



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** DCSD Board of Education  
**From:** Shannon Bingham, Western Demographics (WDI), SCBA Consultant  
**Date:** 12/14/21

**Re:** Board of Education Approval to Proceed with Community Outreach For School Capacity and Boundary Analysis (SCBA) Urgent Scenarios

**Situation** – The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) and DCSD staff are proposing school boundary changes for three (3) areas via its standard (SCBA) process. This memo is intended to brief the Board regarding the status of these proposed changes. Since 2019, the LRPC and DCSD staff have identified, briefed and implemented several attendance area changes that balance enrollment and optimize the use of schools. This is ongoing work and is a tool to help solve school capacity challenges in growing areas. The outreach process involves school leaders, school staff, parents and community members. The Board has the authority on the approval of all school attendance boundary changes once outreach has been concluded and feedback received. The LRPC and staff are requesting approval to begin the outreach process. The schools affected include the following:

7B – Sage Canyon Elementary (SGCE) and Flagstone Elementary (FSE) to Rock Ridge Elementary (RRE) in Castle Rock

65 – Ben Franklin Academy (BFA Charter School) to Northridge Elementary (NRE) in Highlands Ranch

14B – Northridge Elementary (NRE) to Sand Creek Elementary (SCE) in Highlands Ranch

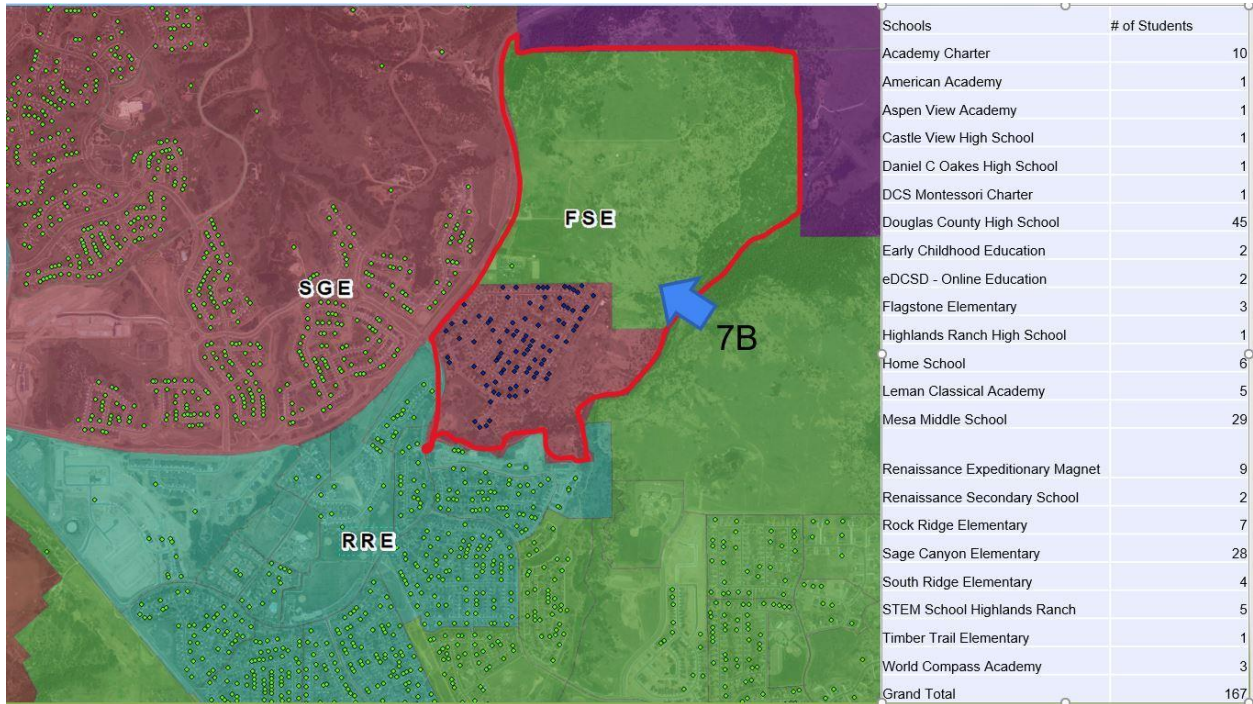
**History** – On October 26, 2021, the Board approved four boundary changes via the Streamline Limited Impact Process for Boundaries (SLIP) process. Most of these boundary changes were proactive reassignments of developing neighborhoods to schools with available capacity. The Board was also alerted to additional SCBA actions necessary at that time. This memo addresses these additional scenarios.

### **Scenario 7B - Movement of Villages at Founders Village Filing # 9 from Sage Canyon Elementary to Rock Ridge Elementary.**

**Situation** - This area lies south of Colorado Highway 86 and addresses a neighborhood in its entirety by assigning it to Rock Ridge Elementary (RRE) rather than Sage Canyon Elementary (SGCE) and Flagstone Elementary (FSE). As a mature neighborhood, this community already has students attending SGCE and and FSE, which requires an appropriate transition process and significant outreach to communicate district goals in addressing attendance area changes and seeking feedback. Based on the LRPC recommendation from their November 3, 2021 meeting, the LRPC recommends the Board approve proceeding with community outreach.

In accordance with DCSD guidelines for boundary changes, these students and their siblings may stay at their current school through the open enrollment process. Colorado Highway 86 creates a significant barrier for pedestrians. Inappropriate speeds and driver behaviors offer a compelling rationale for this change. In addition to the highway, there is a large geographic barrier to the southeast that is a canyon. Current student attendance in this scenario per the October count is shown adjacent to the map.

## Scenario 7B – Map and Students Affected



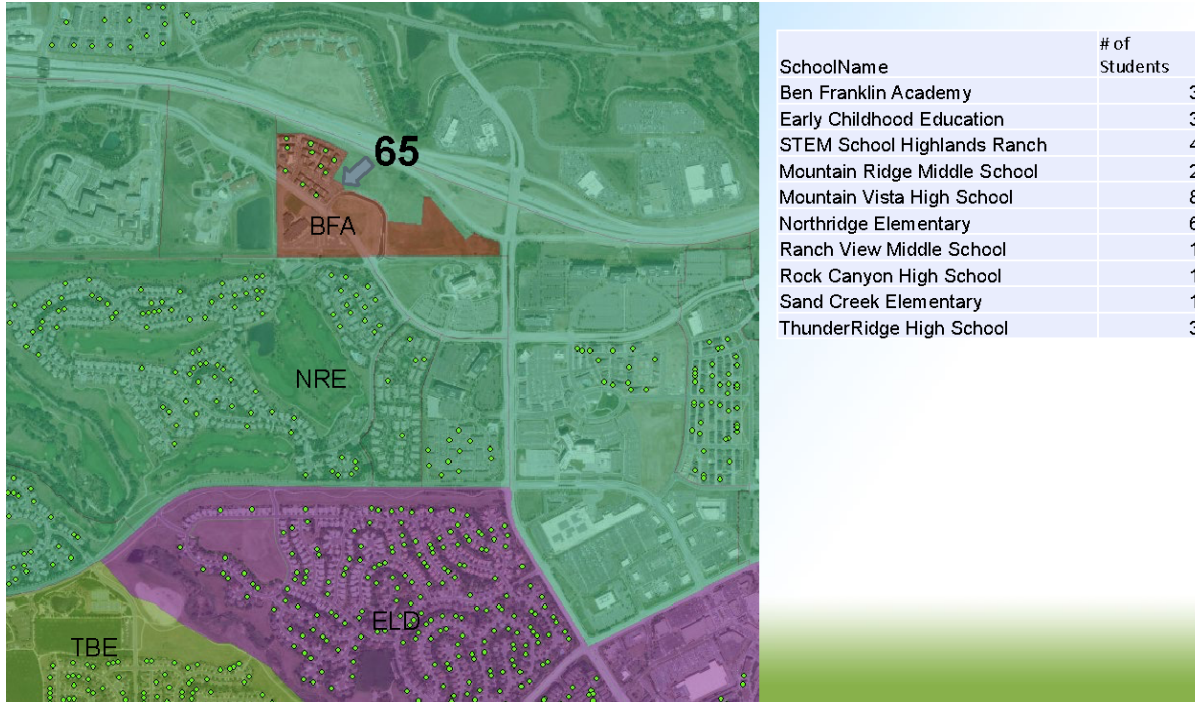
## Scenario 65 – Movement of a Portion of the Attendance Area for Ben Franklin Academy to Northridge Elementary (BFA to NRE)

**Situation** – This change would be a correction in mapping. Charter schools do not have formal attendance boundaries. Charter school attendance boundaries in the District’s mapping and enrollment systems are limited to their specific property lines. The current attendance boundary for Ben Franklin Academy (BFA) includes a small attendance area that is larger than its specific property.

**History** - When the attendance area was originally drawn, this area contained no housing or students. The school property originally included an area which has subsequently been developed as an apartment property. The LRPC and staff recommend that this area be changed to NRE to align with the surrounding areas. The map change will have nominal stakeholder involvement as no current students would be affected. Students in the BFA attendance area are already treated as if in the NRE attendance area. Stakeholder input from BFA has been collected and acknowledges the need for this change.

Based on the LRPC recommendation from their November 3, 2021 meeting, the LRPC recommends the Board approve proceeding with community outreach.

## Scenario 65 – Map and Students Affected



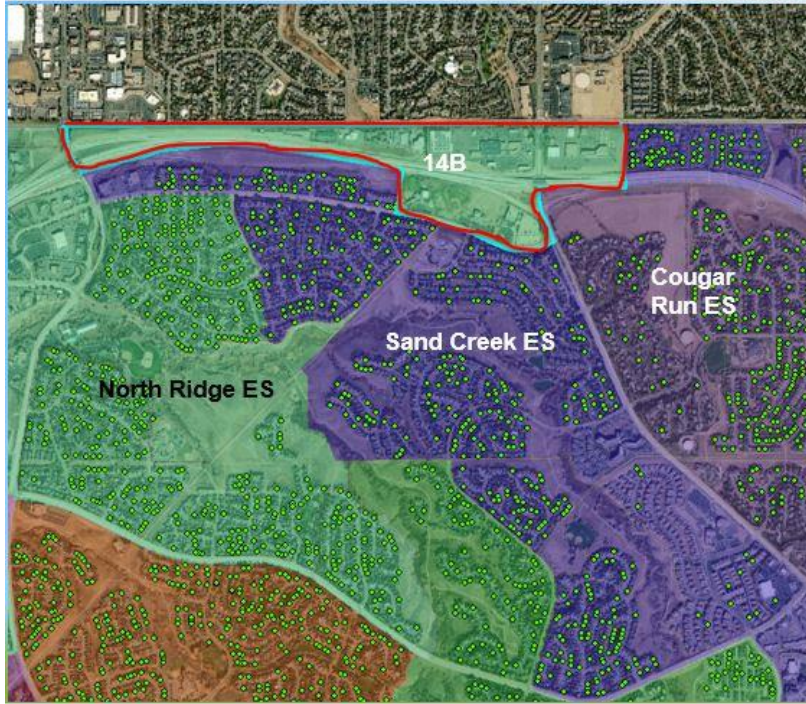
**Scenario 14B – Address Boundary Map Affecting No Students in the C-470 Area - Northridge Elementary to Sand Creek Elementary (NRE to SCE)**

**Situation** – 14B addresses a minor change in the District’s boundary maps. The area is all commercial zoned and includes no housing or students. The LRPC and staff recommend the map be changed by reassigning this area from NRE to SCE.

**History** - Portions of the Highlands Ranch school attendance boundaries are over 30 years old and date back to a time when there were mostly pastures and agricultural activities in the area. This has resulted in several boundary anomalies needing to be adjusted. Northridge Leadership reviewed this proposal and determined that changing the boundary makes sense and had no concerns. No residential development is anticipated in this area now or into the future.

Based on the LRPC recommendation from their November 3, 2021 meeting, the LRPC and staff recommend proceeding with this map change.

**Scenario 14B – Map**



No Students Affected-  
Commercial Area

NRE to SCE