

BOARD AGENDA ITEM
January 22, 2019

SUBJECT:

Recommendation concerning attendance boundaries for the Trolley Run Station neighborhood

BACKGROUND:

Comprehensive internal and external demographic, population, and utilization studies conducted over the past eighteen months confirmed that Byrd Elementary School and Midland Valley High School had student populations that exceeded their designed capacity. Those studies further revealed that population growth in those attendance areas will continue in the foreseeable future. While the studies revealed that space is currently not a significant concern at Leavelle McCampbell Middle School, it too will be impacted by the continued growth in its attendance area.

Based on that comprehensive data and in an effort to relieve overcrowding, the school board reassigned students in the Trolley Run Station area from the Byrd Elementary, Leavelle McCampbell Middle, and Midland Valley High attendance pattern to the Aiken Elementary, Schofield Middle and Aiken High attendance pattern. The board included a grandfathering provision for students already in attendance at the original three schools. The board revised Policy JCA Assignment of Students to Schools to require that school attendance areas be reviewed at a minimum every five years.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

The administration implemented the rezoning plan for the 2018-19 school year. Of the students living in Trolley Run Station, 63 took advantage of the grandfathering provision. 54 students enrolled in their newly zoned schools. 18 students received special exemptions to attend other Aiken County schools. 2 students were accepted and enrolled in the Aiken Scholars Academy. 21 students enrolled in charter schools. The combined rezoning effort accompanied by natural fluctuations in student population resulted in a decrease in student population at Byrd Elementary from 819 to 729 students. Midland Valley High School saw an overall reduction of 80 students.

The reassignment of students in the Trolley Run Station neighborhood appears to have had the desired effect of helping to relieve the overcrowded conditions at Byrd Elementary and Midland Valley High.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) Maintain current attendance boundaries
- 2) Review all boundaries every five years or sooner based on construction or shifts in student population as specified in Policy JCA

ATTACHMENT:

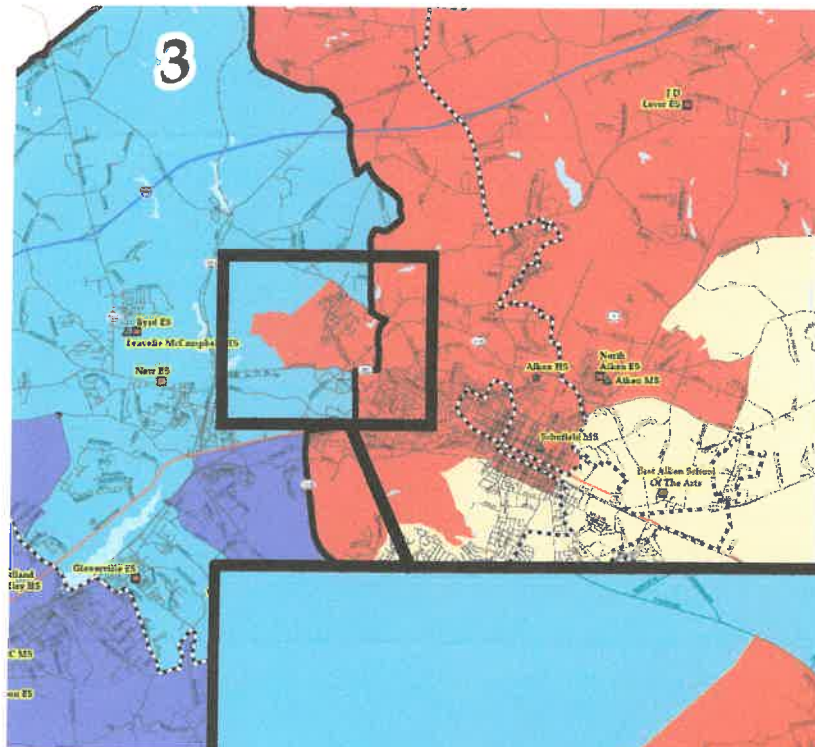
Map Attachment B from January 23, 2018
Students Living in Trolley Run Station 2017-18
Students Living in Trolley Run Station 2018-19
Policy JCA Assignment of Students to Schools

PREPARED BY:

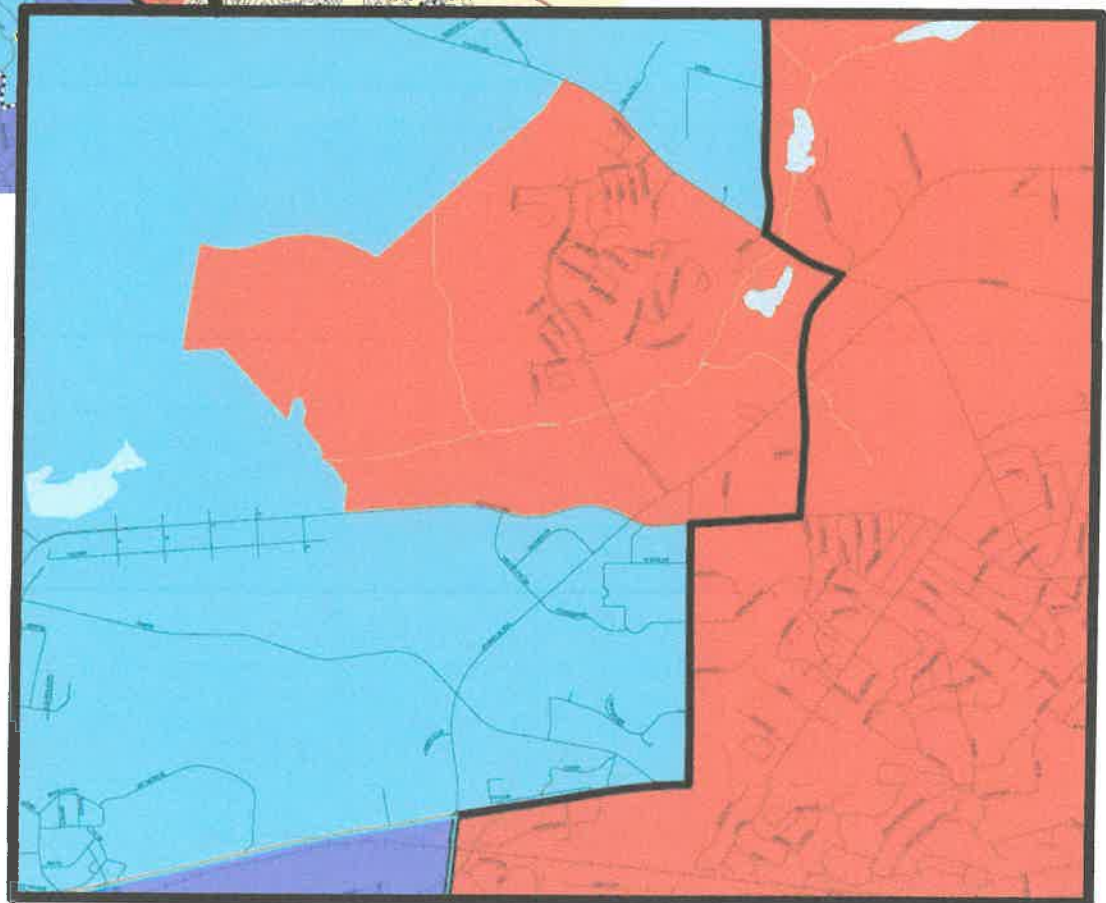
King Laurence

MAP ATTACHMENT B

Trolley Run Station – All students currently assigned to Byrd Elementary, Leavelle McCampbell Middle, and Midland Valley High will be assigned to Aiken Elementary, Schofield Middle, and Aiken High.



Number of Current Students Impacted	
Elementary	62
Middle School	25
High School	25
TOTAL	112



Students Living in Trolley Run Station 2018-19

Attending School	4K	5K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Aiken Elementary	4	7	3	1	3	5	7								30
Aiken High											3	6	1	2	12
Aiken Performing Arts Academy Charter												3	1		4
Aiken Scholars Academy											2				2
Byrd Elementary		3	3	6	7	6	8								33
Chukker Creek Elementary				1											1
East Aiken School of the Arts			1	1			1								3
Hammond Hill Elementary			1												1
Horse Creek Academy Charter	1	5		2	1			3		2					14
Jefferson Elementary							1								1
Kennedy Middle								1	1						2
Leavelle McCampbell Middle								7	5	4					16
Lloyd Kennedy Charter							1		1	1					3
Midland Valley High											3	4	4	3	14
Millbrook Elementary		1		1											2
New Ellenton Middle									1						1
North Aiken Elementary	1														1
North Augusta Middle									2						2
Schofield Middle								6	6	2					14
South Aiken High											1	1			2
TOTAL	6	16	8	12	11	11	18	17	16	9	9	14	6	5	158

Policy JCA Assignment of Students to Schools

Issued 2/18

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for assignment of students to schools.

The district will assign students to attend the schools that serve their legal places of residence as determined by the board of trustees for the current school year. The district administration and/or the area advisory councils may make special exceptions.

The district will permit eligible students with disabilities to attend school in another attendance area if facilities within the attendance areas where they reside do not house the appropriate special education programs.

Attendance Boundary Review

The board of trustees will review regularly school attendance areas for existing schools and projected attendance areas for new schools. This comprehensive review will occur, minimally, once every five years. A targeted review may be initiated prior to the completion of a new or substantially renovated school. The review shall include analysis related to school attendance zones, enrollment, population trends, demographics, and program demand. Revisions to school attendance zones may be considered for several of the following reasons to include, but not limited to:

- construction of a new school and/or the construction of additional capacity at an existing school
- closing or suspending operations of an existing school
- relieve overcrowded schools and fill less crowded, under-enrolled schools
- vertical alignment and grade configurations of schools

Adopted 9/9/75; Revised 4/23/02, 2/12/18

Legal references:

S. C. Code, 1976, as amended:

[Section 59-19-90](#) (9) - Transfer and assignment authority.

[Section 59-63-32\(b\)\(2\)](#) - Requirements to enroll child in public school; affidavit; penalties for providing false information.

[Section 59-63-250](#) - Transfer of pupils.

[Section 59-63-470](#) - Transfer of pupils when enrollment of such pupils threatens to disturb peace.

Federal Cases:

[Parents Involved in Community Schools v. Seattle School District No. 1](#), 551 U.S. 701 (2007).

Aiken County Public Schools