

ATTENDANCE AREA GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Columbia Public Schools understands that attendance areas will change when new buildings open, and may need to be adjusted when school buildings have grown beyond their capacity.

The following list has been generated to help guide the process being used to create new attendance areas and will take effect when the new middle school opens in August, 2020. This list is in no particular order and will serve as a guide.

- Attendance areas do change and will continue to change. This work is part of a regular review of district enrollment patterns and the addition of a new middle school.
- The attendance area should anticipate future growth of neighborhoods. A walkable and bikeable school is important, but may not always be possible.
- The attendance area seeks to reflect the composition of the Columbia Public School community.
- The board recognizes the power of a school to create community. Accessibility for families is important (volunteering and attending school functions are easier when the school is near).
- Consider time students spend on a bus and distance traveled to and from school.

- Consider attendance areas boundary lines that follow natural/manmade boundaries.
- Consider a transfer policy that allows 8th and 12th graders to remain at their previous school and policies that allow siblings to remain.