



Owen J. Roberts School District

Administration Building

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"Inspiring Each Student for Success Today and Greatness Tomorrow"

Dear Owen J. Roberts Families,

Last evening at the Board's Committee of the Whole, I provided the Board of School Directors and public with additional information regarding the District's redistricting plan. The information included two alternatives to the November 16, 2015 draft recommendation for the Board's consideration. The presentation can be found [here](#). The Board did not vote on new attendance areas but thoroughly reviewed the data and asked clarifying questions.

The goal in redistricting is to create five elementary schools with equitable enrollment numbers for the next 7-10 years while moving the fewest number of students. The redistricting process was initiated in February, 2015. **There are important changes to the November 16 recommendation:**

- The alternative presented last evening provides for a "phased" approach to redistricting. In this phased approach, a portion of the student population in the East Coventry attendance area is recommended to move to East Vincent in the fall of 2016.
- The section of East Coventry's attendance area recommended to move in the fall of 2016 is located between Bridge Street and Park Road, east of Route 724. While this area was not part of the original public presentation in November, it was vetted as a possibility by the redistricting committee of administrators, parents, and teachers in their work from March to October of 2015.
- The area of land encompassed by Bethel Church Road to Lake Drive (including Keen Road and MacBride Drive) to Reitnour to West Bridge Street is no longer recommended to move to East Vincent in 2017 because of the aforementioned changes.
- The Washington Square Development (Bridge Street) which is still under development will be moved to the East Coventry attendance area in 2017.

Providing a "phased" approach for the 2016 year will involve assigning some students to East Vincent Elementary. East Vincent has the capacity to receive students in the fall of 2016. We offer the same strong educational program and quality extra-curricular programming in all elementary schools. Further, the alternative recommendation creates equity among East Coventry and East Vincent for many years to come.

There are presently no other changes to the redistricting draft recommendation presented at the November 16 meeting. The proposed attendance area changes for North Coventry, West Vincent and French Creek as well as the remaining portion of East Coventry and East Vincent remain slated for the fall of 2017.

Please take a few minutes to review the presentation. We have created a page on the District's website that provides our residents with the opportunity to submit questions regarding this revised proposal. The Board is scheduled to discuss and vote on the revised attendance areas at its regular business meeting on January 25, 2016. Pending Board approval, we will notify families impacted by the new attendance areas.

While changes can be challenging, we are fortunate to have five excellent elementary schools in the Owen J. Roberts School District with a dedicated faculty and strong PTA/PTO's who will assist students during this transitional period.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Christian, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Owen J. Roberts School District