Jones Elementary School Parent Meeting

December 18, 2019

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Parent Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Proposed recommendations for 2020-2021
  - *Overview of recommendation*
  - *Factors considered in decision-making process*
  - *Proposed boundary changes*
- Supports and resources for students and families
  - *For students and families*
  - *For teachers, staff, and school leaders*
- Next steps and key dates
- Discussion and questions

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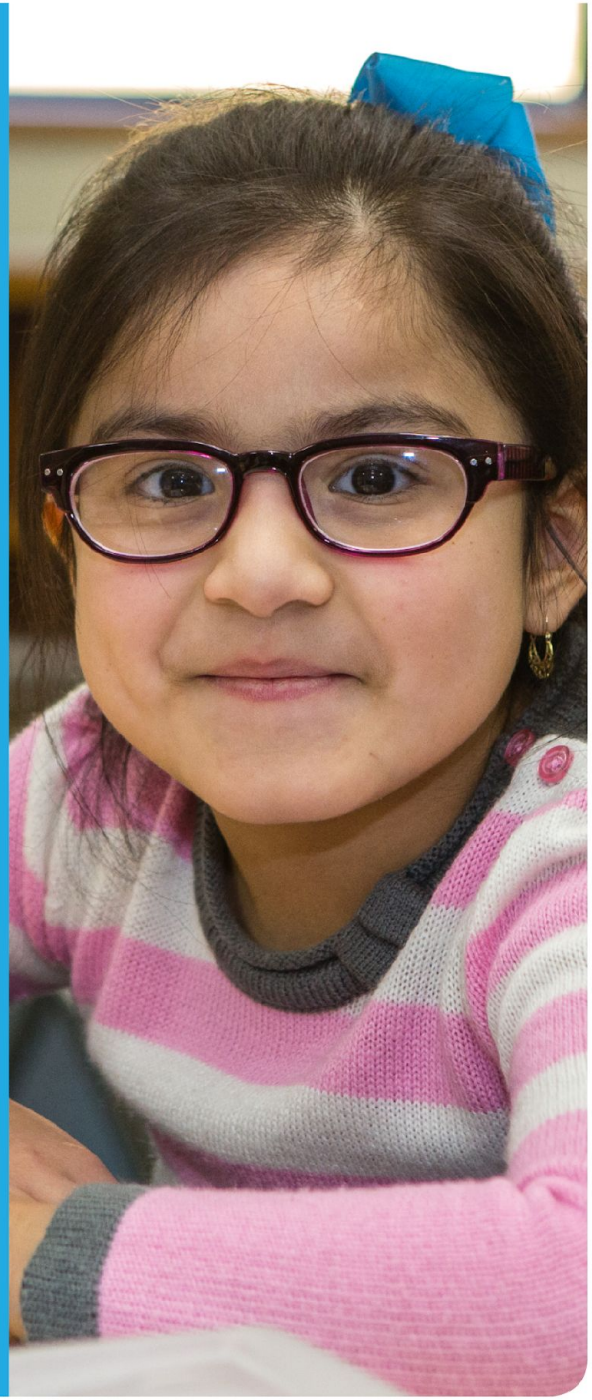

Overview of Proposed Recommendations: School Closures and Consolidations

Proposed recommendation:

Closure of Jones Elementary School

Recommended for closure

Jones Elementary
(Principal Bradley Griffin)

Recommended to receive students

MacArthur Elementary School
(Principal Twyla Waterson)

Lindbergh Elementary
(Principal James Isaacs)

Bell Elementary
(Principal Mohazobyn Pachoo)

Factors considered in school closures and consolidations

- Enrollment history and projections
- Three-year demographic trends
- Building utilization rate
- Building condition
- Building design
- Access to other nearby schools
- Building utilization rates at nearby schools

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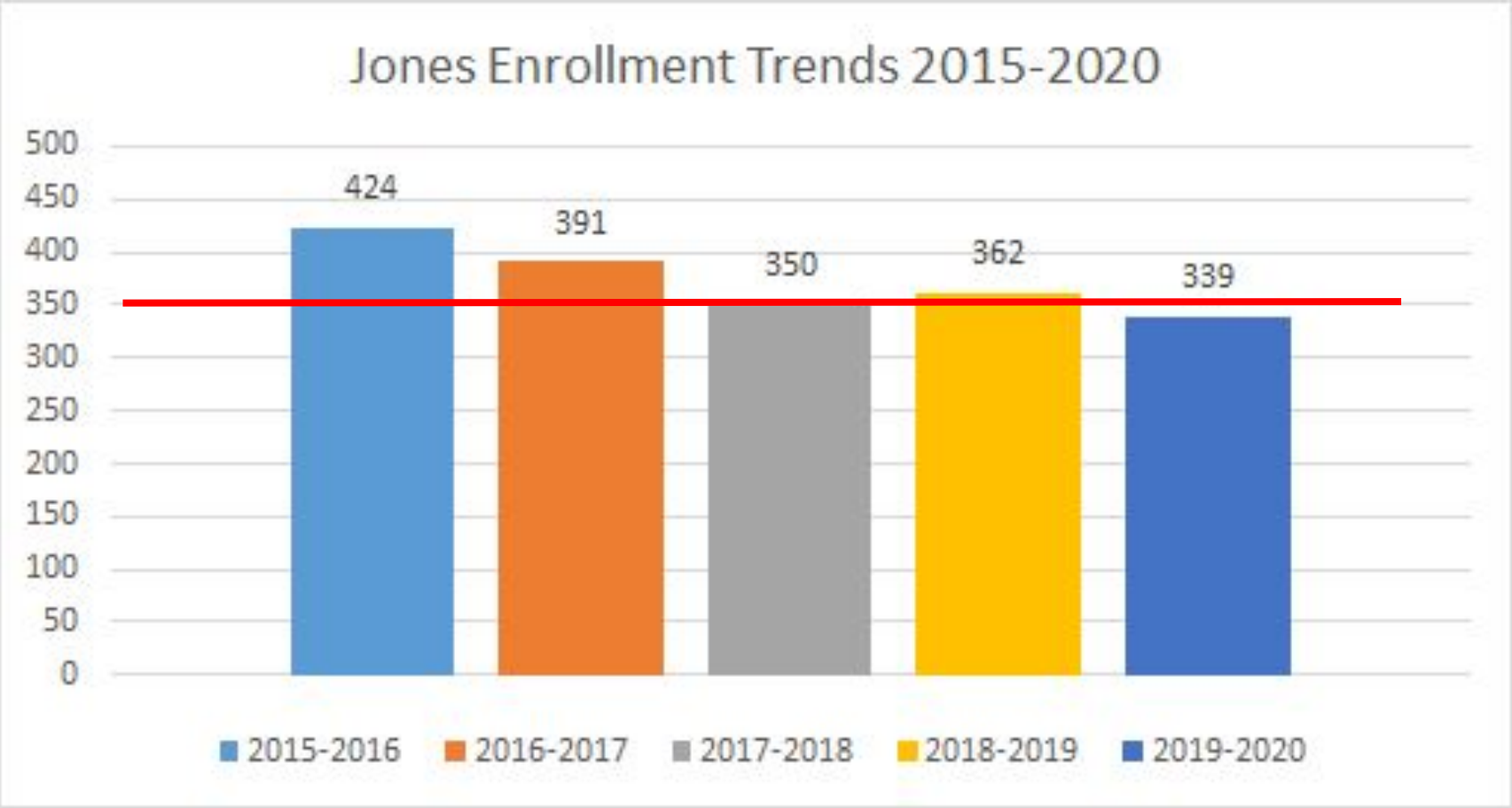
Proposed recommendation:

Enrollment trends for Jones Elementary School



Enrollment based on numbers from Nov. 1

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Proposed recommendation:
Enrollment and site capacity

Enrollment*	Site Capacity	Utilization Rate	Transfer Rate
	444 *(w/ portables)*	**76%**	
339	306 *(w/o portables)*	**110%**	13%

Receiving School	Current Enrollment*	Projected Enrollment**	Site Capacity	Projected Utilization Rate**
MacArthur	313	497	635	**78%**
Lindbergh	430	493	536	**92%**
Bell	435	527	674	**78%**

**Enrollment based on numbers from Nov. 1, 2019*
***Pending Board approval of the recommended closure*

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Proposed recommendation:
Challenges of the existing Jones building

- If portable classrooms were removed, Jones would be at 110% of its capacity.
- The building has a number of structural and design issues, including:
  - low ceilings and accordion-style roof;
  - narrow and tight corridors; and
  - small common spaces (gym, cafeteria and kitchen).
- The condition of the building would necessitate a re-build that could cost $10 million or more.

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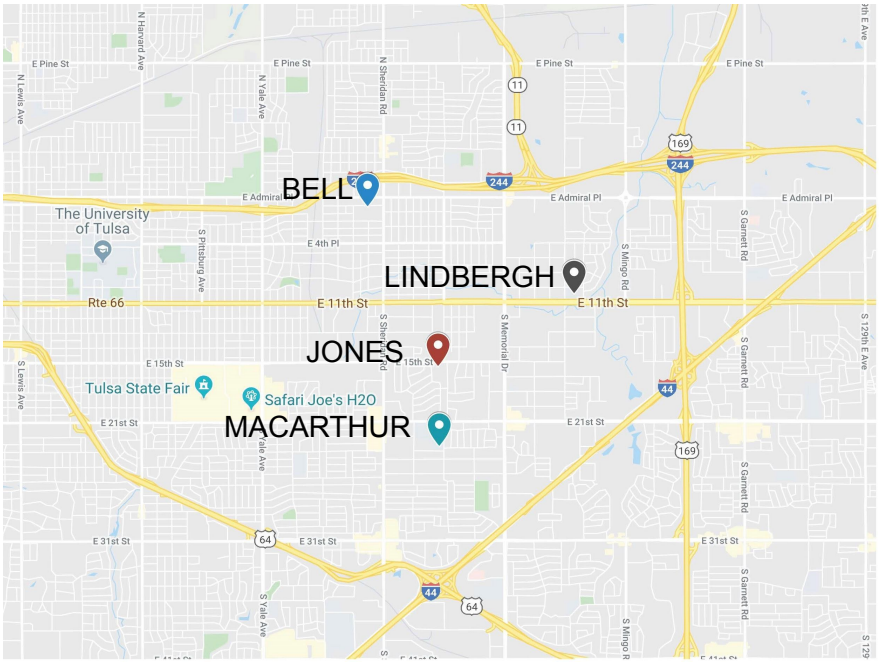
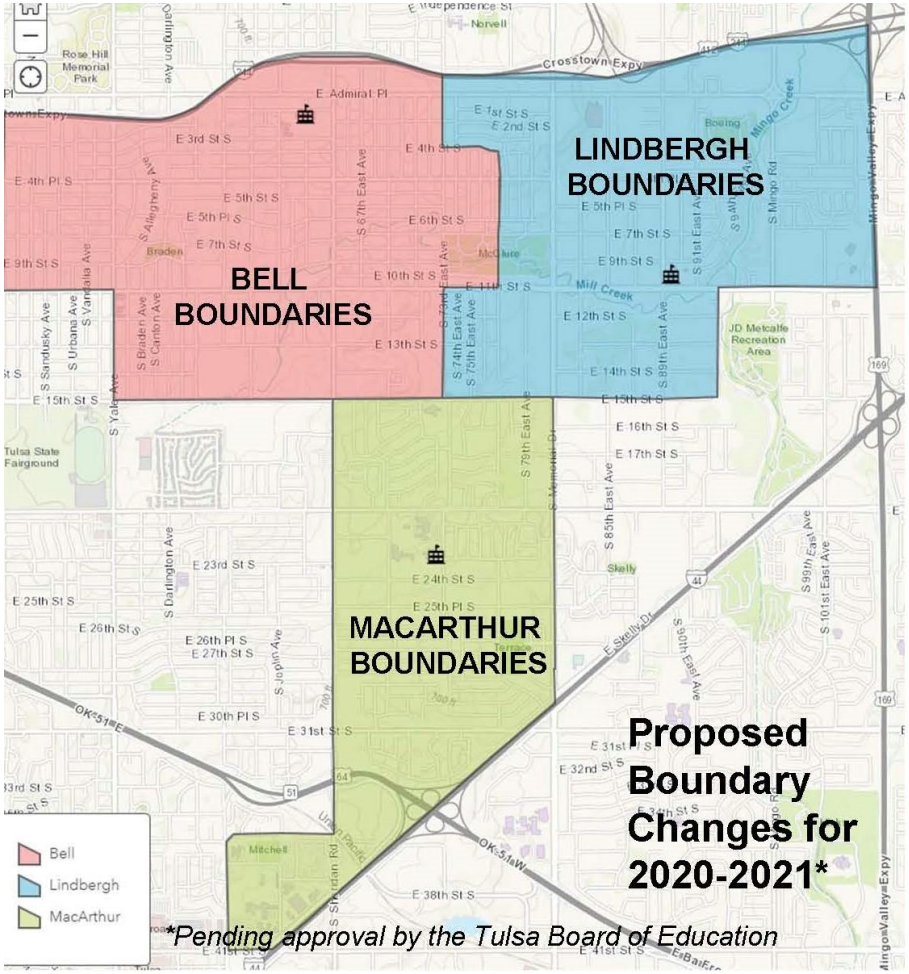
Proposed boundary changes for Jones neighborhood





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Supports and Resources for Students and Families

How do we support our families and teams during closures and consolidations?

- **Students:** Based on their address, students are automatically enrolled into a new school of right. Families also have the option to select another neighborhood school for their child.
- **Teachers:** We have every reason to believe that teachers will have other opportunities in the district. When possible - based on teacher preference and availability of positions - we will make every effort to place teachers with their students.
- **School leaders:** We do all that we can to retain exceptional talent in our schools, so we work to help affected school leaders find other positions. For example, the school leaders from Gilcrease, Penn, and ECDC Bunche are all still in the district.

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What happens when Tulsa Public schools are closed or consolidated?

- **Building:** We continue upkeep of the building, including maintenance and security. After a period of time, buildings may be surplused and sold. At this point, we have no plans for the buildings included in the proposed recommendations.

- **Schools receiving students:** We carefully assess building design, capacity, and enrollment to ensure that the school can comfortably accommodate additional students. Following Board approval, we would analyze the projected 2020-2021 enrollment for the receiving schools and update teacher allocations based on those numbers.

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Supports available for families and students at Jones*

Student Enrollment

- **Neighborhood students** will be assigned to a new neighborhood school.
- **Students on a transfer** will be provided a priority^ to transfer to any other neighborhood school, provided that there are seats available.
- **All students and families** will have an extended enrollment period and will have the option to submit an application for up to six schools.
    - Enrollment window will remain open up to 7 additional days, including weekend day support.
    - Families will use the existing enrollment system at enroll.tulsaschools.org.
    - Enrollment team will do outreach to all families to ensure they are supported.
- Our enrollment team will be available to provide up to **two days of on-site enrollment support** for students and families.

**Supports would take effect upon Board approval of proposed recommendations*
^ The priority is after priorities for siblings and children of Tulsa Public Schools employees.

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Supports available for families and students at Jones*

Transition Support

- Students and families can attend our **Enrollment Expo on Saturday, Jan. 11** at 10am at the Cox Business Center and learn about all of our schools.
- Students and families will be invited to attend **"Open House" events** at their new neighborhood schools in the early spring of 2020.
- Families can also contact their new neighborhood school directly to **schedule a visit** to learn more about the school.

Student Transportation

- Students who **live more than 1.5 miles away** from their new neighborhood school or who attend a magnet or charter school can use bus transportation.

**Supports would take effect upon Board approval of proposed recommendations*

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Supports available for teachers, staff, and school leaders*

On-going

- Opportunities for all staff to receive one-on-one support from Talent team
- Opportunities for support staff to apply for open positions in the district

February - March

- Principal Meet & Greets for affected teachers to learn about opportunities
- School visits at sites in which affected teachers might be interested

April

- Teachers participate in interviews and receive placements at new sites

May

- District office staff provide support for packing and moving of classrooms and common areas

**Timeline and supports would take effect upon Board approval of proposed recommendations*

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Next Steps and Key Dates

Next steps and Board approval process

December and early January

- Meetings with staff and families potentially affected by closures and consolidations
- Meetings with families potentially affected by grade configuration changes

January 6

- Superintendent presents recommendations to the Board of Education for consideration

January 21

- Superintendent presents recommendations to the Board of Education for action

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Next steps and Board approval process

IF RECOMMENDATIONS ARE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

January - March

- Meetings with teachers and staff potentially affected by closures and consolidations
- Meetings with families potentially affected by closures and consolidations

March - June

- District and school teams plan for and begin implementation

July

- Changes would take effect

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Discussion