

Evaluation Dashboard, Committee-Advanced Middle School Attendance Area Adjustment Scenario

“Pope Farm” Scenario

1. Projected Enrollment & Building Utilization

Elementary School	Jan. 2019	Projected 2020	Projected 2025	Projected 2030	Building Capacity
Glacier Creek	1,070	1,030	1,140	1,270	1,035
Kromrey	1,204	1,249	1,253	1,241	1,238

Red bolded text means that projection is over maximum building capacity

The “Pope Farm” Scenario responds to unsustainable enrollment growth at Glacier Creek largely by shifting neighborhood 24 to Kromrey. Enrollment at Kromrey, which has recently declined, would increase to be around that building’s maximum capacity through 2030. Districtwide, middle school enrollment by 2030 is projected to be 200+ students over the combined capacity of the two existing buildings. This suggests the future need for a capacity increase, such as via a third middle school on the Pope Farm site.

2. Boundary Changes Should Address Barriers to Student and Family Engagement

Elementary School	Free & Reduced Lunch Fall 2018 – in Option	English Language Learners Fall 2018 – in Option	Students of Color Fall 2018 – in Option
Glacier Creek	17% - 17%	5% - 4%	30% - 29%
Kromrey	23% - 22%	6% - 7%	33% - 34%

Estimates for option are based on 2018-19 enrollment distribution

The “Pope Farm” Scenario maintains the status quo with respect to the above statistics. Still, these statistics are only one part of assessing performance against this criterion. This high-priority criterion focuses on “eliminating opportunity gaps” and “allow[ing] for ease of access” for students and families with limited resources. This scenario shifts neighborhoods 24 and 37E, and their significant renter populations, to a much closer middle school. The “Pope Farm” Scenario has no other middle school shifts.

The Committee carefully considered scenarios that would have shifted neighborhood 70 near Elver Park to Kromrey to reduce transportation time and increase family engagement. However, the Committee ultimately advises that neighborhood 70 remain at Glacier Creek. This would keep students there with their West Middleton peers, respond to existing relationships and support at Glacier Creek, respect the middle school preference among many neighborhood 70 families that expressed one, and maintain current diversity balance. The prospect of a third middle school at the Pope Farm site—and the possibility that West Middleton could feed that school—was a secondary factor.

3. Neighborhood Unity

This criterion specifies that “[w]here possible, boundaries should be structured to assign a neighborhood to one school’s attendance area.” The “Pope Farm” Scenario improves from current attendance areas by assigning all of Blackhawk (neighborhoods 24 and 25) to Kromrey.

4. Duration of Boundaries/ Minimize Impact on Students

The “Pope Farm” Scenario proposes to shift only about 5% of middle school students and two neighborhoods from Glacier Creek to Blackhawk. These are neighborhood 24 (eastern part of Blackhawk) and 37E (Don’s Mobile Manor). The proposed shifts of 37E to Northside and Kromrey would result in 10-15 elementary and middle school students shifting, but to closer schools.

By shifting relatively few middle school students in 2020-2021, the “Pope Farm” Scenario minimizes the number of neighborhoods subject to two middle school shifts, if the District were to receive voter approval for and build a third middle school in the future. Neighborhood 24 is an exception. Still, if a third middle school is ultimately built on the Pope Farm site, neighborhood 24 is nearby and its students could remain on the same campus for grades K-8.

5. Fiscal Responsibility

The Committee found this criterion the most difficult to apply. It refers to data that was beyond the Committee’s charge and knowledge, such as building improvements, staffing requirements, educational programming needs, and other operational costs. Still, the Committee identified no exceptional fiscal impacts with the “Pope Farm” Scenario.

6. Elementary to Middle School Feeder Structure

Matriculating 4th graders from 6 of the 7 elementary schools would attend one or the other middle school with 100% of their elementary school peers. The “Pope Farm” Scenario would feed Pope Farm Elementary School’s 4th graders to the two middle schools in a way that does not divide neighborhoods or separate a handful of students from their peers. About 60% of each Pope Farm Elementary matriculating 4th grade class would attend Kromrey, and about 40% would attend Glacier Creek.

7. Contiguous Attendance Areas

This scenario maintains a similar arrangement of two Kromrey attendance area “islands” as exists today. This minimizes changes to existing middle school assignments and assists with achievement of nearly all of the other evaluation criteria.

8. District Transportation Efficiency

The “Pope Farm” Scenario generally continues current bus route patterns and would not result in additional routes attributed to neighborhoods changing schools. The two neighborhoods proposed to shift would attend a closer middle school, resulting in some District and parent transportation efficiency gains.