

“Schools of Choice” Program for 2018-19--affecting Brown Middle School and East Davidson High School.

Background: Over the past several years, concerns have arisen due to the decreased enrollment in the schools within the South attendance zone. A meeting was held this year with the advisory councils from all the schools in the South area; the format of the meeting was an open forum with an opportunity for all those attending to express their thoughts and recommendations for consideration by the Davidson County Board of Education. The advisory councils were then asked to meet individually at their own schools and discuss the ideas expressed at the joint meeting; principals presented summaries from these meetings which were then shared with the Davidson County Board of Education. The Board of Education then requested the Davidson County Schools administration develop some options for Board consideration. This document represents an initial step in addressing some of the issues expressed by the advisory councils.

The purpose: Enrollment in the South attendance zone has been decreasing over the past ten years; this has created an imbalance in terms of the number of students in this attendance zone as compared with other school attendance zones in the Davidson County Schools. The Davidson County Board of Education is charged with offering equal educational opportunities for all schools and must view the system in totality rather than as separate school districts. The focus of the *Schools of Choice Program* is to determine if there are any middle or high school students living in the area defined by the attached map/street listings who might elect to move into the South attendance zone. Transportation will be made available for students who elect this option.

Why this area?: A study of the maps of the attendance zones adjacent to the South attendance zone reflect that this is the only area with a population large enough to make it fiscally possible to provide transportation for these students. Other areas reviewed by the committee were either too sparse in terms of numbers or were too far away to make the transition fiscally responsible or convenient to the students. The travel time from this extended district to the South secondary schools is comparable from many locations to the travel time to Brown Middle School and East Davidson High School.

Reasons to consider: South Davidson Middle and High Schools have excellent facilities with room to grow due to the number of students lost over the past ten years. Their small size offers a personal, more intimate environment where students and faculty have greater opportunities to get to know each other. The small size also allows increases opportunities for students to get involved in extracurricular activities; clubs and athletic opportunities are constantly challenged by the lack of enrollment numbers. An increase in enrollment could also lead to an increase in advanced curriculum offering in the school's academic program.

Plans are already under way to provide a program in Advanced Engineering Technology taught on South Davidson High School's campus by a DCCC instructor this coming school year. We are also researching the possibility of adding a program in public safety which might prepare students for a career in law enforcement/public safety. These programs would be unique to South Davidson High School.

The expanded area includes the following residence areas by street name. Students who live on private roads (not state-maintained) within the above zone may access transportation at the location which connects to a listed road.

Why is the focus limited to the middle and high schools? Numbers are more crucial in the secondary schools due to the number of programs and activities that are offered at this level. The initial plan of the Davidson County Board of Education is to “build” the enrollment at the secondary level; the board will continue its review of the elementary schools in the South area, exploring additional means to support these schools as well.

The First step: Parents and students are asked to review the map/road lists included in this flyer to determine if they are eligible to be transported to the South Davidson Middle and High Schools. If you are in the defined area and would like to transfer your enrollment to the South area, you are asked to contact the school (middle or high) which you would be attending and discuss with a school official. These requests for transfer should be made no later than August 3, 2018 in order that transportation routes can be established and teaching schedules can be adjusted.

Additional information can be viewed online at the school website.

<https://sdhs.davidson.k12.nc.us/>

<https://sms.davidson.k12.nc.us/>



- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Alberta Drive | Eden Ridge Lane | Hickory Trail | Marjorie Lane |
| Apple Way | Elwood Drive | James Drive | Mt. Zion Church Road |
| Barney Lane | Fannie Pullum Road | Lacy Hepler Road | Noahtown Road |
| Beacon Ridge Place | GlennCarol Lane | Landview Drive | Oscar Hughes Road |
| Black Horse Trail | Gobel Road | Laurel Drive | Running Stream Lane |
| Buck Briles Road | Grant Lee Lane | Leisure Lane | S NC Hwy 109 |
| Cabe Road | Happy Lane | Liberty Avenue | Scarboro Hills Drive |
| Champion Drive | Harris Drive | Liberty Church Lane | Shady Creek Lane |
| Christopher Lane | Haven Hill Lane | Liberty Church Road | Stilwell Drive |
| Denton Road (27360) | Hem Road | Liberty Hylls Lane | Sweetbriar Road (27360) |
| Dot Road | Henderson Drive (27360) | Lovette Road | Viola Lane |
| Easy Street | Hepler Hylls Court | Mahonia Place | Watford Road |

The expanded area includes the following residence areas by street name. Students who live on private roads (not state-maintained) within the above zone may access transportation at the location which connects to a listed road.