

What are the changes to the Student Assignment Plan?

There are only two proposed policy changes:

1. Waitlists will now be dissolved on May 31, instead of September 30.
2. The distance tiebreaker has been removed, in keeping with the Student Assignment Plan that was approved in 2009

Why are these changes being proposed?

The purpose of this action is to streamline and clarify the outstanding questions that have been brought up regarding student assignment over the past several years. There are a number of different student assignment documents (including previous annual transition plans) available on the Seattle Public Schools website. We want to clear up conflicting and confusing statements and resolve and clarify all points of the Student Assignment Plan. There are numerous instances where redundant or out-of-date information has been removed from the Student Assignment Plan document. Separately, information about programs and services will now be provided by those respective offices, instead of Enrollment Planning. This motion also completes the final implementation of the Student Assignment Plan, as approved in 2009.

Again, the only policy changes are: the dissolution of waitlists on May 31 and the elimination of the distance tiebreaker.

Are we eliminating programs, services, or pathways?

No. Enrollment Planning is not proposing any changes to programs, services, or pathways at this time.

Linked Schools Webpage:

<http://www.seattleschools.org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=627&pageId=14812>

What about required services for students at attendance area schools?

There are some programs and services that are so specialized that they cannot be provided at every attendance area school. If the required services are not available at a student's attendance area school, those students receive a designated assignment to the linked school for those services. This is not a change from current policy.

Student Assignment Plan Webpage:

<http://sps.ss8.sharpschool.com/cms/One.aspx?portalId=627&pageId=744707>

Proposed Student Assignment Plan:

http://sps.ss8.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_543/File/District/Departments/Enrollment%20Planning/Student%20Assignment%20Plan/Proposed%20Student%20Assignment%20Plan.pdf

Opportunities for public engagement

Enrollment Planning hosted four public meetings to discuss the proposed changes to the Student Assignment Plan (and growth boundary changes). All meetings were 6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. At these meetings, we presented information (with interpreters present), conducted question and answer sessions, and collected comment cards. We also collected feedback to the proposed changes via email. The meeting dates and locations are below.

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Thursday, Oct. 1: Thornton Creek K-5 lunchroom
7711 43rd Ave NE
Interpreters: Chinese and Spanish

Monday, Oct. 5: Schmitz Park Elementary lunchroom
5000 SW Spokane Street
Interpreters: Spanish, Somali and Vietnamese

Tuesday, Oct. 6: Meany Building lunchroom
301 21st Ave E
Interpreters: Chinese, Spanish, Somali and Vietnamese

Monday, Oct. 19: E. C. Hughes Building lunchroom
7740 34th Ave SW
Interpreters: Spanish, Somali and Vietnamese

Grandfathering

There have been no policy changes to grandfathering or move rules. Grandfathered assignments have always been contingent on the capacity of a given school.

Transparency

The proposed changes were in keeping with procedures for Board Action and were brought to the:

- Operations Committee: September 17
- Board Introduction: October 7
- Board Action: October 21 (tabled to next meeting)
- Board Action: November 4

All changes to the proposal or supporting documents made after September 17 were in response to Board requests.

The content of these changes have been publicly available since September 10. The redlined format and inclusion of the May 31 waitlist dissolution date were requested by the Board on October 21, after community meetings and discussion in committee and introduction. The redlined format was provided to the Board on October 28.

The process for the changes included a discussion in Operations Committee on September 17, Board introduction on October 7, Board Action on October 21 which was tabled to the next meeting, and brings the motion to the November 4 meeting. Community meetings regarding the changes were posted on the district web site on September 21. These meeting took place on October 1, 5, 6 and 19. Meetings were scheduled in regions opposite bell time meetings in order to avoid any conflicts for parents unable to attend both meetings. All meetings were listed in the district School Beat newsletter as well as a district email to all parents on September 25; subject line Upcoming Meetings on Boundaries, Levies and Bells. Proposed changes were posted in documents on the district web site as Board meetings were posted.

Redlining

The Student Assignment Plan is a policy. It describes standard student assignment and school choice, but it cannot be viewed in isolation. Other relevant materials include Board Policy 3130, Annual

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Transition Plans, the Superintendent's Procedures for Student Assignment, Transportation Service Standards, etc.

Again, there are only two policy changes proposed: 1) waitlists and 2) distance tiebreaker. We removed information (redlined) in an effort to streamline the document for greater clarity.

If programs or services are not explicitly identified in this Student Assignment Plan, it does not mean that they no longer exist. The most up to date information about programs and services can be found within the respective program office.

This motion completes the final implementation of the Student Assignment Plan.

Proposed Action Plan: Approval of Student Assignment Plan – red lined

http://www.seattleschools.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_543/File/District/Departments/School%20Board/15-16agendas/110415agenda/20151104_Action_Report_Student_Assign_Plan_Packet.pdf