

Little Rock School District – Special Agenda

December 6, 2019

**Regarding the recommendations of the Community Advisory Board, the Commissioner takes the following actions:**

Accept the recommendations of the Community Advisory Board regarding the removal of boundary adjustment Option 3 from consideration and the grandfathering of current high school students.

Accept the recommendations of the Community Advisory Board regarding the adoption of boundary adjustment Option 2 with the following modifications and clarifications:

**Pinnacle View** – The Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation (DPSAFT) has reviewed the space in the Pinnacle View Administration Building and confirmed it is not suitable for a traditional 9-12 high school. Given the facility's limitations, the continued development of a School of Innovation for grades 9-12 by **adding one grade per year** is the best option for making high school grades available for up to 400 students. While a preliminary Program of Requirements (POR) analysis identified deficiencies of the facility in accommodating a traditional 9-12 high school of this size, DPSAFT is comfortable with waiving the POR requirements to adjust to the School of Innovation's instructional methodology, without risk of creating safety, security, or academic concerns for students.

On the Option 2 map, the Pinnacle View MS zone is split into a north and south section. These two sections combined represent a high school attendance zone that looks forward to a time when the district has the means to offer a traditional high school in this part of the city. For the 2020-21 school year, and until such time that the district can offer a traditional high school, Option 2 affords students a number of choices for attending LRSD high schools that currently are not available.

1. Students residing in the Pinnacle View MS zone who complete 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Pinnacle View will be granted preference to attend Pinnacle View School of Innovation, subject to space availability. If space remains available after enrollment of the students with preference, students residing in other zones may attend Pinnacle View School of Innovation until capacity is reached.
2. Once the capacity of Pinnacle View School of Innovation has been reached, students residing in the Pinnacle View MS zone can attend Central HS as the zoned school. These students are also eligible to apply for the high school magnet options at Central, Parkview, Hall, and Southwest.

**Action: Continue adding one high school grade per year to Pinnacle View under the School of Innovation model until grades 9-12 are fully in place. Further, adopt a high school attendance zone, concurrent with the existing Pinnacle View Middle School zone, to serve students at such time that the district provides a traditional high school in this area of the district.**

**Southwest High School** – The excitement of a new, state of the art education facility, coupled with the opportunities inherent to the Ford NGL model, creates a tremendous opportunity for a magnet program at Southwest High School that could be a significant step toward attracting students from all areas of the district. This opportunity could be enhanced through a collaboration of LRSD, the Division of Career and Technical Education, the Division of Higher Education, and the Division of Elementary and Secondary

Education to develop weighted concurrent credit courses as part of the magnet programming. **Action: Create a magnet program at Southwest High School around the Ford NGL model.**

**Hall High School** – The work done to improve teaching and learning at Hall HS is notable, and the data indicate that progress is being made. However, for Hall HS to truly meet the needs of students and the community, as well as to regain the level of educational standing it long enjoyed, a bolder step is needed. This bold step can be taken through the development and implementation of a magnet school focused on STEAM, including medical professions and computer science, to begin in the 2020-21 school year for grades 9-12. Students completing 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Forest Heights STEM Academy will be given preference for entry into the Hall STEAM Magnet. To make the Hall STEAM Magnet even more attractive to students, Hall will offer eSports through the Arkansas Activities Association, and Hall will be the exclusive high school for eSports through the 2022-23 school year. **Action: Establish Hall High School as a magnet school as described above with no attendance zone. The district may consider implementing an appropriate shadow zone.**

**Regarding the recommendations of Superintendent Mike Poore, the Commissioner takes the following actions:**

**Approve** the LRSD Community Blueprint modification to move the Rockefeller Elementary K-5 to the Washington Elementary campus for the 2020-21 school year. Additionally, Rockefeller will be utilized as a birth to pre-K center.

**Pause** until the 2021-22 school year the conversion of J.A. Fair to a K-8 campus incorporating students from David O. Dodd Elementary, Romine Elementary, and Henderson Middle School. Further, it is directed the LRSD Facilities Master Plan be updated to reflect this planned future use of the J.A. Fair campus.