

Response to questions for the June 8, 2009, School Board Work Session Spring 2009 Boundary Studies

Gibson:

Please comment on how FRL statistics are determined.

Wilson

Explain how FRL and ESOL population percentages are calculated.

In the case of the Annandale Study staff actually counted the 2008-09 ESOL & FRL students specific to the areas to be reassigned and took the result of that to re-calculate the estimated ESOL and FRL numbers for each impacted school. It should be noted that ESOL and FRL percentages are based on current membership data as the base. Facilities Planning does not project for ESOL or FRL percentages for boundary studies or in CIP projections. The enrollment numbers for Staff's Recommendation are lower than initially indicated in the scope because staff's recommendation includes grades from 9 to 11 only. However, the scope included grades 9 -12.

The table and narrative below provide a detailed description of how ESOL and FRL percentages are calculated based on the proposed attendance area reassignment.

	School Enrollment	Grades	Students Affected	Remaining Students	ESOL			FRL		
	2008-09 Data			Entire School	Affected Area	Entire School	%	Affected Area	Entire School	%
SY 08-09	2565	9-12	NA	NA	NA	525	20.5%	NA	1246	48.6%
Scope	2565	9-12	279	2286	76	449	19.6%	127	1119	49.0%
Staff Recommendation	2565	9-11	205	2360	60	465	19.7%	98	1148	48.6%

The 1st row is the current 08-09 membership data. This is the same number that is reflected on the bottom table of the scope map we presented to the School Board. As you can see ESOL stands at 20.5% and FRL at 48.6%. This is for the entire school with the existing boundaries.

The second row moves into the numbers in the boxes we provided on the scope map in which we said 279 residing and attending students (175+104) from Annandale High School could potentially be moved to Falls Church and Lake Braddock. The total number of students from the two areas is 279 for grades 9-12, of which 76 are ESOL and 127 are FRL – subtracting these numbers from the ESOL and FRL numbers from the totals for the school results in 449 (525-76) ESOL and 1119 (1246-127) FRL. The total student population would then be lowered to 2286 because of taking away 279 students. The percentage is based on the change, which is calculated to be 19.6% ESOL and 49% FRL.

The final row is with the actual calculation for the boundary study, in which we are moving only grades 9-11. The number of students being reassigned from the affected areas, based on '08-'09 data, is 205. These are '08-'09 numbers brought in from lower grades who would be in grades 9-11 in 2010-11. The student population therefore would be 2360 (2565-205) because of taking away the 205 students from the current 2565 student membership. The number of ESOL students for these reassigned areas is 60 and FRL is 98, resulting in 465 (525-60) ESOL and 1148 (1246-98) FRL. Because of these changes, the percentage for ESOL changes to 19.7% and 48.6% for FRL.

Wilson:

Can the Annandale campus support a modular addition? If the existing trailers are removed and replaced with a trailer, would there be a net gain in capacity? What might the time frame be to implement a modular addition?

The Annandale campus could support a modular addition only as a replacement to some of the many existing temporary classroom trailers on site. However, Annandale is very near the maximum .30 Floor Area Ratio (FAR) allowed by the Zoning Ordinance for public facilities located in R-3 zoned properties. This means that the current size of the building in relation to the site acreage will not support much more square footage of additional space whether it is a modular or permanent addition. Approximately 20,300 additional square feet of space could be added to the site, which is approximately equivalent to a 10-12 room modular addition.

It should also be noted that, unlike trailers which require minimal permitting, the placement of a modular building addition requires full site plans and review, including the provision of storm water management to mitigate impacts of the additional impervious surface, which may in turn require additional open space and/or site work. A modular addition would largely replace the temporary class rooms provided by the trailers presently on-site; however bathroom facilities would also be provided with a modular. Design and Construction has determined that the addition of three quad trailers and a duplex trailer (total of 14 classrooms) could be provided for Annandale over the summer to provide some additional classroom space in time for the 2009-10 school year, until such time that the proposed boundary change, if approved, is implemented. However, the placement of these quads will impact approximately 50-60 parking spaces, exacerbating an existing shortage of parking on site and creating additional parking problems in the surrounding neighborhood.

Modular additions are funded through school bond referendum; the 2009 school bond proposal does not specifically include funding for a modular addition at Annandale High School. If a modular addition were deemed appropriate for Annandale, it could be accommodated through the next bond referenda, scheduled in 2011 or, if sufficient savings are realized through savings on CIP projects, savings could be directed toward the acquisition and installation of a modular addition. Planning for the modular would begin once the bond has been approved. The most likely time frame for completion of a modular could be as early as 2010-11 or later in 2012 or 2013, depending on funding availability.

A modular addition or other permanent building addition for capacity enhancements would not generally be recommended when an overcrowded school is adjacent to school attendance areas with significant levels of existing and projected surplus capacity, especially in light of the need for capacity enhancement in many other schools around the county where boundary re-assignment is not a viable option to address overcrowding. Moreover, a modular addition will not fully address the capacity issue at Annandale HS; the proposed boundary reassignment is needed to reduce the overall membership.

What is the impact of the Annandale Community Center Quad on the capacity for Annandale? Could the center be relocated and the capacity captured for classroom use?

The community center is an important service to the Annandale community. It was located deliberately on the Annandale High School campus because that afforded the opportunity for collaboration of services to students, parents, families, and community members. The school does use the center during the school day for activities such as meetings so the school does gain benefits from the use of the space. To relocate the center would be expensive and it would be difficult to find an acceptable alternative location. Most importantly, having this center on the campus is not a substantive contributor to the issue of overcrowding and inadequate space at this school. Staff is undertaking a detailed review of the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the County and FCPS to determine if the temporary building housing the community center can be re-called into use for student classrooms; that analysis will be forthcoming in advance of the Board's June 25th, 2009 date for action on the boundary study.

Would FSPC support split class times for Annandale High school similar to what was done for South County Secondary School which went to a nine period day?

This is not an instructional model supported by Fairfax County Public Schools. While a split schedule has been employed at the South County Secondary School, this was splitting the middle school from the high school students since South County is a secondary school serving both middle and high school students. Principal John Ponton and his leadership team have actually studied this earlier in the school year as a possible solution to the overcrowding and determined that it was not feasible for their 9-12 high school. There are many classes that are mixed grade classes that need to meet when all students are in attendance. All extracurricular and athletic activities would be negatively affected, including athletics. Additional staff would be needed, especially for electives, due to the mixed grade enrollment in those courses. Transportation services would need to be doubled to accommodate both shifts. Staff hours would also need to be in shifts which would make a master calendar with the considerations above difficult if not impossible.

Please describe grandfathering for the proposed Poe/Glasgow change so that students would not have to be split for their three years at the middle school level.

Students have in the past been allowed to remain at their current school to complete grades 8 and 12, "grandfathering" them to complete their programs at those schools. At Annandale High School it is proposed to allow grade 11 students who are identified as International Baccalaureate candidates (based on their course selections February 2010) to also remain at Annandale High School, since these students work closely with teachers for their projects and papers and those relationships will have been established in grades 9 and 10.

At the middle school level, 6th graders currently at Ravensworth will attend Poe next year and would then be grandfathered as 8th graders to complete their middle school program at Poe. Ravensworth parents of current 6th graders who are identified to attend Lake Braddock Middle School in 2010-11 have asked if they can pupil place their children at Lake Braddock next year (2009-10) without transportation. Lake Braddock Secondary School principal Dave Thomas has said that he could accommodate them, since only 20 students are in this group.

The situation for elementary students feeding to Poe and Glasgow is more complicated because those middle schools are 6-8 grade configurations. A grade 5 student currently at Beech Tree will go to Poe Middle School next year but would then be transferred to Glasgow Middle School for grade 7 in 2010-11. Those students would attend three different schools in three year. This would be very disruptive for an age group that needs consistency and guidance during the early adolescent years.

Some parents have asked that they be allowed to transfer their rising 6th graders to Glasgow Middle School for next year (2009-10) so that they could have all 3 years at Glasgow. Since GT buses already have stops in these neighborhoods, transportation has said that, if space is available, students could ride to Glasgow on those buses. Glasgow principal, Deirdre Lavery, has said that she can accommodate a limited number of additional 6th graders next year without disrupting the master schedule, teams and staffing.

Other parents have asked that, if their students begin at Poe Middle School in 6th grade next year, could their students continue to attend in grade 7, especially since buses would be carrying the grandfathered 8th graders to Poe for that year. This grandfathering option would alleviate the potential that some students would have to attend 3 different schools in 3 years, as they move from elementary to middle school under the proposed boundary reassignment, a situation that is unique to those student currently attending portions of Beech Tree and Sleepy Hollow elementary schools which feed to Poe MS and which are proposed to be re-assigned to Glasgow MS. The question is whether or not the School Board is willing to then grandfather the 7th graders for their 8th grade year. This option for grandfathering would allow more students to remain at Poe, thus slowing the time for overcrowding relief. This grandfathering could also set a precedent for other impacted schools in the study which may request the same grandfathering conditions. Expanding the grandfathering to more than what is set forth in the Board's policies will slow the limited enrollment relief that the proposed boundary study and recommended re-assignment was intended to provide for Poe and Annandale.

Many parents have asked if they can transfer their 9th and 10th grade students from Annandale High School to Stuart High School for next year for the International Baccalaureate program instead of going to Falls Church High School for the AP courses. They have been told that they can, provided they provide transportation. The attached chart describes the grandfathering and early pupil placement options to be considered.

What is the potential impact of the proposed \$8 million 'green dollar' funding?

There is a bill that might become law that might provide Fairfax County Public Schools with as much as \$8 million for projects to reduce energy consumption. Historically, such projects in Fairfax County Public Schools have involved lighting upgrades, window replacements, control systems, and energy efficient mechanical systems. Staff in the Department of Facilities and Transportation Services would not classify a modular building as an energy efficiency initiative and would not support using such funds, if they do become available, on such a project at any school. Furthermore, this department does not support the expenditure of capital monies, regardless of the source, to increase capacity at Annandale High School considering that there are surrounding schools that have capacity and that could absorb the movement of students from Annandale High School.

Kory

What are the projections for Annandale High School for fall 2009?

The following are the projected enrollments for Annandale HS for the school year 2009-10:

Fall Projections:

<u>09</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>Sp. Ed.</u>	<u>Total</u>
713	622	662	515	255	2767

Spring Projection Update:

<u>09</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>Sp. Ed.</u>	<u>Total</u>
684	598	640	512	263	2697

The spring-projected enrollment for Annandale HS is 70 lower than fall projections. Please note that Annandale has lost a total of 85 students to date this school year. The boundary study is based off of the residing and attending students as of fall 2008 and is based on last fall's 5 year projection. We did state at all of the community meetings that the one year spring projection update for Annandale was reduced somewhat and that Annandale had lost students over the 2008-09 school year. This slight downward revision for Annandale for fall 2009 is consistent with a pattern at many high schools across the county – growth is projected to continue, but not quite as strong as initially projected from last fall.

Grandfathering Options – Annandale Study

From Poe MS to Lake Braddock MS:		
School Year 2009/2010	School Year 2010/2011	School Year 2011/2012
No change implemented *Ravensworth ES students may request transfer to Lake Braddock MS without transportation	Implement boundary change Grade 8 grandfathered Grade 7 moves to Lake Braddock MS	Full implementation – all students move; no further grandfathering
No Middle School Change: Portions of Annandale Terrace, Beech Tree and Belvedere ES that are proposed to move from Annandale HS to Falls Church HS remain at Poe MS – no change at middle school level	No change	No change

From Poe MS to Glasgow MS:		
School Year 2009/2010	School Year 2010/2011	School Year 2011/2012
No change implemented *Students may request transfer to Glasgow MS – the number of students accepted may be limited; transportation on GT buses may be available	Grades 6 to Glasgow MS Grades 7 and 8 grandfathered with transportation	Grades 6 and 7 to Glasgow MS. Full implementation to Glasgow MS in 2012-2013 school year

From Annandale to Falls Church and Lake Braddock High Schools:		
School Year 2009/2010	School Year 2010/2011	School Year 2011/2012
No change implemented *Students may request transfer to Stuart HS for IB program w/o transportation or to Falls Church HS or Lake Braddock HS w/o transportation to implement change early.	Change implemented - Grade 12 and Grade 11 IB diploma candidates grandfathered with transportation. All others move.	Grade 12 IB diploma candidates remain at Annandale HS; all others move.