



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3E

TENLEYTOWN

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PARK

FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

CHEVY CHASE

WAKEFIELD

FORT GAINES

c/o Lisner-Louise-Dickson-Hurt Home 5425 Western Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20015

<https://anc3e.org>

RESOLUTION AGAINST SHIFTING OF SCHOOL BOUNDARIES FOR AU PARK RESIDENTS

1. Whereas, the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education (DME) is conducting a Boundary and Student Assignment Study 2023 (Boundary Study) to review DC Public School (DCPS) boundaries and feeder patterns and District-wide public school student assignment policies¹;
2. Whereas, this will be the first update to DCPS boundaries and feeder patterns since 2013-2014, when the District undertook its first comprehensive review of student school assignments in four decades;
3. Whereas the goals of the Boundary Study are threefold according to DME: (1) students have clear assignments to schools of right based on DCPS attendance zones and feeder pathways; (2) there is adequate capacity in the geographically zoned DCPS facilities at each grade level (Pre-Kindergarten, Elementary, Middle, and High), including feeder pathways, taking current and future population and enrollment trends into account; and (3) there is equitable access among District students to high-quality public schools;²
4. Whereas, the Boundary Study is expected to make specific recommendations to the Mayor concerning school boundaries and feeder patterns, including updates to each;
5. Whereas, DME has pledged to engage with school communities that may be significantly affected by any boundary or feeder pattern revision scenario;
6. Whereas, the Boundary Study, contemplates the shifting of school boundaries in 3E such that some current residents of AU Park would no longer be zoned for DCPS schools Janney Elementary School (“Janney”), Alice Deal Middle School (“Alice Deal”) and Jackson Reed High School (“Jackson Reed”); rather, they will be rezoned for Horace Mann Elementary School (“Horace Mann”), Hardy Middle School (“Hardy”) and Macarthur High School (“Macarthur”);
7. Whereas, AU Park is a community where most of the student body lives within about a mile from Janney, Deal, and Jackson-Reed and is able to walk safely to these locations;
8. Whereas, this shift would force many impacted families with students currently at Janney to walk or bike along major thoroughfares such as Massachusetts, Nebraska, and New Mexico Avenues to travel to Horace Mann; take buses, drive or bike even further along busy streets to Hardy, and drive, take inefficient bus routes or unsafe bike rides even

¹ [Boundary and Student Assignment Study 2023 | dme \(dc.gov\)](#)

² *Id.*

further to Macarthur, rendering this boundary change a substantial hardship on and potentially hazardous to these families;

9. Whereas, students from AU Park commuting to Hardy and MacArthur would currently have to take several buses with multiple transfers. WMATA estimates these various route options would take about 70 to 90 minutes during a typical morning commute;
10. Whereas, the apparent shift of a small number of students from Janney to Horace Mann would neither significantly impact or otherwise affect the capacity issues, such as overcrowding, in either school nor would it address issues of equitable access;
11. Whereas, the ANC3E understands that the proposed redraw of the boundary lines would bring Janney's enrollment down to approximately 87% of utilization while the plan moves Horace Mann from its current estimate of approximately 82% up to 95% with the addition of Janney students;
12. Whereas, the proposed boundary change will not better meet the needs of special needs students. The supposed extra capacity the proposal might create will not be enough to allow the creation of a Behavioral and Educational Support Classroom. Families with special needs students will have to continue to send their children out of boundary to get the services they need;
13. Whereas, ANC3E understands that Ward 3 Councilmember Matthew Frumin, and Ward 3's Representative to the State Board of Education, Eric Goulet, both oppose this plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. ANC3E believes that the adjustment of school boundaries for residents of AU Park as currently-proposed would be detrimental to students and students-to-be who live in the Janney, Horace Mann, and Jackson-Reed feeder pattern;
2. ANC 3E opposes the proposal of DME to adjust boundary lines as stated above.

The resolution passed by a vote of __-__-__ at a properly noticed meeting held on February 8, 2024, at which a quorum was present, with Commissioners Bender, Gianinno, Cohen, Denny, Hall, Quinn, Carney, Ghosh in attendance.

ANC 3E

by Jonathan Bender

Chairperson