



# Owasso Public Schools

January 10, 2019

Dear Owasso Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season with your family. This letter is intended to provide an update regarding our elementary redistricting process. Since my December 4th letter, much work has been done by the team of twenty-four parents who represent our elementary schools.

The “For Your Information” tab to the right provides the basic outline of the redistricting process. In December, the parent committee was divided into four groups of six and began analyzing the current boundaries of our district. They spent time with our demographer using “real time” software changing the boundaries from eight elementary schools to include a ninth elementary. The beauty of the software is that with every change of the map, the parent teams were able to track the way those changes affected the population of each school.

As outlined in the “For Your Information” our goals are certainly a reasonable walk, drive, or bus ride to school for every child. However, the redistricting team is also challenged to balance the population of the schools and also accommodate future needs of the district. From their work, each team created a draft of a boundary map.

When the team met on January 7th, there were four draft maps that the large group considered. They identified one map that seemed to incorporate the most ideas from the groups, but were not satisfied that map was the best boundary configuration. Therefore, each of the four groups created a list of items that they would like to have considered as possible enhancements. Those options were taken back to the demographer and incorporated into three new variations of the preferred map.

In future meetings, the redistricting committee will review the updated maps and determine what additional work needs to be done. We have four more meetings scheduled with the redistricting team. We will use any or all of those meetings to make sure the best possible recommendation is provided to our Board of Education in March.

From this work, there is a “January FAQs” listed to the right of this letter. These are just a few more questions that you or others may be asking. The committee has certainly identified how complex this process is, but they are tenacious in creating an excellent body of work for our community. I’m exceptionally grateful for their time and commitment to our Owasso families.

If you have any questions or need anything related to the redistricting process after reading the items on this page, please don’t hesitate to email me at [amy.fichtner@owassosps.org](mailto:amy.fichtner@owassosps.org) or call our offices at 918-272-5367.

With respect,

Amy Fichtner, Ed.D.  
Superintendent