

BOUNDARY CHANGE FAQ

What principles guided the development of the proposed Harlan HS plan?

Many factors were considered when developing the Harlan HS plan. Because our primary concern is managing enrollment growth, we first look at:

- enrollment projections
- campus capacity

Other factors include:

- geographic proximity
- middle school feeder patterns
- community unity (i.e. not splitting a neighborhood)
- frequency of change for students at the high school level
- program accommodations and student needs
- cost effectiveness

Has this proposal already been approved?

No. Boundary changes are not adopted until the Board of Trustees approves them. Once approved, notification will be posted on the NISD website (www.nisd.net).

What is the timeline for this proposal?

1. **March 22, 2016:** The administrative proposal is presented to the Board of Trustees as an information item.
2. **March 31, 2016:** The administrative proposal is presented to the School Boundary Advisory Committee (SBAC) for discussion/review.
3. **May 5, 2016:** A public hearing is held at the Taft High School Auditorium (11600 FM 471 W) at 7 p.m. The SBAC hosts this public hearing so community members can review the administrative proposal, ask questions, comment, and submit written feedback.
4. **May 24, 2016:** The chairperson of the SBAC presents the SBAC Recommended Boundary and Report to the Board of Trustees as an action item. Following discussion, the Board may vote to approve/disapprove and/or modify the SBAC's recommended boundary. **Only the Board of Trustees can establish attendance areas for District schools.**

How can I provide my feedback?

The administrative proposal is announced to the public through various methods and feedback is requested:

- Flyers are mailed to affected students' home addresses. A written response form is included in this packet which can be returned via mail, e-mail, or fax.
- The proposal is published on the NISD website (www.nisd.net/schools/boundaries/60866) so community members can e-mail responses.
- Community members are invited to attend the public hearing at the Taft HS Auditorium (11600 FM 471 W) on May 5, 2016, at 7 p.m., as well as Board meetings.

Who is the School Boundary Advisory Committee (SBAC) and what is their role?

The SBAC is a committee composed of two parents from each middle school attendance area in NISD and approved by the Board of Trustees. Members are parents of elementary, middle, or high school students who normally serve overlapping two-year terms.

The SBAC meets to review the public's written feedback and comments made in the public forum. The SBAC discusses the needs of the District, the guiding principles for boundary changes, and desires of the community. After studying the details, the SBAC votes on a recommended boundary to present in a report to the Board of Trustees. The SBAC Committee process has been used in opening all Northside schools since March, 1996.

Who will be the principal of Harlan HS?

The principal of Harlan High School will be selected from a pool of experienced administrators and named in a spring 2016 Board meeting. The principal will be on duty by summer 2016.

Will Harlan HS have a varsity athletic program when it opens?

Because the University Interscholastic League (UIL) realignment occurs only in even numbered years, Harlan will not offer a full varsity athletic program until 2018-19. In 2017-18, Harlan HS will offer freshman and junior varsity team sports and varsity individual sports like golf, tennis, track, cross country, swimming, and diving. Because of this unique situation, any 2017-18 varsity athletic students living within the new

Harlan attendance area will be offered the Harlan UIL Athletic Special Option.

If my address is included in the new Harlan HS attendance area, do I have options?

Once the Board approves a boundary, it applies to all students living within the attendance zone with the following exception:

- **Incoming seniors in the new Harlan HS attendance area will remain at their current high school.** NISD will open Harlan High School without a senior class. Students who will be seniors in 2017-18 will remain at their current high school.
- If a **Communications Arts HS student** resides in a current Taft attendance zone that becomes part of the approved boundary for Harlan HS, the student may remain at Communications Arts HS under the magnet transfer guidelines.
- If an **O'Connor Ag Program student** resides in a current O'Connor attendance zone that becomes part of the approved boundary for Harlan HS, the student may remain at O'Connor under the Ag program transfer guidelines provided they continue their participation in the Ag program.

Will transportation be provided?

- Under District guidelines, students eligible for transportation to Harlan HS will receive transportation. 2017-18 seniors eligible to receive transportation to their current high school will continue to receive transportation.

Will there be any boundary changes between two existing high schools with the opening of Harlan HS?

There are no associated boundary changes between existing high schools in the proposed Harlan HS plan.

What are the options for students who were capped from Taft to Brennan HS?

- When Harlan HS opens in 2017-18, the Taft cap to Brennan will be lifted.
- Capped students (excluding 2017-18 seniors) who reside in the approved boundary for Harlan HS would be required to attend Harlan HS.
- Capped students (but not their siblings) who live outside of the Harlan boundary have the option to complete their high school education at Brennan HS with transportation provided for three years (2019-20).

Who can I contact if I have questions?

Athletics questions	397-7509
Boundary questions	397-8796
Secondary Administration	397-8639
Secondary Instruction	397-8637
Transportation questions.....	397-0874



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