let those of assure our children and siblings that they can go to the schools they have grown to love and call their own. It would be devistating to move them. Again, in particular, my child has autism and he needs his sibilng support. My family has gone through so much already in dealing with a disability that making a change of this magnitude would push us to the limit.
34. actually grandfathering current 5th graders and their siblings makes sense, but I don't believe that you will get the relief you desire by grandfathering 4th graders. I think it would be acceptable to move to a new school, new pod for current 4th graders.

35. Under current and proposed boundaries, we live in the Jordan Creek district. However, prior to moving from the Western Hills district a few years ago, the principal of Western Hills confirmed that we would be able to continue attending Western Hills through sixth grade. Based on that confirmation, we proceeded with our move. If we had known that this voluntary transfer rule would mean that our children would be forced to attend a school other than Western Hills, we would NOT have moved. I strongly encourage you to consider grandfathering ALL children (K-6) interested in attending their current schools. It is NOT in the best interests of the children to separate siblings by grandfathering only 5th and 6th graders.
36. Again, there are pre k kids out there that are as comfortable with the school, faculty, etc. because of the time spent at the school visiting their older siblings. Please take a look at the neighborhoods affected and see exactly what impact grandfathering all children would have on the occupancy the next few years. I am confident that the capacity would shrink on a yearly basis and result in the capacities the board is looking for. I would be happy to help facilitate any study that needed to be done.
37. I do not think that Grandfathering doesn't anything to create stable neighborhoods. Keep the neighborhood children intact.
38. We have young children that would be affected by this decision as well. We have a son that is 2 1/2. This will ruin our family financially. Please don't do this.
39. You also need to consider younger siblings who are not yet in school.
40. How could you make a parent decide which child to pick up when it is 10 below outside or raining if you do not allow grandfathering? There is no way a parent can get through the pickup lines at grade schools to pick up one child and then be at another school to pick up another child without one of them suffering in the weather. These are still children who get scared if their parents are late to pick them up or delayed by a traffic accident, much less to have them waiting every day for years. Siblings look out for the other and it helps teachers do their jobs teaching if they get to know a family. It can help them identify problem areas for a child so they can get help. You take that part of the learning/teaching process away by dividing families. I thought the goal of the WDM Schools was to teach our children to the best of their ability, not to put up obstacles to their learning. Also, how is a parent to decide which school to go to for a Fall party or open house, etc. if they are all scheduled at the same time while having kids in multiple grade schools?
41. Don't split up families. It's hard enough to get parent support and help--make our lives and our commitment to your schools stronger by keeping families together. On grandfathering--all or nothing.
42. This would be a good option for people who do not rely on school transportation.
43. Your proposal not to provide transportation is wrong as relates to next year's new Junior High students, who based on your own realization of the problems created by this late potential change, YOU AGREE should not be moved to a different school than the one they planned to attend and are preparing to register for now...and if the boundary changes were less expansive then the problem would not be a big one relative to transportation anyway.
44. Grandfather all students. Some level of priority should be given to Western Hills transfer areas since the school is not ready for them. This would avoid them having to move four times.
45. All students & families should be allowed to finish at the school they started in.
46. Grandfather all Jordan Creek students and siblings attending JC now and siblings of JC graduates!
47. I think it is horrible to break up siblings. What else do you want to do to destroy a family unit?
48. I would like to see ALL (not just 4th & 5th) students who are currently enrolled, to be grandfathered in.
49. Grandfather all children (families) regardless of age currently living within the existing boundaries. All new families moving in would start with the new boundaries.
50. Grandfather half the students, current grades 3-5. Or, grandfather by the number of years the student has been at Jordan Creek.
51. Tough decision, but again would rather not comment since I don't think my kids would be impacted.



## Boundary Survey- Feb. 3 cutoff

### Voluntary Transfer Comments

1. Again, this would be unfair to the families involved
2. With all of the disruption caused by the shifting boundaries, it is incomprehensible to me to allow students from outside the boundary to remain at the school while my children would have to go somewhere else.
3. I partially agree with the second question. My child is a voluntary transfer to Clive (home base Crestview) She has attended school at Clive since K and is in now in first grade. There are specific reasons we would want to keep her at Clive. I think the grandfathering of a child should apply if they have been at the school TWO OR MORE years. It is a difficult transition especially if children are "established" in a school. They learn to trust and depend on the relationships they have formed and think that this is critical in them to excel in learning.
4. Voluntary transfers should RARELY be allowed! Exceptions could be made for WDMCSD staff because of varying start times or extreme situations for grade retention, etc.
5. I feel if a family has started at Jordan Creek, they should be able to finish their education at Jordan Creek if they so choose. My daughter who has attended Jordan Creek for 5 years should be allowed to stay, but I also feel my daughter who is in kindergarten and has had just 1 year at Jordan Creek should be allowed to stay, too. This is the school that my husband and I want our kids to go to. We specifically bought our house in the Jordan Grove neighborhood so our kids could attend Jordan Creek. I do however feel something needs to be done about enrollment. I feel anybody new to the neighborhood should have to go to Fairmeadows, but existing families should be allowed to stay.
6. Return all of the students if it is taking the spot of those students who live within the boundary.
7. Doesn't the 3 year option already cause a problem in full schools that are cap
8. All distances should be fair for commute times to school. Exceptions only cloud the issue. Transfer students should not be allowed to take precedence over those families trying to make a reasonable commute for their assigned school.
9. I strongly feel that the only fair way to be is to have everyone treated the same.
10. Need more information for this topic.
11. This is confusing, more info needed. How does grandfathering work with this?
12. If boundaries are going to change then it should be an open enrollment for all students with a lottery system. I disagree with a case by case/ special needs basis as that discriminates against those students not in those categories as well as favoritism to take place.
13. The voluntary transfer students have chosen a different school than their home school. This was done before the boundry changes. Obviously, the voluntary transfers had specific reasons to change schools and returning them to a school they chose to leave would not be productive,
14. We need to respect families within our district. There are numerous reasons why a family might choose to voluntary transfer. These should be allowed, provided that there is a space. I can understand reserving a few spots for possible residents who move-in. I think we should also consider retention and recruitment. It is better to have a voluntary transfer than someone who chooses to open enroll in Waukee or move to a private school.
15. Again, my child has special needs, he is autistic. He needs to attend Jordan Creek. We live in the current Jordan Creek boundry area. It is our home school therefor his sisters go there as well. If the boundries are changed, Jordan Creek will no longer be our "home school" yet my son will most likely be allowed to go there for the Level 2 special ed. program. His sisters need to be allowed to attend the same school, Jordan Creek, to provide that family support and to prevent unnecessary stress on our family. I beg that they be allowed to do this under the "voluntary transfer" special needs/case by case definition.



## Boundary Survey- Feb. 3 cutoff

### Other Comments

1. Working parents have enough logistical problems as it stands. These plans could result in our family having children in three different schools. We do not support any plan that separates siblings between two grade schools.
2. There are no "everybody wins" scenarios. Some won't like the changes because of how it impacts them personally. This is unfortunate, but necessary to achieve the greater good.
3. I am very happy that this is being done to help enrollments at all buildings.
4. it's important that we make these changes.... grandfathering is the biggest issue... current 5th graders and current 7th graders need to be given a great deal of consideration under any proposal.
5. Boundary changes should be made so that neighborhoods are going to the same schools. Grandfathering would only complicate that as to who gets in and who doesn't based on space available. While case by case seems appropriate, younger siblings should not have to attend a different school than their older siblings....
6. First year or two work on the schools with too much too little attendance. Given more time for a good plan to develop. Bring in ideas from outside communities.
7. It seems to me that there are other options that are not presented here.
8. I feel the boundaries are to keep the rich at Jordan Creek and to weed out middle class West Des Moines residents
9. I appreciate the hard work and consideration the committees and teams have put in. Things like these can never be done to make everybody happy, and the debates tend to detract from solving the problem. When I look at the problem and the proposed solution, the logical choice is F2. It does the best job of balance and it appears to minimize the disruption of families. I think if you add some grandfathering options into the proposal the community at large will feel like their concerns were heard and the right thing was done. From my personal perspective, F2 has the benefit of being the option that fits me the best as well. For some of us that live in outlying areas the grandfathering option is of less interest because we would lose bussing. If you assume a grandfathering option into the plan, Plan F2 keeps bussed kids the same and allows families closer to the schools to take the grandfather option. A2 and A3 takes grandfathering off the table for families further away, and puts out kids on busses starting at something like 6am. Again, I can only conclude that the option that solves the constraints of the problem and minimizes the public debate is F2 coupled with grandfathering. It may take 5 years for the full effect to be felt, but we should be able to live with that. Thanks again to the board and committees for their hard work
10. Leave Crestview students at their current school. We had to rearrange schedules last year for a change in start time. Now, if we change schools again, we have to change our schedules again for a different start time. Stop allowing open enrollment and have these kids go to the school they are supposed to go to.
11. As a West Des Community School District employee, I would like some consideration into allowing children of employees to attend the school they teach at. Having the opportunity to have our children in the same building would allow us to attend special occasions and conferences, and help with other situations that would require parental involvement that we would otherwise not be able to do if our children were at a different school in WDM.
12. Why do I not see options to move only the edges of boundaries for the schools most affected ... Jordan Creek and Western Hills. Your "over-solving" the problem and impacting too many.
13. I am strongly against moving my child from Crossroads, the current school he is enrolled in. For the first two options, he remains in his current school which I support. The third option is to send him to Crestview which means he will attend three different schools during his elementary years (Crossroads (K), Crestview (1,2), Phoenix (3), Crestview (4,5,6)). This pattern does not allow for much stability in my child's education.
14. Parents would not be so eager to leave Crestview to go to Crossroads if Crestview had staff to address the significant number of non-english speaking students. Parents feel their english-speaking children don't get as good an education because of the time it takes the teacher to work with the spanish-speaking children.

15. We need to strive so that all schools are veiwed as equally good in our district! That does not seem to be the case right now-- if it was the case noone would be having such a hard time accepting a change in schools!!!
16. I am truly disappointed in the thought process of this. You people must not have "Long Term Planning " in your dictionary. You should pay the consequences for this , not our children. I fully supported WDM Schools, now I really question it.
17. It seems that the public, especially the parents of children in the schools, was kept in the dark about this until it leaked by people. Only then was literature provided by the school district. And that was only because they wanted to run damage control. It is very shameful and shows extremely poor leadership and judgment by the school board.
18. I hope the board will proceed with the plan that best meets the factors set forth in the fact sheet. The district needs to look at the larger picture to meet long term financial needs and goals rather than be swayed too heavily by families that are only affected in the short term.
19. It is very disappointing that a progressive district has choosen to operate in vacumn during the development fo these proposed plans. This smells like Des Moines and that is not appreciate. If we wanted to be railroaded, we would choose to live in Des Moines. The parents need to control this school district not the teachers' union.
20. For the older elementary school kids this will be a stressful transition if they are required to leave their old elementary. Also,I think up- coming 5th & 6th graders (2007-2008 school year) should be also be grandfathered to attend the Junior High that was in their old boundaries. Especially if they have had siblings attend a specific Junior High.
21. We are not opposed to the boundries, as long as all children have the option to be grandfathered into their current school. From our perspective, this alleviates the long term capacity issues, but does so with the least disruption to families and the community. If the board has concerns with this proposal, at a minimum, a more detailed study should be conducted to assess the impact of the phased approach.
22. Why are two of your options being considered so similar? what were the other seven?
23. Whatever decision is made I think you must have some flexibility for those students who would find transition difficult. It appears that the committee is cognizant of the issues that individual families could face and the inherent difficulties in asking children to make a major change in their life. I approve of the grandfathering of current 6th and 7th graders since it recognizes the ties these kids have made with their schools, teachers and friends. I hope that current 4th and 5th graders would have the same option.
24. I fell very strongly that families with 5th and 6th graders should grandfather in the entire family. This may take longer to phase in but will be less disruptive and be more fair to those who have spent many years fundraising for and getting familiar with teachers, programs, etc.
25. Grandfathering is the key, once again...it's the only way to reach our goal and keep the kids there that deserve to be there.
26. PLEASE DONT DO THIS TO STUDENTS THAT HAVE NEVER ATTENDED ANY OTHER SCHOOL THAN THE ONE THEY ARE IN. START THE NEW BOUNDRIES W/ KINDERGARTENERS ONLY AND ALLOW 6 YEARS FOR THE TURNOVER TO COMPLETE.
27. My 4th grader is a special needs kid with an IEP. She has historically had difficulties both academically and socially. Currently, she is thriving at Crossroads. She likes her teacher, Sue Staker, and she is developing positive social relationships in her Girl Scout troop. Any of these plans is going to be disruptive for her, whether she changes schools, or her friends do. Right now my kids can walk the two blocks to Crossroads without having to cross a single street except their own. That fact was a big factor in our decision to live where we live. I resent the fact that I am only being asked for my input after 90% of the decision-making process has been completed, and the fact that I am being (essentially) asked to choose between options that I believe are short-sighted, callous, and not in the best interests of my children or the future of the city.
28. Why take Crossroads students to W Hills?? If Jordan Crk is overcrowded have new homes in that area go to W Hills. Crazy idea to send kids to a different school when Crossroads is within walking distance of their homes.
29. Schools are community families. Even if you don't live in a proposed change neighborhood, your whole school is affected by change and families are split apart. Please consider grandfathering options to those that are interested in all grades. It is the long

term investment with the biggest return for everyone in the entire community. When things have been out of whack this long, is it really necessary to clean house overnight? What about the plans parents have already made for their children next school year? Please consider commitments in time, resources, and dollars here as well.

30. I have a feeling if the boundaries are dramatically changed, you will have many families leaving the district. Especially to districts with newer schools and higher property value. Making too many families change schools will not be good for the WDM school district.
31. Too many changes too fast can cause too many problems. I understand the need for a boundary change, but you need to consider what is best for students and families. Pulling kids from a school they feel comfortable and secure could be hard on them.
32. My largest and most pressing concern is the long term vision of all plans. We as parents understand needs change and population fluctuates, however, no where have I seen the 5,10 or 15 year plans based upon demographic estimates. I feel for a plan to be created, this step is essential. Please provide such information to the parents as WE do not want to continue to go through boundary changes every few years. Additionally, all information should be transparent and no information should be stored in a "black box".
33. When making boundry changes,I would truly hope they make geographic sense. I hope long bus rides and shipping kids miles from their homes can be avoided. If the board is going to step up and make these changes, be honest about the motives and do the right thing.
34. We would like our daughter to complete her last year at Clive Elementary (6th grade) next year. We live by Hillside but she has been capped out for the last two years.
35. In closing, I can't beg you all enough to really examine how you handle special needs children and their sibilings. Unless you have a special needs child at home, you cannot fathom the demands and stress that having a child with a disability puts on a family. Not allowing my family to remain intact and attend school together would be unbelievably devistating. I beg you all to consider this when you are defining Voluntary Transfers and Grandfathering. It is crucial to our family unit that my children remain together at Jordan Creek.
36. I hope the district has staff in place to help these children with changing schools. It is going to be difficult for the kids if they are split from friends, teachers, and comfortable surroundings.
37. I can't stress enough that grandfathering the current 5th graders needs to happen and their siblings. I really don't see the need to grandfather 4th graders.
38. PLEASE allow voluntary transfer students to attend their current school under the agreement on which that original voluntary transfer was based. PLEASE do not separate siblings. Allow FAMILIES to voluntarily transfer as they have been doing for years. Thank you.
39. I would like to thank everyone that has been a part of the planning and research to this point. I have seen this transition multiple times in Olathe Kansas from both the inside and out. My father was on the school board in Olathe for 20 years and had to "wrestle" with these same things time and time again. Again, thank you to everyone that has put their time and energy into this project.
40. Boundaries seem artificial and do the A options do not make much sense geographically. I fail to understand why the public is only notified 1 week prior to meetings and 1 month prior to a final decision date.
41. I am strongly opposed to this whole situation. I feel that parents were kept in the dark. Many families have preschool and daycare to think of. I believe this matter could have been handled on a more timely manner and much more professional than it was. I do not appreciate going to an Open House at my school and hearing about this. When you do not keep parents informed they assume the worst. Please try to handle this with a professional attitude rather than this secret club way.
42. Our children will change schools and attend a school miles away in all of the plans, in none of the plans could we remain at Crossroads. The school we choose to set our life up around. THIS is very disheartening.



57. THIS IS RETARDED!!!!
58. Unfortunately, this boundary study came too late. We have a 6th grader who will not be affected with the change
59. Another topic that I feel should be brought up is Bus Transportation...how are these boundary changes going to affect the bus routes? After all the changes last year and the cut in this area...how are we going to accommodate what seems to be a large increase in kids riding the buses? My kids now are not bused...but would be in A3 and we are far enough from the school that it would be paid for by the school. Has this issue been addressed? It would be nice to see how each criterion was rated for each option. Please look to share this information with the public. We understand the need, and we know someone will always be upset in the final decision. Please however, be sure to follow common sense and not just look at the numbers. If you can see the school from your house...that should be the school you attend.
60. This whole thing is absurd! Students who live a block from the school should be allowed to continue to go there!!! What kind of a message does that send to our kids, that it's better to waste gas and bus two miles away instead of walk a block to school?? We will be homeschooling next year if any of these plans go through.
61. I believe #F2 is the best option to allow students within walking distance a school to all to go to that school to save families money on bus fares and the WDMCSD on busing too far away.
62. Have kids in the Country Club area attend Waukee Schools or Clive schools. Seems senseless to force children who live within walking distance of schools to move to another school to accommodate people from 25 to 30 minutes away - who need to be bused. In considering grandfathering, remember that parents don't want to have to go to 2 schools to pick up kids.
63. How often is this going to happen? How about build another school out West since that is where the problems are. Leave everyone else alone.