



## **Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School 2023/24 School Boundary Process**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

Updated: September 30, 2022

**(General questions regarding the various aspects of the boundary process can be found through [this link](#). A glossary of useful terms can be viewed [here](#).)**

#### **1. Where can I watch the September 6, 2022, School Board School Boundary Workshop?**

The September 6, 2022, School Board School Boundary Workshop can be viewed through the District's website [BrowardSchools.com](http://BrowardSchools.com), by selecting the School Board tab and then selecting Meeting Agendas and Watch Live Meetings, or it can be accessed directly by clicking [this link](#).

#### **2. Don't we all pay taxes to support public schools where we live?**

Taxes collected to support schools are not specific to the municipality in which the taxpayer resides. Tax dollars are distributed Districtwide to support all Broward County Public schools.

#### **3. Where will the families that live in the new residential buildings at the corner of Sample Road and University Drive in Coral Springs send their children to school?**

Generally, when new residential developments are built, students are assigned to the school boundary serving the location of the development, if the school has capacity. If the school does not have the capacity to accommodate additional students, they may be assigned to an adjacent school that has capacity.

#### **4. What improvements have been made at MSD to handle overcrowding during lunch?**

Despite the challenges caused by overcrowding, the school administration strives to provide accommodations for all the students to enjoy their lunch. Last year, the Parent Teacher Student Organization donated additional picnic tables that have added seats to the courtyard.

#### **5. Is it possible to split Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ) when drawing attendance zones?**

TAZs can be split when drawing attendance zones. The split would be created by the school demographer based on where students reside within the TAZ.



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#### **6. Does any portion of my taxes go to the Broward County School Board for the construction of schools located within my city?**

Broward County Public Schools does not receive city taxes for the construction of schools.

#### **7. Why can't the City of Parkland have its own middle and high school?**

Broward County Public Schools is a countywide school system by state law. Attendance zones (school boundaries) are not determined by city limits. Districtwide we have a surplus of space to accommodate students; therefore, the State restricts the District from adding any new schools or classrooms until the number of surplus seats is reduced.

#### **8. What about the two lots that Broward County Public Schools owns? Why is BCPS just sitting on that land?**

Districtwide we have a surplus of space to accommodate students; therefore, the State restricts the District from adding any new schools or classrooms until the current number of surplus seats is reduced.

#### **9. What is the anticipated increase in enrollment at MSD stemming from the new high-rise construction near Sample Road and University Drive? Or are they included in the 5-year planning tool?**

The Demographics staff does not anticipate significant school enrollment to be generated by this housing development. The Demographics staff has been aware of the planned Cornerstone at Coral Springs development for several years, though – recently – plans have increased the number of apartment units from 457 to 712. The Demographics staff met with the Coral Springs City Manager in April 2022 to discuss the potential impacts of this housing development on schools and learned that, though this community will not be age-restricted, it is not expected to attract significant numbers of families with children.

#### **10. Can we see TAZ maps (Parkland and Coral Springs) with the counts of students in each year of high school?**

This type of map has not previously been produced as boundary change considerations are made based on the total number of students that would potentially move, rather than individual grade levels.



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#### **11. If someone wants to propose a map, will they sit down with someone in demographics to see if it follows policy or will they be evaluated before the 11/3 meeting?**

In this year's boundary process, anyone wishing to create their own proposal will have the opportunity to schedule a one-on-one virtual meeting with a demographer to draft a proposal that meets considerations and provides sufficient enrollment relief. Only proposals developed with a demographer will be shared with the community for their consideration. This requirement is intended to prevent the submission of duplicate proposals as well as those that do not offer a viable solution.

#### **12. In order to alleviate over enrollment at MSD, how many students would need to be phased out of the school or reassigned to Coral Glades High School?**

As of the 2022/23 school year, Coral Glades High has 804 students attending from outside its boundary. Beginning in the 2023/24 school year, a reduction in the number of students assigned to Coral Glades High would allow that many MSD boundary students to be phased in. A non-phased boundary change from MSD, however, may over-enroll Coral Glades High School as numbers of reassignments can only be reduced incrementally each year.

#### **13. Does the district intend to continue the practice of phasing in the boundary change – meaning, allowing existing students who would be moved by a change in boundary to remain at MSD until graduation?**

The means of implementing a boundary change is solely at the discretion of the School Board and specific to each proposed change.

Changes may be implemented as:

- phase in/out – only the incoming grade level each year attends the new school
- all at once –everyone in the affected area would attend the new school
- or any other implementation strategy



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#### **14. If there is a full phase-in of the new boundaries, will there be enough alleviation at MSD if the three southernmost TAZs (in Coral Springs) are moved?**

Yes. Enrollment at MSD has decreased by 64 students since last school year. Based on 2021/22 data, a full four-year phase-in/out of the three TAZ areas in Coral Springs would reduce enrollment by approximately 90 students per year until the transition is complete. It is anticipated that this would keep enrollment at manageable levels over the four-year phase-in period.

#### **15. If the only problem with a phase-in plan is transportation cost, will that be a disqualification?**

The means of implementing a boundary change is solely at the discretion of the School Board and specific to each proposed change. The Board in its decision will consider transportation costs and other factors.

In recent years, most boundary changes have been adopted as a phase-in.

#### **16. What is the feasibility of moving students in the three TAZs south of Wiles Road to Coral Glades High School and/or Coral Springs High School? It seems the only issue would be the potential of changing demographics of the student body as each school has room and those TAZs are right on the border between those schools. Are there other potential problems?**

Impacts to the various demographic subgroups are considered in the evaluation of boundary proposals. In general, any proposal that increases or decreases the percentage of a demographic group's population relative to the whole school population would be a concern, but it would not be automatically disqualified if other viable solutions do not exist.

#### **17. In order to alleviate over enrollment at MSD, how many students would need to be phased out of the school or reassigned to Coral Glades High School?**

As of the 2022/23 school year, Coral Glades High has 804 students attending from outside its boundary. Beginning in the 2023/24 school year, a reduction in the number of students assigned to Coral Glades High would allow that many MSD boundary students to be phased in. A non-phased boundary change from MSD, however, may over-enroll Coral Glades High School as numbers of reassignments can only be reduced incrementally each year.