

PROPOSAL TO ADJUST ENROLLMENT PRIORITIES FOR STAPLETON-AREA SHARED BOUNDARY ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Since early 2013, the Stapleton community has been involved in a discussion about elementary enrollment priorities, led by Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN). SUN made recommendations to the board of Education in November. Since then DPS schools have hosted seven additional conversations to discuss the pros and cons of the SUN recommendations and to discuss alternatives. We felt it was important to hear voices from the entire community. Recognizing the importance of school choice expressed by community members, the recommendations below reflect input from the SUN recommendations, and feedback from the broader community over the past months.

To be clear, no children currently attending one of these elementary schools will be required to change schools as a result of this proposal. The recommendation is to adjust the current Stapleton enrollment priorities for new students for five elementary schools in the Stapleton-area shared boundary: Bill Roberts E-8 School, High Tech Elementary School, Isabella Bird Community School, Swigert International School, and Westerly Creek Elementary School. These adjustments are recommended to begin with the 2014-15 school year choice process for grades EC-5.

These changes are recommended to address the current issues:

- Over the past couple years fewer families are receiving their first choices, particularly families who live close to the school they would like to attend
- Decrease transportation costs that are currently well above district averages
- Create an enrollment system for Isabella Bird Community School and High Tech Elementary School

District staff recommends that the enrollment priorities for these schools be adjusted to the following for grades ECE and K:

1. Stapleton-area shared boundary residents with siblings currently attending and returning to the school
2. Stapleton-area shared boundary residents who are currently attending ECE at the school
3. Stapleton-area shared boundary residents who are the children of full-time staff at the school. (see note below)
4. 25% of the seats remaining are reserved for students who live in the proximity zone for the school. If there are not enough students to fill the 25% of seats, the seats will continue to be filled using the remaining priorities, in order.
5. Stapleton-area shared boundary residents
6. Children of full-time staff at the school
7. Greater Park Hill Stapleton MS shared boundary residents with siblings currently attending and returning to the school
8. Greater Park Hill Stapleton MS shared boundary residents who are currently attending ECE at the school
9. Greater Park Hill Stapleton MS Shared boundary residents who qualify for free and reduced price lunch
10. Greater Park Hill Stapleton MS Shared boundary residents who do not qualify for free and reduced price lunch
11. Denver residents with siblings currently attending and returning to the school
12. Denver residents who are currently attending ECE at the school
13. Denver residents

14. Non-Denver residents with siblings currently attending the school
15. Non-Denver residents who are currently attending the school
16. Non-Denver residents

District staff recommends that the enrollment priorities for these schools be adjusted to the following for grades 1 through 5:

1. Currently attending students
2. Stapleton-area shared boundary residents with siblings currently attending and returning to the school
3. Stapleton-area shared boundary residents who are children of full-time staff at the school.
Note that several of the above schools may choose to prioritize students of all staff members at this priority level.
4. 25% of the seats remaining are reserved for students who live in the proximity zone for the school. If there are not enough students to fill the 25% of seats, the seats will continue to be filled using the remaining priorities, in order
5. Stapleton-area shared boundary residents who are not attending a DPS school
6. Stapleton-area shared boundary residents who are currently attending another DPS school
7. Children of full-time staff at the school
8. Greater Park Hill Stapleton MS shared boundary residents who qualify for free and reduced price lunch with siblings currently attending and returning to the school
9. Greater Park Hill Stapleton MS shared boundary residents who do not qualify for free and reduced price lunch with siblings currently attending and returning to the school
10. Greater Park Hill Stapleton MS shared boundary residents who qualify for free and reduced price lunch
11. Greater Park Hill Stapleton MS shared boundary residents who do not qualify for free and reduced price lunch
12. Denver residents with siblings currently attending and returning to the school
13. Denver residents
14. Non-Denver residents with siblings currently attending the school
15. Non-Denver residents

** Note that the above schools may choose waivers to these priorities, such as prioritizing full-time school staff members at level #3.

The enrollment adjustments may be reevaluated in the future if additional elementary schools are introduced into the shared boundary.

As a result of this expansion of a shared elementary school boundary covering a large geographic area and to ensure equitable allocation of transportation resources across the district, current transportation routes and stops will need to be significantly modified. This will mean fewer bus stops, requiring many students to walk further to get to their closest stop. It is possible that stop locations may need to be limited to having pick-up and drop-offs only at the elementary schools. In addition, it is very possible that elementary and middle school bell times (opening and closing times) will need to be modified to optimize transportation. The district will work to maximize the availability of transportation within policy EEA within the resources available.

Proposed Stapleton Zone
Enrollment Preference Zones

