

Schools of Choice Bussing

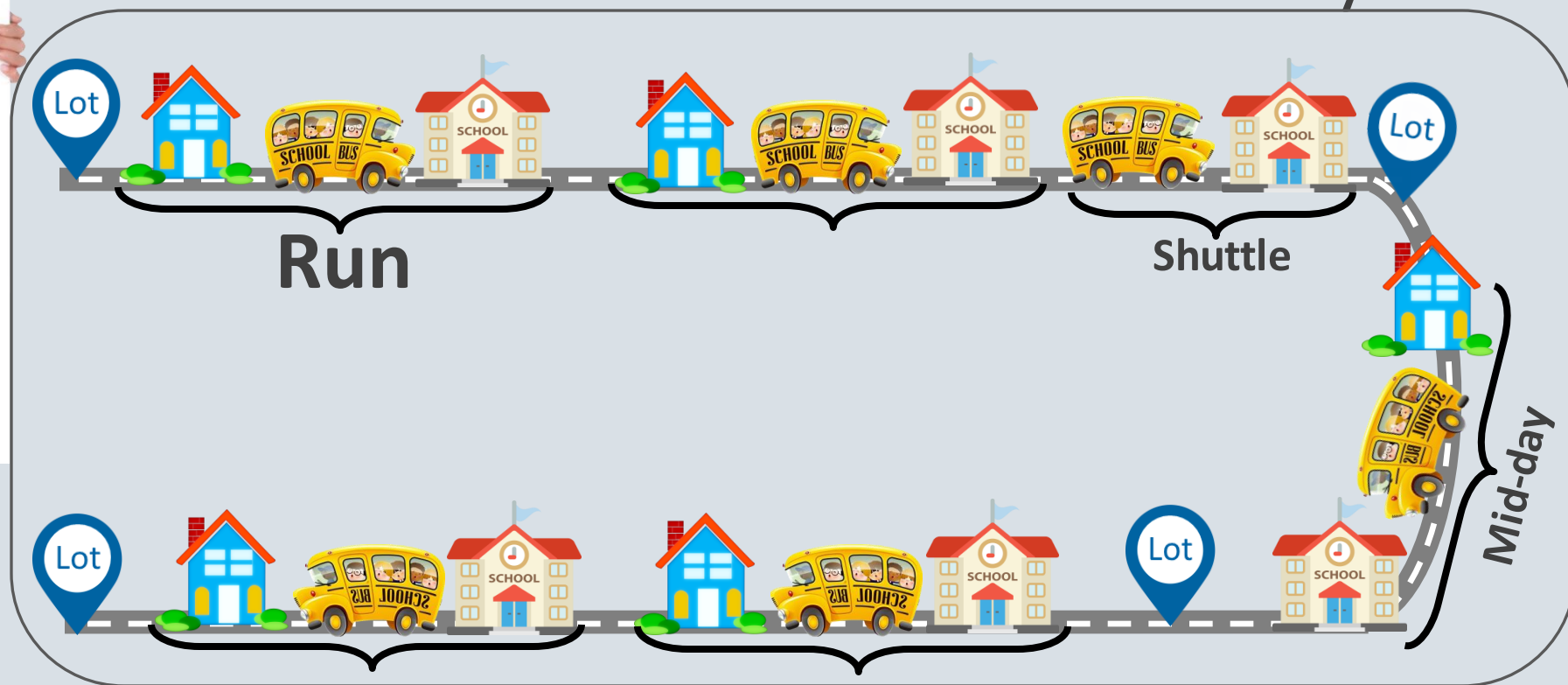
WEST ADA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Current WASD Bus System

Transportation Stats

- 8,389 Students ride to school
- 9,274 Students ride home
- Bus Routes: 172
- Vans Routes: 13
- Routes with Shuttles: 59
- Routes with Mid-Days: 39

What is a Route? Shuttle? Mid-day?



Current System Challenges

Driver shortage is currently our biggest challenge.

- 9 Bus routes without a driver assigned
 - 5 Van routes without a driver assigned
 - 5-17 drivers call in sick/take leave daily
 - +15 substitute drivers
-
- = 4-16 routes daily without a driver

How is WASD addressing the driver shortage?

- Advertising Cascade Employment Opportunities
- Route elimination effort resulting in **60 Red Routes (32%)**

What happens to a route with no driver?



NOW HIRING



**School Bus Drivers
Join Our Team**

"Good people doing great things."

\$21-26/hr for CDL Drivers

\$17-20.50/hr for nonCDL Drivers

\$16-21/hr for Bus Aides

**Support Your Community
Support your Local Schools**

Make an impact on your community & local schools

Help your neighborhood families get to/from school

School Day Work Schedule

Team Environment

Paid CDL License Training

Top Competitive Wages

Lucrative Hiring Bonus

Safety First Atmosphere

Benefits Include Health & 401k

Bonus Programs

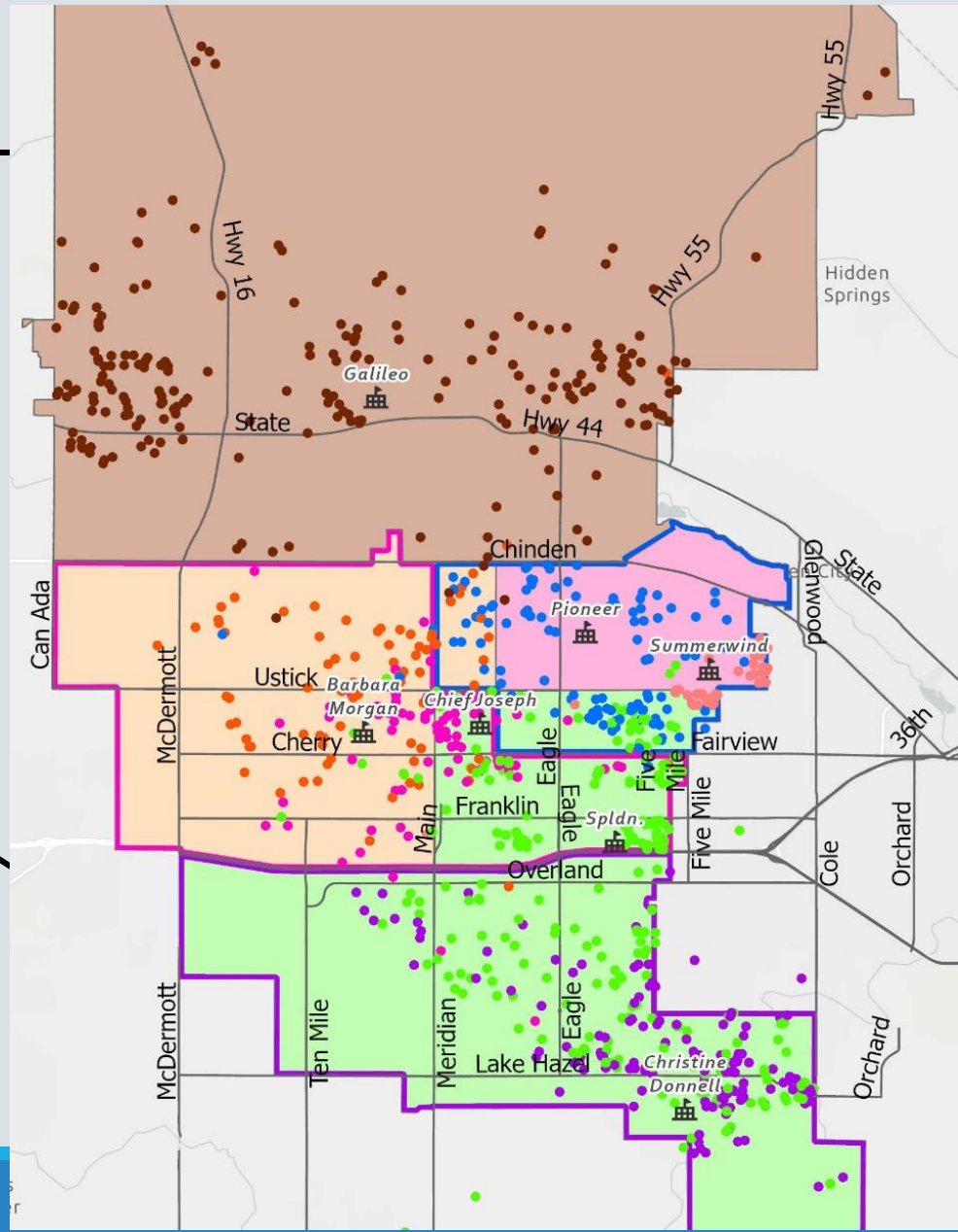
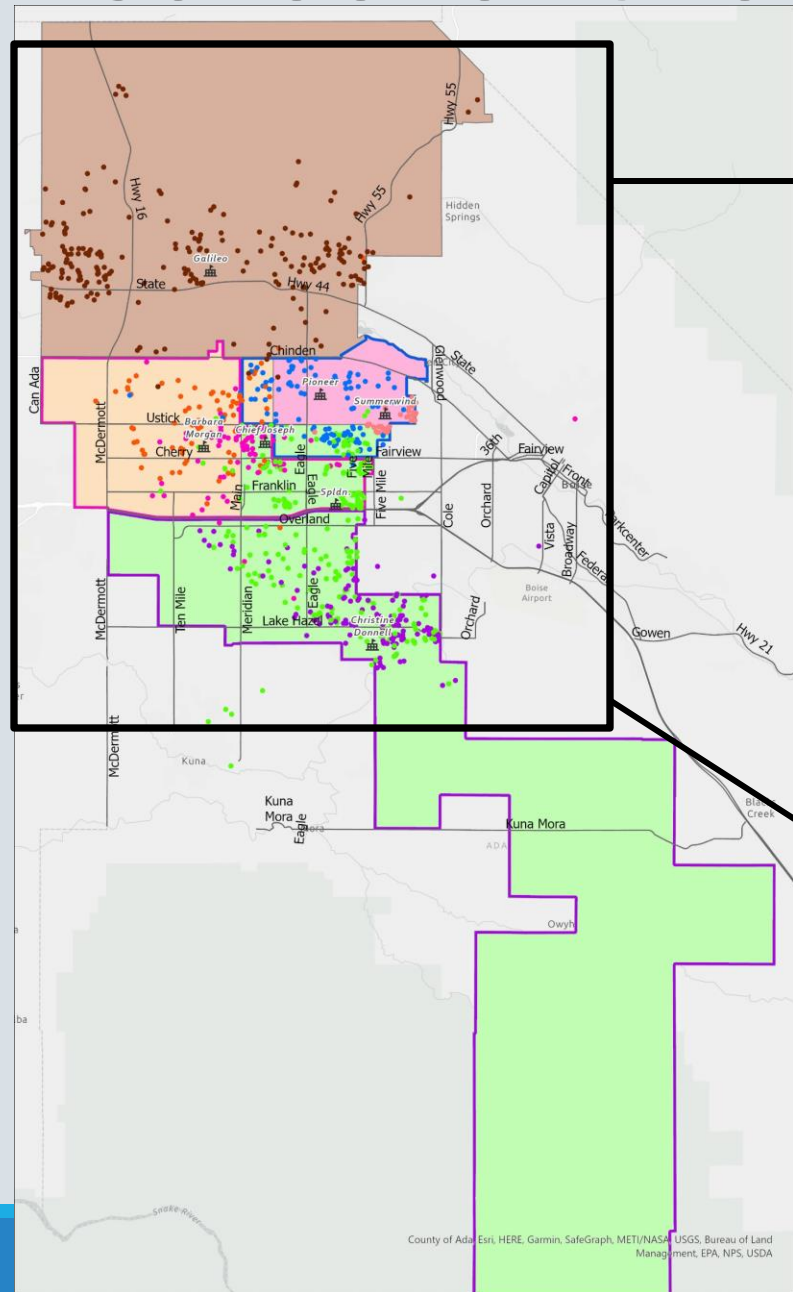
**APPLY TODAY!
(208) 229-8500
STICAREERS.COM**

Cascade Student Transportation
50 N Ward Ave., Meridian ID 83642

Fleet Schedule



School of Choice Current Riders



Legend

Bus Riders

- Barbara Morgan STEM Academy
- Chief Joseph School of the Arts
- Christine Donnell School of Arts
- Eliza Hart Spalding STEM Academy
- Galileo STEM Academy
- Pioneer School of the Arts
- Summerwind STEM Academy

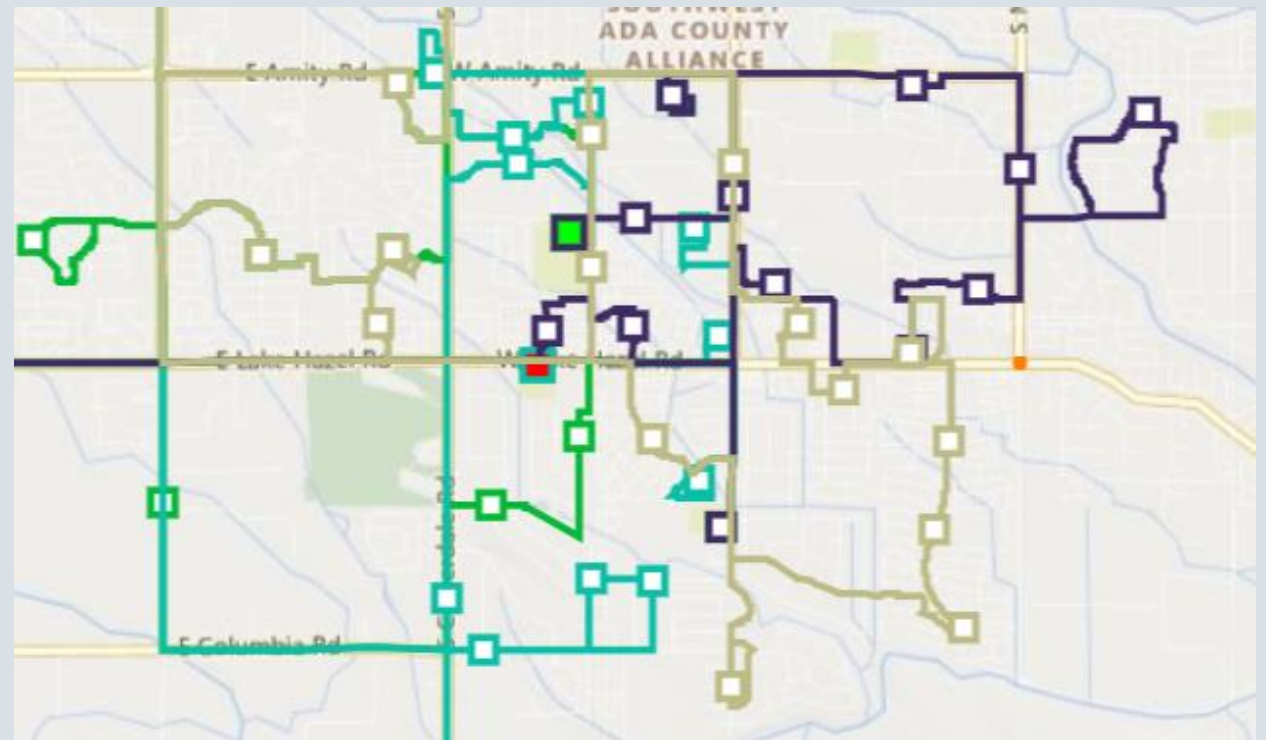
SOC Attendance Boundaries

- Chief Joseph
- Christine Donnell
- Pioneer
- Barbara Morgan
- Galileo
- Spalding
- Summerwind

School of Choice System Challenges

Schools of Choice (SOC) bussing boundaries require a large number of elementary routes:

- Creates 1+ hour long routes
- Routes have a greater number of stops than traditional school routes
- Busses for multiple schools cover the same geographic areas at the same times
- Requires more money to sustain



Map showing routes V01, V09, V15, and V24 for LHES, CDSA, and EHSES overlapping.

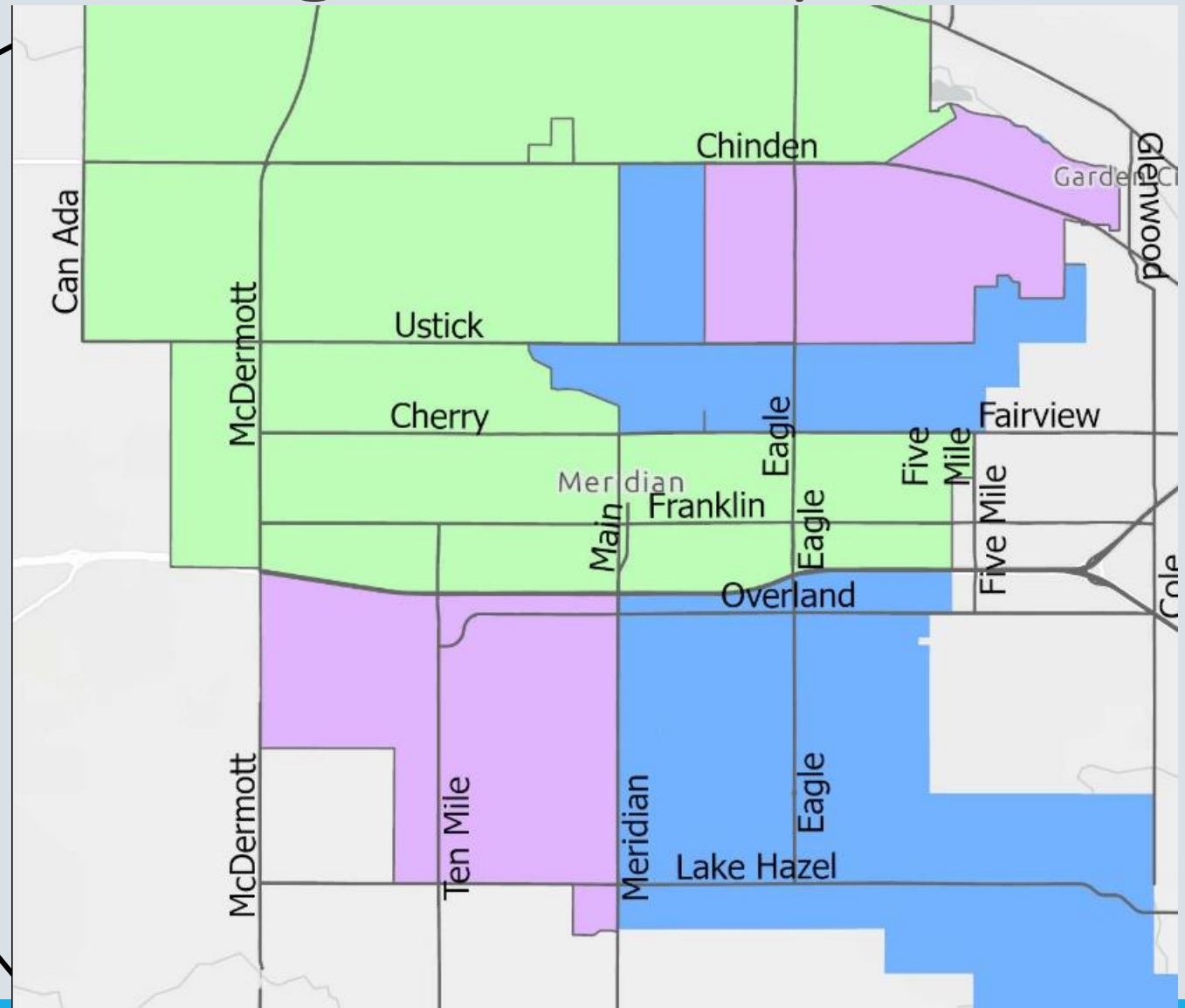
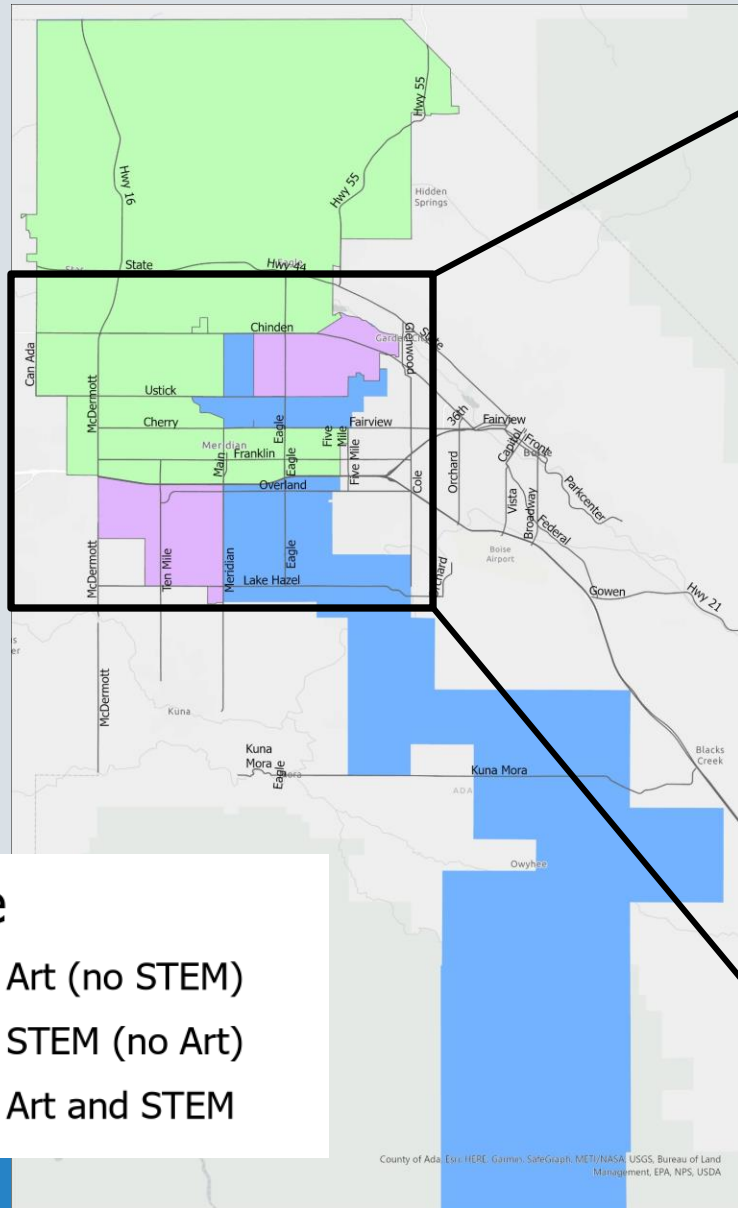
School of Choice Bussing Availability

School	Area (sq miles)	Routes	Overlapping
Chief Jo	0.32	2	Barbara Morgan, Spalding
Summerwind	0.36	1	Pioneer
Pioneer	13.9	3	Summerwind, Barbara Morgan, Spalding
Barbara Morgan	26.6	3	Chief Jo, Pioneer
Galileo	114.1	9	
Spalding	169.7	8	Chief Jo, Christine Donnell
Christine Donnell	170.5	6	Spalding

Standardization of access:

- Two of our SOC's bus a very small area (Chief Joe, Summerwind)
- Three of our SOC's bus to great geographic distances (Galileo, Christine Donnell, and Spalding)
- Bottom line: Not all families have equal access to SOC transportation provided to them.

School of Choice Bussing Availability



- Type**
- Art (no STEM)
 - STEM (no Art)
 - Art and STEM

County of Ada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, USDA



Solution

Analysis

Problem



Solutions for Standardization & Sustainability

Option 1: Eliminate School of Choice Bussing

Option 2: Stagger School of Choice Bell Times

Option 3: Standardize School of Choice Bussing Areas

Option 4: Eliminate Overlap of School of Choice Bussing Areas

Option 5: WATS to Elementary Schools within Primary Boundary

Option 6: WATS to Elementary Schools in Alignment with Option 4

Option 1: Eliminate School of Choice Bussing

Advantages:

- This opens 32 routes to relieve scheduling and crowding on other vehicles.

Disadvantages:

- Students whose parents cannot transport them will have to make other arrangements or return to traditional schools.
 - This could unfairly impact low-moderate income families and 1 car households.
- This is not a competitive option for retaining families who may be comparing School of Choice to Charter enrollment.
 - Charter schools provide 1-2 for a small area of students.

Option 2: Stagger School of Choice Bell Times

Background:

- Generally, a route includes a high school OR middle school run, elementary run, and various shuttles/middays.
- When bell times are too close, a route cannot accommodate both runs, and therefore another vehicle is needed.

For reference:

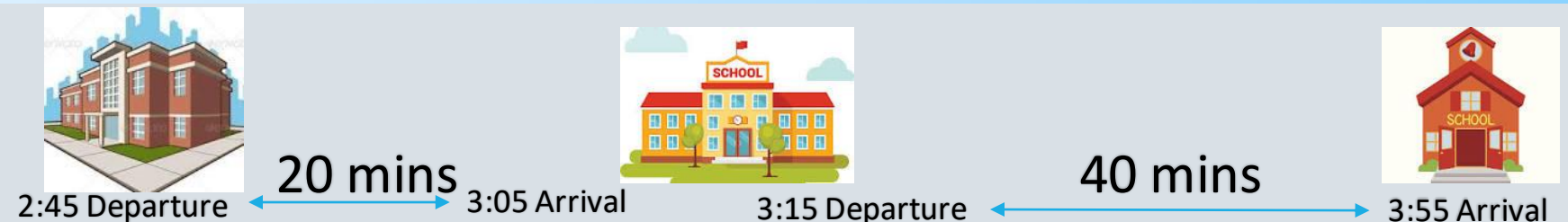
Our high and middle bell times are very close now.

We have only 20 that can successfully accommodate a high school and middle school run.

Morning Bells and Travel Times



Afternoon Bells and Travel Times



Option 2: Stagger School of Choice Bell Times

School of Choice tardy bell would be adjusted to 10:00 AM to accommodate pairing.

Morning Bells and Travel Times

High School



7:25 Departure

35 mins

Middle School



8:00 Arrival

8:05 Departure

50 mins

Traditional Elementary



8:50 Arrival

9:05 Departure

40 mins

School of Choice



9:45 Arrival

Afternoon Bells and Travel Times

High School



2:45 Departure

20 mins

Middle School



3:05 Arrival

3:15 Departure

40 mins

Traditional Elementary



3:55 Arrival

4:02 Departure

43 mins

School of Choice



4:45 Arrival

4:52 Departure

Option 2: Stagger School of Choice Bell Times

Advantages:

- This opens routes to relieve scheduling and crowding on other vehicles.
- More routes would be available for School of Choice runs which may reduce ride times.

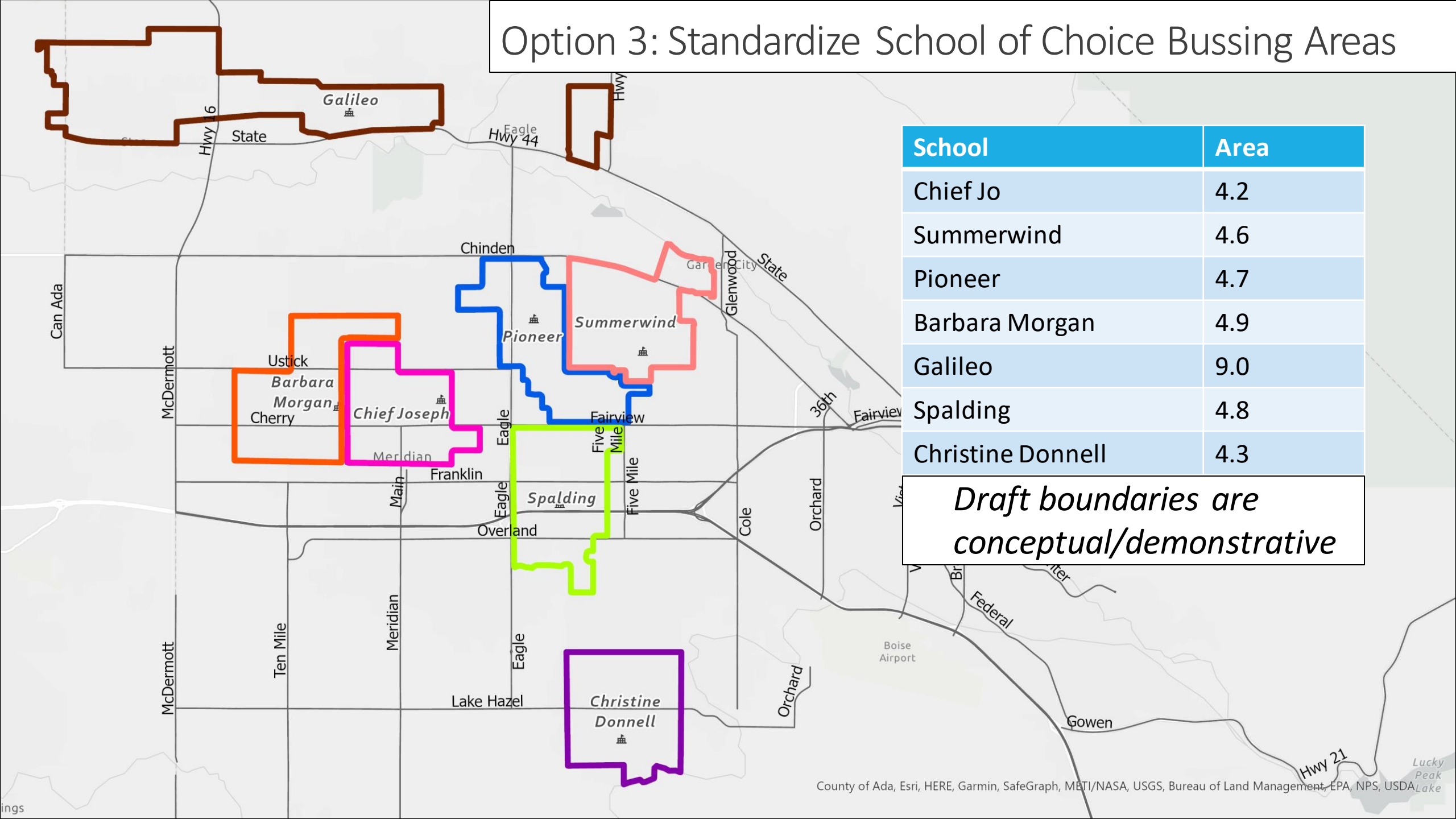
Disadvantages:

- 9:10am - 9:40am Morning Pick up
 - Parent work schedules may not easily accommodate this.
- 5pm - 5:50pm Afternoon Drop Offs
 - Dark out
 - Disrupts family time
 - Limits extracurriculars

Option 3: Standardize School of Choice Bussing Areas

- Traditional school boundary areas:
 - Range from 0.9 to 137 square miles (SSES includes about 83 square miles of Birds of Prey.)
 - 18/28 schools have boundaries that are less than 5 square miles.
 - 24/28 schools have boundaries that are less than 12 square miles.
 - Median boundary is 4.2 square miles.
- "Bussing areas" are not attendance boundaries.
- Conceptual School of Choice bussing areas were created based on the following:
 - Eliminate SOC overlapping routes
 - Standardize areas to provide 1-2 routes
 - Keep neighborhood students together
 - Avoid hazards
 - Current student ridership & routes

Option 3: Standardize School of Choice Bussing Areas



School	Area
Chief Jo	4.2
Summerwind	4.6
Pioneer	4.7
Barbara Morgan	4.9
Galileo	9.0
Spalding	4.8
Christine Donnell	4.3

Draft boundaries are conceptual/demonstrative

Option 3: Standardize School of Choice Bussing Areas

School	Riders in Current Boundary	Riders in the Conceptual Boundary	Traditional Boundary of Riders Impacted					
			Eagle Hills	Hillsdale	Mary McPherson	Seven Oaks	Star	Other Schools
Chief Jo*	13	13**	-	-	-	-	-	0
Summerwind	63	63**	-	-	-	-	-	0
Pioneer	115	66	-	-	-	-	-	49
Barbara Morgan	73	32	-	-	-	-	-	41
Galileo	311	127	64	-	-	22	49	49
Spalding	271	84	-	18	9	-	-	160
Christine Donnell	144	75	-	15	4	-	-	50
*Chief Jo also has ML students other than this 13 receiving bussing		Current Enrollment	399	741	488	577	670	
**Due to the expansion, additional students will be eligible.		Capacity	500	700	675	675	650	

Option 3: Standardize SOC Bussing Areas

Affects:

- Increase of bussing area at 2 schools.
- Reduction of bussing area at 5 schools.

Advantages:

- Each School of Choice will have bussing options.
- This opens about 12 routes to relieve scheduling and crowding on other vehicles.

Disadvantages:

- Some student bus riders may need to switch to an alternative school of choice to be eligible for transportation or return to traditional schools.

Option 4: Eliminate Overlap of Bussing Areas

Boundaries can be created to eliminate overlapping bus areas while also increasing Summerwind and Chief Joseph bussing areas.

Affects:

- Increase of bussing area at 2 schools.
- No change to bussing area at 1 school.
- Reduction of bussing area at 4 schools.

Advantages:

- Each School of Choice will have bussing options.
- Every household will have an option for bussing to a School of Choice.

Disadvantages:

- This does not resolve the impact that SOC bussing has on our transportation system.
- Student bus riders may need to switch to an alternative school of choice to be eligible for transportation or return to traditional schools.

West Ada Transit System (WATS)



Parents transport students to a West Ada school where pick them up and transport them to their School of Choice.

Background:

- This system runs independently of home to school.
- This is a system that was implemented for the high school School of Choice riders last school year.

WATS Options:

- Option 5: WATS to Elementary Schools within Primary Boundary
- Option 6: WATS to Elementary Schools in Alignment with Option 4

Option 5: WATS to Elementary Schools within Primary Boundary

Parents transport students to a traditional elementary school within the School of Choice's primary boundary where busses pick them up and transport them to their School of Choice.

Affects:

- Increase of bussing area at 2 schools.
- No change to bussing area at 5 schools.

Advantages:

- Each School of Choice will have bussing options.
- This opens about 12 routes to relieve scheduling and crowding on other vehicles.

Disadvantages:

- Students whose parents cannot transport them to a traditional elementary school will have to make other arrangements or return to traditional schools.
- WASD will have to design a plan to ensure supervision at every traditional elementary school until such time as parents arrive which may have a fiscal impact.

Option 6: WATS to Elementary Schools in Alignment with Option 4

Parents transport students to a traditional elementary school within the boundary shown in Option 4 where busses pick them up and transport them to their School of Choice.

Affects:

- Increase of bussing area at 2 schools.
- No change to bussing area at 1 school.
- Reduction of bussing area at 4 schools.

Advantages:

- Each School of Choice will have bussing options.
- This opens about 24 routes to relieve scheduling and crowding on other vehicles.

Disadvantages:

- Students whose parents cannot transport them to a traditional school will have to make other arrangements or return to traditional schools.
- WASD will have to design a plan to ensure supervision at every traditional elementary school until such time as parents arrive which may have a fiscal impact.

Conclusion

Changes have to be made to improve efficiency:

1. We need to standardize bussing coverage for schools of choice.
2. We want to maintain service at a level competitive with charter schools.
 - Area charters run 1-3 routes. Each route is 45 min – 1 hour in length.
 - Compared to Galileo, Spalding, and Christine Donnell currently running 9, 8, and 6 routes respectively.
3. We want to maintain ride times similar to WASD Traditional rides.

Option Summary

Option	Busses Needed	Estimated Late Resolved	Do households have access to a SOC bus?	Do households have access to 2 SOC?
Current System	32	0	Yes	Some
1 Eliminate Bussing	0	32	No	No
2 Stagger Bell Times	32	32	Yes	Some
3 Standardize Bussing Area	~17-20	12	Some	No
4 Eliminate Bussing Overlap	~30	2	Yes	No
5 WATS Elementary	~22	12	Yes	Some
6 WATS Elementary No Overlap	~16-20	24	Yes	No

