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Dr. Erin Dugan, Assistant Superintendent
 of General Administration
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For more information:
www.olatheschools.com

Middle School #10 – opening in August 2018

**Boundary
 Determination Process**

Dear Patrons,

We are excited to begin the process of boundary determination for our 10th middle school. This brochure provides you with specific information as to how the boundary determination process will work and the timeline for Board of Education approval of these new middle school boundaries by Fall of 2017.

We have tried to provide answers to frequently asked questions, including “How can I be involved in this important process?” After reviewing this brochure, if you still have questions, do not hesitate to give me a call. We believe in a strong and informed partnership with our families and community as we collaborate to make the best possible decisions for students, the district and our community.

Sincerely,
 Dr. Erin Dugan, Assistant Superintendent of General Administration

**District Boundary
 Study Group Membership**

- Assistant Superintendent General Administration
- Manager of Planning and Energy
- Director of Communications
- Executive Director of General Administration - Secondary
- School Principal Representatives
- Executive Director of General Administration - Elementary
- Executive Director of Technology
- Chief Financial and Operations Officer
- Deputy Superintendent
- Superintendent

NOTE: Others are included
 as their input and expertise are needed.

**Middle School #10 Boundary
 Determination Timeline**

<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Actions of Boundary Study Group for Middle School #10</i>
September 2017	Public meetings at: - Woodland Elementary, Sept. 11: 5:00-6:00 pm - Ravenwood Elementary, Sept. 11: 6:30-7:30 pm - Fairview Elementary, Sept. 14: 6:00-7:00 pm - Millbrooke Elementary, Sept. 18: 6:00-7:00 pm - Prairie Trail Middle School, Sept. 18: 7:15-8:15 pm - Mission Trail Middle School, Sept. 19: 6:30-7:30 pm
October 5, 2017	Presentation/Recommendation to Board of Education as a future action item
November 2, 2017 or December 7, 2017	Action by Board of Education

Frequently Asked Questions

Boundaries for Middle School #10

What are the Guiding Principles for Boundary Changes?

The Guiding Principles for Boundary Changes, listed below in this brochure, were adopted by the Board of Education during the 2004-05 school year, after a year-long process of gathering input from all district stakeholders through focus groups and surveys.

When will we know who the principal will be?

The new principal will be hired in the late Fall of 2017.

What opportunities are available to participate in the boundary change process?

Public input is a vital part of the process of developing boundaries that can best meet the needs of the area. To participate, you can:

- Talk to your current school principal.
- Attend public meetings. There will be one or more public meetings at various district locations. (See back of brochure.)
- Visit the district website (www.olatheschools.com). The website will provide updates on the boundary process, FAQs and provide an email address to send comments.
- Contact district staff:
Dr. Erin Dugan, Assistant Superintendent
(913) 780-8037 or dugane@olatheschools.org.

Will my child attend the school located closest to our residence?

The Olathe Public Schools is a proponent of neighborhood schools, as evidenced by the attendance areas that are generally one mile or less in diameter. Neighborhood schools help to connect a community with the school system. In addition to proximity, other factors considered are neighborhood density, presence of major streets and railroads, residential growth patterns, district fiscal responsibility, and future development plans in the area. When all factors are taken into consideration, having students attend the closest school may not always be possible.

Will traffic patterns be taken into consideration in determining new boundaries?

Safety of students is a primary concern of the district. Therefore, major roads and traffic patterns are considered when revising school boundaries, and the district consults with city traffic engineers when potential boundary changes are considered.

What type of programs will be offered at the new middle school?

The new middle school will be a comprehensive middle school, like the other nine middle schools, whose course catalog will include all of the same core and elective courses offered at the other nine schools. The school will offer all of the same sports and clubs as what is standard at the other nine schools.

What is the district's transportation policy? Is busing available?

Busing is available at no charge to all students who meet the state-required distance of 2.5 miles or more from school. Busing is available on a pay-rider basis to students who do not meet this requirement. Busing is not available for parent-initiated transfers. Detailed information regarding transportation is available at the district's website or by contacting First Student, the district's busing sub-contractor.

Can we keep feeder schools together as students move from elementary school to middle school and then to high school?

The feeder school pattern is a consideration when boundary adjustments are being made. Keeping feeder schools together needs to be balanced with other factors, such as allowing for future growth, balancing school enrollments where possible, and seeking long-term boundary solutions.

Who attends Olathe Public Schools?

The majority of students attending Olathe Public Schools reside in Olathe. However, the district also serves portions of Lenexa, Overland Park, and Shawnee. A small portion of Olathe residents have addresses that lie within neighboring school districts. Having an Olathe address does not automatically place children in Olathe schools.

Note: A school locator function is available at the district's website to confirm schools of attendance.

How is the large perimeter boundary for the entire district established? Can that boundary be changed?

The school district's boundary was established in 1965. City boundaries fluctuate with annexations, but the boundaries of the school district have not changed since 1965. School district boundary changes are rare and are governed by state law. To effect a school district boundary change, the Board of Education from both districts must agree to the change, and the change must then be approved by the Kansas Board of Education.

What factors are considered in enrollment projections?

The desirability of this area to young families has led to continued enrollment increases in the Olathe Public Schools. Estimates of future growth within the district are updated monthly. Enrollment forecasts are based on a number of data sources, including: monthly building reports from the cities of Lenexa, Olathe and Overland Park; school enrollments over the past 10 years; household density patterns; and information from city planners.

Guiding Principles for Boundary Decisions

1. **Recognize and consider all students' academic, safety, social and emotional needs.** In keeping with both the educational mission of the district and the guiding principle *Children First*, constituents support making decisions with a focus on students' academic and other needs, including students with diverse backgrounds, gifts and challenges.
2. **Enrollment numbers should enhance/support learning environment for all students.** District constituents recognize the educational mission of the district as an important basis for making boundary decisions.
3. **Seek long-term boundary solutions.** Constituents indicated a preference for a long-range outlook when making boundary decisions, to minimize the number of changes a student/family will experience.
4. **Recognize the Board of Education's fiscal responsibility to taxpayers.** The school district is a tax-supported institution and the Board must be fiscally prudent in its use of tax dollars.

Approved: June 2, 2005