



Dear Parent/Guardian of Current Gr. 4 students at Abingdon:

APS is conducting a boundary adjustment process for Fall 2021 that is limited in scope, focusing on schools where enrollment currently exceeds capacity and/or enrollment was at or exceeded capacity for the prior two school years, and a nearby school has capacity to accommodate additional students.

This letter is intended for families of students currently in the 4th grade who attend Abingdon and reside in one of the planning units that is proposed for reassignment. A separate letter will be sent to families of current pre-K to Gr. 3 grade students.

APS is proposing to reassign the following [planning units](#) from Abingdon Elementary School to Dr. Charles R. Drew Elementary School: 36060, 36061, 36090, 37070, 37100, 37101, 37102. The change would be effective for the start of the 2022-23 school year. The boundary proposal applies to all current students in these planning units in pre-K to 4th grade, and all future incoming students.

We are contacting you now for the following reasons:

- Inform you of the proposed changes;
- Share the upcoming engagement schedule that will provide an opportunity to learn more about the proposal and ask questions;
- Share the timeline for the School Board decision; and
- Ask you to complete a letter of intent form. An email with a link will be sent separately and paper copies are available in the Abingdon main office.

The purpose of the letter of intent form is to confirm that you have received information about this proposed boundary adjustment and to indicate if you would plan to keep your current 4th grade student at Abingdon for the 2022-23 school year, when your student will be in the 5th grade, or attend Dr. Charles R. Drew Elementary School for 5th grade.

Grandfathering Eligibility, New Students, Siblings, and Transportation Information

- **Grandfathering:** APS staff are proposing a grandfathering provision that allows students who are currently in the 4th grade—and who will be in the 5th grade in the 2022-23 school year—to remain at Abingdon if they choose. Students who are eligible to remain at Abingdon due to grandfathering would have the option to attend their newly assigned neighborhood school (Dr. Charles R. Drew) for the 2022-2023 school year.
- **New Students:** Any student who resides in one of the affected planning units and enrolls in APS following June 17, 2022 would attend Dr. Charles R. Drew Elementary School.
- **Siblings:** APS is collecting information from families to determine if siblings of current 4th graders who are concurrently enrolled at Abingdon can be accommodated and offered the option to remain at Abingdon for the 2022-23 school year. Note that siblings would need to attend Dr. Charles R. Drew beginning in the 2023-24 school year.
- **Transportation:** APS transportation will be provided via [hub stops](#) to students who are eligible for grandfathering and choose to remain at Abingdon in the 2022-23 school year. An update on siblings will be provided by mid-November.

Community Engagement Schedule

Virtual Community Meeting Schedule		
	Date	Time
Session One	October 16, 2021	11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Session Two	October 19, 2021	12:45 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Session Three (Spanish Only, No English)	October 20, 2021	7:45 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Session Four	October 21, 2021	7:45 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Virtual Community Meeting Information

- Links to these meetings are available online at <https://www.apsva.us/engage/fall-2021-boundary-process/>.
- The meetings will be recorded and posted online to view after the meeting ends.
- The same information will be presented at each virtual community meeting.
- Simultaneous interpretation will be available in Amharic, Arabic, Mongolian, and Spanish.

Virtual Office Hours Schedule	
Date	Time
October 26, 2021	7:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
October 28, 2021	12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Virtual Office Hours Information

- The office hours will provide the community with the opportunity to ask questions and receive an immediate response during the session.
- The responses to some of the questions asked during the session may be posted online as an FAQ.
- Simultaneous interpretation will be available for both sessions in Spanish.

Boundary Process Timeline	
Date	Activity
October 15 – 31, 2021	Community Engagement
November 16, 2021	Superintendent's Proposed Boundary Adjustments Presented to the School Board
November 30, 2021	School Board Public Hearing on Boundary Adjustments
December 2, 2021	School Board Action on the Superintendent's Proposed Boundary Adjustments

Please visit the Fall 2021 Boundary Process webpage at www.apsva.us/engage/fall-2021-boundary-process for details about the process. For additional information or questions, please email engage@apsva.us.

Sincerely,

Lisa Stengle
Executive Director, Planning & Evaluation
Arlington Public Schools