



Fairfield Public Schools

Redistricting Options for Racial Balance Plan Update For CSBE

March 2, 2016



Planning Process

- Redistricting Committee formed & criteria developed – Fall 2015
- Milone & MacBroom engaged in the Redistricting Plan – Fall 2015
 - Enrollment projections by school were developed for 10-yr window
 - Facility utilization updated & projected for the next decade
- Working with FPS administration, developed 6 redistricting scenarios.
 - 3 scenarios could be implemented in the near-term (1-3 yrs)
 - 3 scenarios could be implemented in the long-term (4-6 yrs)
- Tested scenarios against the Goal and Guiding Criteria
- Presented recommendations to FPS BOE on February 16 ,2015.



Redistricting Plan

Goals & Guiding Principles

Goal-

- Reduce McKinley's racial imbalance to below 20% (Impending)

Guiding Principles (1) -

- Strive to maintain established neighborhoods and consider natural and manmade boundaries (rivers, highways)
- Consider the impact on busing and walkers
- Safety issues should be considered
- Phase out all temporary solutions (portables)
- Strive for sustained facility utilization at 90%
- Siblings should attend same schools – avoid crossing feeder patterns
- Maintain District Guidelines for class size
- Create the least amount of disruption

(1) *Adhoc Redistricting Committee- Redistricting: Guiding Principles*
(Approved by BOE, November 17, 2015)



K-5 Racial Balance Trends

School	Minority Composition by Year				4-Year Change
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 ³	
Burr ¹	16.0%	16.1%	18.0%	19.9%	3.9%
Dwight ¹	14.0%	16.0%	14.7%	14.3%	0.3%
Holland Hill	32.4%	32.4%	33.2%	32.8%	0.5%
Jennings	17.2%	18.0%	19.4%	20.1%	2.8%
McKinley	43.4%	45.9%	49.1%	47.9%	4.5%
McKinley % Deviation	+24.4%	+26.5%	+28.6%	+27.2%	-
Mill Hill	14.2%	15.2%	13.1%	15.7%	1.5%
North Stratfield	19.4%	19.8%	22.0%	20.5%	1.1%
Osborn Hill	8.9%	11.2%	12.1%	14.5%	5.6%
Riverfield	13.0%	11.8%	12.3%	12.5%	-0.5%
Sherman	13.4%	13.8%	13.7%	14.0%	0.6%
Stratfield	17.2%	17.3%	19.1%	18.6%	1.4%
K-5 District Avg.²	19.0%	19.4%	20.5%	20.7%	1.7%

Source: Connecticut SDE Racial Balance Tables: 2012-2014; Fairfield Public Schools, PSIS Enrollment: 2015

1. Includes Pre-K students at Burr and Dwight

2. District Average only includes K-5 students

3. Data for 2015-16 is unofficial

Racial Imbalance	Impending Imbalance
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Enrollment & Utilization Projections

PK-5 Enrollment Projections, by School

School	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Burr	424	433	432	429	426	436	446	446	461	476	487
Dwight	346	338	309	300	292	286	282	294	315	320	329
Holland Hill	407	405	397	385	400	396	395	418	428	441	442
Jennings	320	310	276	282	284	286	296	306	321	331	330
McKinley	433	432	413	407	391	383	394	395	410	419	424
Mill Hill	382	369	335	324	320	324	340	349	362	375	389
North Stratfield	416	391	369	362	362	363	379	393	406	418	422
Osborn Hill	490	468	442	426	407	415	431	449	466	490	504
Riverfield	409	405	377	370	373	375	377	388	405	423	427
Roger Sherman	481	482	453	444	436	453	446	459	484	499	502
Stratfield	442	399	373	359	355	351	363	382	401	414	432
Total	4,550	4,432	4,176	4,088	4,046	4,068	4,149	4,279	4,459	4,606	4,688

Individual school projections may differ slightly from district-wide projections due to rounding
Includes Pre-K Enrollment at Burr and Dwight

PK-5 Utilization Projections (With Portables)

School	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Burr	80.6%	82.3%	82.1%	81.5%	81.0%	82.9%	84.9%	84.9%	87.9%	90.9%	93.1%
Dwight	86.8%	84.7%	77.0%	74.6%	72.5%	70.9%	69.8%	73.0%	78.6%	79.9%	82.3%
Holland Hill ^I	107.7%	96.4%	94.5%	91.7%	95.2%	94.3%	94.0%	99.5%	101.9%	105.0%	105.2%
Jennings	84.7%	82.0%	73.0%	74.6%	75.1%	75.7%	78.3%	81.0%	84.9%	87.6%	87.3%
McKinley	85.9%	85.7%	81.9%	80.8%	77.6%	76.0%	78.2%	78.4%	81.3%	83.1%	84.1%
Mill Hill	101.1%	97.6%	88.6%	85.7%	84.7%	85.7%	89.9%	92.3%	95.8%	99.2%	102.9%
North Stratfield	82.5%	77.6%	73.2%	71.8%	71.8%	72.0%	75.2%	78.0%	80.6%	82.9%	83.7%
Osborn Hill	97.2%	92.9%	87.7%	84.5%	80.8%	82.3%	85.5%	89.1%	92.5%	97.2%	100.0%
Riverfield	81.2%	80.4%	74.8%	73.4%	74.0%	74.4%	74.8%	77.0%	80.4%	83.9%	84.7%
Roger Sherman	104.1%	104.3%	98.1%	96.1%	94.4%	98.1%	96.5%	99.4%	104.8%	108.0%	108.7%
Stratfield	87.7%	79.2%	74.0%	71.2%	70.4%	69.6%	72.0%	75.8%	79.6%	82.1%	85.7%
Total	90.3%	87.9%	82.9%	81.1%	80.3%	80.7%	82.3%	84.9%	88.5%	91.4%	93.0%

Includes Pre-K Enrollment at Burr and Dwight

I. Two additional portable classrooms added to Holland Hill beginning in 2016-17



Racial Balance Scenarios

Scenarios A, B, C

- No new school construction projects
- Comprehensive redistricting
- Opt-in and Open Choice programs continue

Scenario D

- Holland Hill renovated and expanded to 504 student school
- Pocket redistricting at McKinley
- Opt-in and Open Choice programs continue

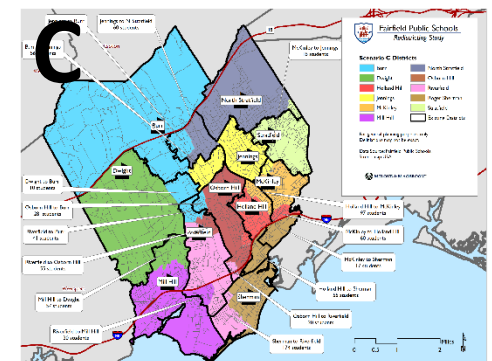
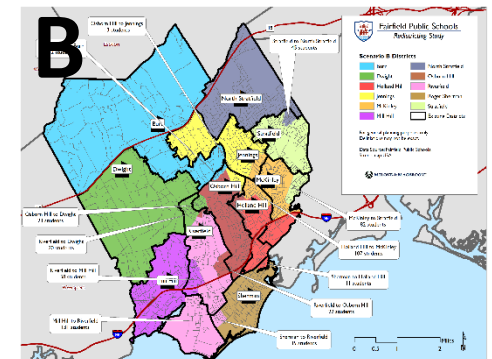
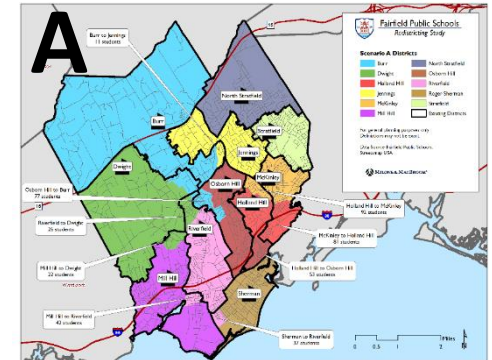
Scenarios E, F

- Holland Hill and Mill Hill are renovated and expanded to 504 student schools
- Comprehensive redistricting
- Opt-in and Open Choice programs continue



Scenario A, B, and C Considerations

- Significant movement of students (10%-20%)
- McKinley becomes “impending imbalance” under each scenario
 - However, does not reach goal of an absolute imbalance below 20% district average in any scenario – potential to become imbalanced again if diverse Kindergarten class enters system.
 - Individual years range from 21%-25% higher than district average
 - Holland Hill would move up to “impending imbalance” in scenarios A and B.
- Not enough capacity at Holland Hill to accept enough McKinley students
- Not enough classroom space in the district to remove portable classrooms and achieve 90% utilization.
 - If portable classrooms are removed at Mill Hill and Holland Hill it would cause overcrowding (>100% utilization) at other schools.

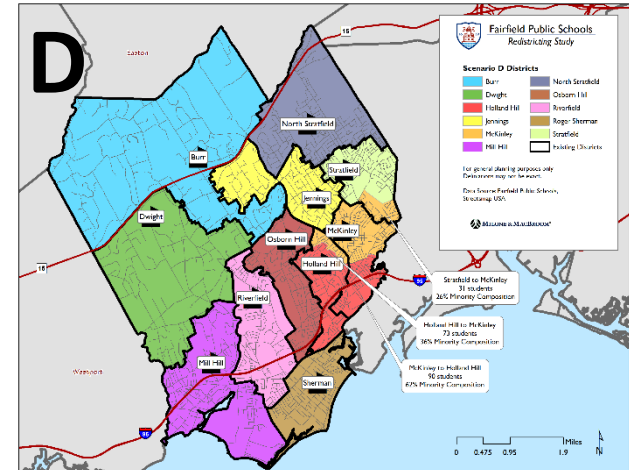


Not viable long-term solutions



Scenario D Considerations

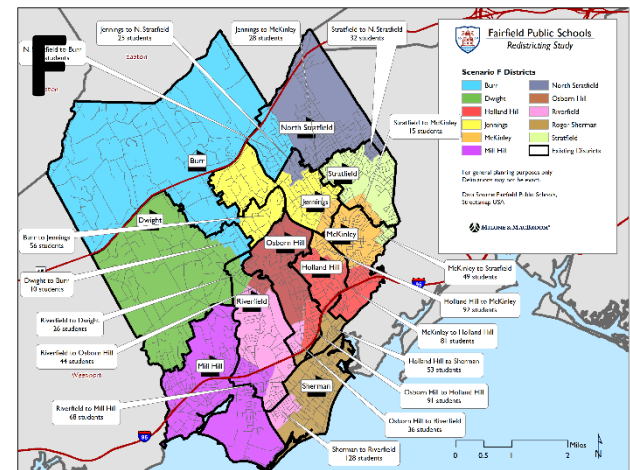
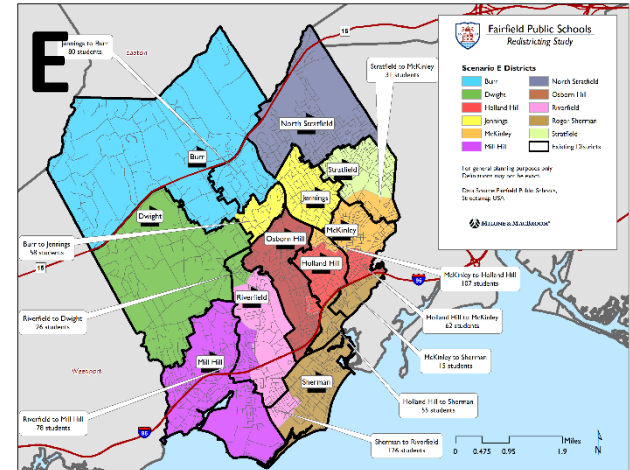
- Pocket Redistricting impacting 3 neighborhood schools
- Utilizes infusion of capacity at Holland Hill to accept neighboring McKinley Students
 - Does not address overcrowding at Mill Hill or Roger Sherman
 - Portable classrooms remain at Mill Hill
- Minimizes redistricting impacts: Would move 169 K-4 students (4.6%) if implemented for 2016-17 school year.
- McKinley would have been impending imbalance each of the last four years.
 - Individual years range from 19% to 22% higher than district average
 - Greater than 20% of district average in 3 of the last 4 years
- Moves Holland Hill to “impending imbalance” each of the last four years.
 - Between 15%-18% above district average.
- Will increase utilization at Fairfield Woods Middle School





Scenario E and F Considerations

- Construction Completed at Holland Hill (2019 est.) & Mill Hill (2022 est.) – expanded to 504 students each
- Significant movement of students (between 15% and 20%) if implemented for next year.
 - Many small pockets redistricted – likelihood of singletons and small grade cohorts being moved
 - Disrupts the neighborhood-based school model
- McKinley would be impending imbalanced but under 20% of district average.
 - Individual years vary from 18% to 22% higher than district average.
 - Holland Hill would be racially balanced for all 4 years in Scenario F
 - Holland Hill would be impending imbalanced for 3 of 4 years in Scenario E.
- Balanced utilization across all schools – portable classrooms can be removed.





Scenario Comparison

Scenario	New Construction	Percent of K-4 ¹ Students Moved	Deviation from District Racial Balance (2015-16)		# of Schools with > 90% Utilization ^{2,3}	# of Schools with > 100% Utilization ^{2,3}	Portables Removed
			McKinley ²	Holland Hill ²			
Existing	None	0.0%	+27.2 (imbalanced)	+12.1 (balanced)	4	3	None
Scenario A	None	10.0%	+21.2 (impending)	+15.5 (impending)	6	0	None
Scenario B	None	15.0%	+21.5 (impending)	+16.0 (impending)	6	1	None
Scenario C	None	19.0%	+21.5 (impending)	+11.9 (balanced)	7	1	None
Scenario D	Holland Hill	4.6%	+20.5 (impending)	+17.7 (impending)	3	2	Holland Hill Only
Scenario E	Holland Hill + Mill Hill	15.1%	+19.2 (impending)	+14.5 (balanced)	4	0	All
Scenario F	Holland Hill + Mill Hill	20.9%	+19.3 (impending)	+10.4 (balanced)	1	0	All

1. Number of current K-4 students who would be moved for the 2016-17 school year if scenario districts were in place

2. As if Districts were in place today.

3. Existing portable classrooms are included in the functional capacity for the Existing Conditions and Scenarios A, B, and C. Portables remained at Mill Hill in Scenario D.



Conclusions

1.) Scenario A, B, and C

- Racial Imbalance at McKinley and overcrowding at Holland Hill, Mill Hill, and Roger Sherman cannot be solved without school construction projects. Portable classrooms cannot be removed by redistricting alone. Significant disruption and racial balance may not be sustained in the long term.

2.) Scenario D

- Pocket redistricting can mitigate racial imbalances at McKinley after the Holland Hill Construction Project is completed. However, it would result in Holland Hill becoming impending imbalanced (between 15% and 18% higher than district). Moves the fewest students, but does not address overcrowding at Mill Hill or Roger Sherman.

3.) Scenario E and F

- Following the completion of the Holland Hill and Mill Hill Construction Projects, the district can achieve racial balance objectives at McKinley. In addition, all portable classrooms can be removed and utilization targets can be achieved. However, it requires comprehensive redistricting, which would redistrict large numbers of students.