

On September 17, 2014 the central area redistricting study committee performed a SWOT analysis for the project. The committee split up into 3 small working groups, and brainstormed SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) as it relates to the redistricting project. The following summarizes the various committee members' input.

The SWOT was conducted around the following question:

What should the committee consider as it redistricts for the new northwest area elementary school?

Discussion results are summarized below.

STRENGTHS

- New school and redistricting will decrease overcrowding in the region
- Strong and numerous associations (HOA) and groups within the area
- Lots of resources available within the schools and area (library, college)
- Travel times for students are not high in the region
- Diverse population
- Strong community support
- Numbers of jobs in the area
- Easy access to transportation
- Small class sizes
- Safer environments for students
- The overall experience for students in the region

WEAKNESSES

- Redistricting could increase proximity of the community to school
- Breaking up the community as a potential when moving boundary lines
- Losing familiarity with the school if reassigned
- Not enough mass transportation and congestion
- Density and perceived overgrowth of housing in the region
- The impact on students and schools that are displaced during the process
- The overall experience for students in the region
- "Building envy"

OPPORTUNITIES

- Get to know other communities as boundaries and student's assigned schools change
- Decreased student to teacher ratios
- Increased number of jobs available
- Overcrowding can be addressed with redistricting and new school
- Develop more natural boundaries during the process
- Include new communities in the conversation, and balance communication
- Students who are annexed to other schools can return to their home school
- Balancing equity
- Planning the community
- Maximizing diversity

THREATS

- Students could change schools and not attend the new school
- Families who bought houses in order to attend a certain school
- Traffic flow and congestion of the area
- Time of the school day
- Schools could lose staff due to decreased enrollment
- The amount of planned and approved housing that is yet to come
- Self interest instead of planning for all students/families in the region
- Conditions of the existing buildings and how they vary
- "Building envy"
- Lacking communication
- Upset homeowners who had the school as part of the decision making criteria for their home
- Perceived impact on home value
- Keeping communities together