



Round 2 - Frequently Asked Questions Stone Mountain & Clarkston Cluster Redistricting

Q1. Will my child get bus transportation to their new assigned school and after-school programs?

If a child is moved to a newly assigned school due to a Board-approved redistricting plan, then school transportation to and from the school will be provided during normal school hours. Any transportation for after-school programs will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian, as it is for any school in the district.

Q2. Will teachers be moved during this process? Will schools be able to provide services such as ESOL/ELL/Gifted/Special ED?

Teachers follow students. If students are moved from one school to another, the sending school may need fewer teachers while the receiving school may need more. With the increase in students will come an associated increase in ESOL, ELL, Gifted, and Special Education resources and staff.

Q3. With so many students coming into the new Rockbridge Elementary School, will the new school be overcrowded?

Capacity calculations within the different options have accounted for the existing students within the area, additional need for special education/ESOL classes, and projections to reflect new development and housing changes. Any and all moves considered within the three options have been carefully selected to not overcrowd the school for the first day of school and upcoming years. The Planning Department tracks housing and historic enrollment data to estimate the number of students that may come to DCSD schools due to new facilities or changes in attendance areas.

Q4. Who can stay at their existing school for the 2018-19 school year?

Elementary:

- **Rising 5th graders** (currently in 4th grade) who have been redistricted may remain at their current school for the 2018-19 school year. DCSD will not provide bus transportation for students who choose to remain at their current school.

Middle:

- **Rising 8th graders** (currently in 7th grade) who have been redistricted may remain at their current school for the 2018-19 school year. DCSD will not provide bus transportation for students who choose to remain at their current school.

High:

- **Rising 11th and 12th graders** (currently in 10th and 11th grade) who have been redistricted may remain at their current school for the 2018-19 school year. DCSD will not provide bus transportation for students who choose to remain at their current school.

Q5. Why do these options not provide enough overcrowding relief for Indian Creek Elementary School and Clarkston High School?

Indian Creek Elementary School will be rebuilt as a new school with capacity of 1,200 seats, with an estimated completion date for Fall 2020. Clarkston High School will be receiving an addition, adding 650 seats with an estimated completion date of Fall 2021. We expect that the newly rebuilt Indian Creek Elementary School and the addition at Clarkston High School will provide much more permanent overcrowding relief.

Q6. Will you be providing which communities, apartments, condominiums, and townhomes will be affected in these plans?

For all future plans, we will provide tables and maps to show which apartments and multi-family communities are being affected.



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Q7. How are these options being considered for potential effects in the neighborhoods?

When redistricting options are created, attempts are made to keep geographical areas (neighborhoods) intact. However, many considerations must be balanced against each other, and neighborhoods may be divided between schools.

Q8. Will Class sizes be affected by any of the options?

No. Class sizes are determined by the Board and are not affected by the number of students in a school. All schools, large and small, follow the same rules for class sizes.

Q9. Can this redistricting move students to or from schools outside the Stone Mountain and Clarkston clusters?

No. This redistricting is focusing on establishing an expanded attendance area for the new Rockbridge Elementary facility and providing some relief to schools in the Clarkston cluster with available capacity at schools in the Stone Mountain cluster. No other schools outside of these two clusters will be affected.

Q10. Has consideration been given to parent's transportation access to the new school their child is moved to?

We do try to take into account the potential transportation impacts on the students and parents being moved. However, it is not always possible to ensure that all stakeholders have optimal transportation outcomes, and multiple factors such as capacity and student safety must also be taken into account.

Q11. Where will rising 6th and 9th (current 5th and 8th) graders go?

Rising 6th and 9th graders in redistricted areas will go to the new middle or high school. They do not have the option to remain in their original feeder pattern.

Q12. Why are there more elementary school students being moved than middle or high school students?

Of all DCSD students, elementary school students represent 49%, middle school students represent 22%, and high school students represent 29%. The number of elementary school students in an area nearly always outnumber the number of middle or high school students.

Q13. Once the new Indian Creek ES and the additions at Clarkston HS and Freedom MS are complete, will these areas need to be redistricted again?

Any time significant capacity opens up the issue of redistricting becomes a possibility. However, previous redistricting is a secondary criteria taken into account during the redistricting process.