

BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DEMOGRAPHICS & ENROLLMENT PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Community Proposal C-1 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q. Will other middle school students from other middle schools be entering the K-8 model school?

A. Priority for admission to 6th through 8th grade will be given to students living within the Hollywood Central Elementary boundary, but any remaining seats would be open, by application, to anyone through the choice process.

Q. If there is space will other elementary school students be able to apply for school choice into these K-8 schools?

A. Yes, BCPS is a School Choice District and any students can apply through the District's School Choice process if there are empty seats available. *Contact the Office of School Choice for further information.*

Q. Do middle school students do better in K-8 models than in 6-8 or other school grade models?

A. There is strong evidence supporting the idea that students who attend a K-8 school experience greater growth in math and reading than students who move from elementary to middle school. The impact equates to between 3.5 and 7 months of learning. This difference persists at least through 8th grade, and is greatest for disadvantaged students. Continuity and smaller grade size contribute to the benefits accrued to students in K-8 schools. [Further research and a literature review of K-8 models provided by the BCPS Student Assessment and Research Department.](#)

Q. Do the city commissioners know that there was a proposal that could impact schools in their city?

A. Each commissioner and city mayor from Lauderhill, Davie, Dania, and Hollywood were emailed a letter inviting them and their constituents to participate in the school boundary process.

Q. If there is low enrollment at Hollywood Central Elementary where would the 6th-8th grade students come from if they aren't there now and is there a guarantee they will continue in the middle school level?

A. The idea is not that the middle school student will dis-enroll at the middle schools they are currently attending but they will remain from 5th grade to 6th grade as opposed to going to a charter school or private school or another option. Also, the thought is that possibly more students will enroll at kindergarten with the idea they are in a K-8 which is what they are looking for. The middle school students living in the Hollywood Central Elementary School

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attendance area attend the most is Hollywood Academy of Arts & Science K8 Charter School, followed by Olsen Middle with Avant Garde K8 Charter being the third most attended.

Q. Although the Hollywood Central Elementary School attendance area is not proposed to change, what is the future enrollment impact of Olsen Middle School?

A. The Hollywood Central Elementary School proposal does not take any students out of Olsen Middle School but provides competition with other charter K-8 schools, not from District middle schools. The proposal is going to offer 6th through 8th grade curriculum and is not going to offer the amenities of a traditional middle school. There are three other PreK-8 schools in Broward: Coral Springs PK-8, North Lauderdale PK-8, and Annabel C. Perry PK-8. These are non-traditional middle schools that offer the opportunity for students who would rather remain in a smaller environment than move on to a traditional middle school. The proposal is trying to bring charter school students back into the public school system. Only 23% of the students in the Hollywood Central Elementary School attendance area are choosing to attend their assigned middle school, Olsen Middle. 77% of the students in this area are choosing not to attend Olsen Middle School and are in other charter (49%) or public (28%) schools.

Q. What is the historical impact on the neighborhood middle schools when the other three PK-8 schools were opened?

A. There have been mixed results in reconfiguring schools as PK-8 schools. North Lauderdale and Coral Spring PK-8 have not had big impacts on the nearby middle schools and have drawn very low 6th through 8th grade enrollment. Annabel C. Perry PK-8 drew a large number of students from H.D. Perry Middle where that school was ultimately repurposed. This impact is difficult to anticipate, however. Before it's the reconfiguration of Annabel C. Perry as a PK-8 school, H.D. Perry Middle was already extremely under-enrolled, more so than Olsen Middle currently is.

Q. What programs or initiatives are going to be brought into the Hollywood Central K-8 model that can compete with the charter schools?

A. The 6th – 8th grade program is proposed to roll out by one grade at a time. This will allow students to stay in a smaller K-8 environment within their neighborhood rather than move on to a charter K-8 or Olsen Middle, a magnet school. It would be an opportunity to offer choice to take advantage of the academics at Olsen Middle or a choice to stay at Hollywood Central K-8 rather than loose students because there is no public school K-8 option in this community now.

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Q. Where is the money coming from to develop the K8 models?

A. External Partnerships (e.g. Broward Cultural Affairs, Community School, Turnaround Arts, Hispanic Unity, Children’s Literacy Initiative, Broward County Library, Community services, Health Agency Support), grants and existing funding streams would provide monies for additional early literacy/learning opportunities. Kindergarten through eighth grades would be funded through the existing budgets of the combined schools.

Q. Are there going to be two principals?

A. It has not yet been determined how the administration of the combined PK-8 campus will be organized. The Gulfstream Academy of Hallandale Beach K-8 School, a similarly configured site, which was created by combining Hallandale Elementary and Gulfstream Middle, is organized under the administration of one principal.

Q. Are the students going to be eating lunch all day?

A. It is anticipated that both cafeterias will remain in use so food service times will not be impacted

Q. What are the success rate of the existing K8 schools in Broward County? What has happened with these kids?

A. Beginning in the 2010/11 school year, eight multi-level combination grade configuration schools have been implemented by the School Board of Broward County. One of these schools, Beachside Montessori Village, was opened as a new school serving prekindergarten through eighth grade, while the remaining seven were reconfigured through the Student Success Opportunity Schools (SSOS) initiative and the Community School Boundary Process. These have included three prekindergarten through eighth grade schools, one kindergarten through eighth grade school, and three sixth through twelfth grade schools.

The goals of establishing multi-level school configurations are specific to each site, but include optimization of facility use, increasing student achievement, addressing community needs, attracting and retaining students, and creating opportunities to offer specialized and innovative educational programs. While one of these schools, Beachside Montessori Village, is a choice-only, full magnet school with no assigned attendance area, and Gulfstream Academy of Hallandale Beach K-8 and Dillard 6-12 have attendance areas spanning all of their grade levels, the remaining five schools have assigned attendance areas spanning only one level of the grades they serve, while the other level is enrolled through choice.

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DEMOGRAPHICS & ENROLLMENT PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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Enrollment has increased at six of the seven reconfigured combination schools (not including Beachside Montessori Village, which opened as a combination school), by rates ranging from 1.1% (Gulfstream Academy of Hallandale Beach) to 38.8% (Dillard 6-12), with a mean increase in enrollment of 16.8%. Including all combination school sites, the mean permanent capacity utilization is 91.7%, which is higher than the mean utilization at elementary or middle schools (88.2% and 91.5%, respectively), but lower than high schools (97.4%).

A significant number of students currently attending BCPS combination schools had previously attended private or charter schools, or had been home schooled, based on the 2018/19 benchmark enrollment and student data from the TERMS database. At the 2018/19 benchmark enrollment date, September 11, 2018, 233 students attending combination schools had previously attended private school, 868 had attended charter schools, and 30 students had come from being home schooled. This total of 1,131 students from outside BCPS represents 12.1% of the total combination school enrollment of 9,353. As of the Florida Department of Education's Third Full Time Enrollment Calculation of \$7,399.97 per student, this equals a gain of \$8,369,366.07 for the 2018/19 school year alone.

Q. Whose is going to lose their jobs after you combine the schools?

A. In past school reconfigurations no staff member has lost their job.

Q. How are we going to get a follow up to this meeting?

A. Future meetings will be held at all schools prior to the conclusion of the school boundary process. All information will also be shared from the Demographics & Enrollment Planning website by visiting <https://www.browardschools.com/dep> and clicking on School Boundary Process.