DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1 RESOLUTION (Regarding Schools Pairings, 6th Grade to Middle School, and Boundary Adjustments)

WHEREAS, in its adopted Global End Statement, the Board of Education of Douglas County ("Board") set forth the goal that all Douglas County students will develop the knowledge, skills, mindsets and dispositions needed to achieve their highest individual potential in a safe, accessible, thriving, and welcoming learning environment. These results shall be produced at a cost that demonstrates good stewardship of resources; and

WHEREAS, the population of school-aged children in Highlands Ranch has declined precipitously over the last decade without any foreseeable change in that trend; and

WHEREAS, the Mountain Vista High School, Thunderridge High School, and Highlands Ranch High School feeders are especially impacted by this demographic shift currently; and

WHEREAS, eleven elementary schools in these three feeders are projected to have enrollment of less than than 400 students such that additional supplementary funding has been and will continue to be needed to support their programming;

WHEREAS, such pervasive low enrollment creates an unsustainable path for those schools' ability to deliver a thriving school environment for DCSD students absent school consolidations, while also impacting resources for all other DCSD schools; and

WHEREAS, Staff has explored alternatives to consolidating schools and that no better option exists other than to consolidate schools along with implementing a few boundary adjustments; and

WHEREAS, Staff has engaged with DCSD families and staff for over two years in preparation for school consolidations through individual conversations, group meetings, individual and group correspondence, and the posting of extensive amounts of information on the DCSD website generally and its Growth and Decline webpage specifically; and

WHEREAS, the best interests of DCSD students in the Highlands Ranch feeders require that 6th grade students attend middle school (as do most other DCSD 6th graders); and

WHEREAS, on April 8, 2025, the Superintendent provided recommendations to the Board of Education consistent with Policy FCB and Superintendent File FCB-R.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The Board of Education will adopt the Superintendent's recommendations from April 8, 2025 as follows:

- 1. Effective July 1, 2026, Acres Green Elementary School will close and combine its existing attendance area with that of Fox Creek Elementary School, except for boundary adjustments reflected in Attachment A; and
- 2. Effective July 1, 2026, Heritage Elementary School will close and combine its existing attendance area with that of Summit View Elementary School, except for boundary adjustments reflected in Attachment B; and
- 3. Effective July 1, 2026, Saddle Ranch Elementary School will close and combine its existing attendance area with that of Eldorado Elementary School, except for boundary adjustments reflected in Attachment C; and
- 4. Effective July 1, 2026, all 6th graders within the Highlands Ranch High School, Mountain Vista High School, and Thunderridge High School feeder areas will attend

middle school; and

- 5. Staff will continue to substantively engage with DCSD families and school-based staff regarding, among other impactful matters for students, the various criteria and considerations set out in Policy FCB and Superintendent's File FCB-R, including culture building, staff supports, bus transportation, school programming, Special Education; and
- Staff will provide progress reports to the Board regarding the aforementioned criteria and 6. considerations during the 2025-2026 school year.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of April, 2025.

DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1

By:____

Name: Christy Williams Title: President, Board of Education

ATTEST:

By:_____ Becky Myers, Secretary, Board of Education

Attachment A

Recommended Boundary Change – Carriage Club - Proposed for Movement from Acres Green to Eagle Ridge – Close Up



Recommended Boundary Change – Millstone -Proposed for Movement from Fox Creek to Wildcat Mtn. – Close Up



Attachment B

Recommended Boundary Change - Areas Proposed for Movement from Heritage ES to Copper Mesa ES





Attachment C

Recommended Boundary Change - Area Proposed for Movement from Eldorado ES to Northridge ES



