



EDUCATIONAL
DATA SYSTEMS

The student success company.

An Effective Process for Evaluating and Modifying School Attendance Boundaries

Map your timeline, engage your community, and optimize local priorities



1 GATHER AND ANALYZE THE DATA

Create a committee to **gather and analyze data** on projected enrollments, demographics, school capacities, and district goals.

The big question: "What principles should guide our decisions and compromises as we plan new boundaries?"



- Optimize facility use
- Minimize transportation time and costs
- Balance student demographics
- Align feeder patterns
- Review grade configurations
- Meet policy requirements
- Satisfy other local needs

2 COMMUNICATE WITH THE COMMUNITY

The committee recommends boundary-change decisions based on data-analysis and guiding principles.



Two-way communication is key to leading the entire community to understand the solution.

Use a variety of visuals including **interactive maps** to show what changes may look like.

Ensure each voice is heard and valued by providing multiple ways to receive and respond to feedback, including **printed surveys, web surveys, comment forms, FAQs, and community meetings.**

3 FINALIZE POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

The committee uses feedback, data, and agreed-upon criteria to develop recommendations to present to the school board.

The school board provides input on the plan and the committee refines the recommendations.

Another round of revisions may be necessary before the school board votes on the final solution.



Provide indicators for how the solutions solve challenges, such as the percentage of utilized capacity at each school and average transportation time.

4 APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT THE PLAN

The school board votes on the final boundary plan, which includes community feedback, data, and recommendations from the committee.



District leaders create an implementation plan that includes a timeline of events, communication plan, and FAQs for the community.

By establishing guiding principles, promoting community involvement, and using data to drive recommendations, school districts are better positioned to make smooth boundary transitions that create good learning environments for students and teachers.

Effective communication about school boundaries is a critical part of the process. Click [here](#) to learn more about tools that help school districts evaluate and communicate boundary changes.

