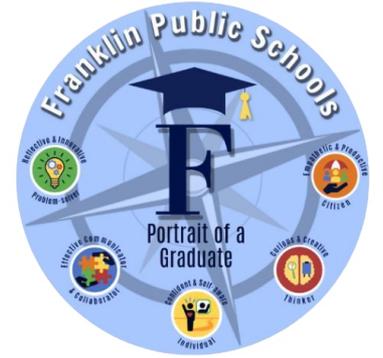


Franklin Public Schools School Boundary Line, Map Analysis, and Reorganization Information



Purpose

Implement the **Franklin Public Schools Facilities Master Plan**

Equitable Learning Environments

*Provide learning environments that support high-quality educational experiences for **ALL** students.*

Right Size the District

*Provide appropriate physical spaces for **ALL** students to meet program and enrollment needs today and in the future.*

Phased Improvements

Implement short-term, mid-term, and long-term improvement strategies in phases

School Committee and District Task: Establish the elementary school attendance areas with a single boundary line that determines the assignment of students to schools.

Acknowledging Change for our Community

Empathy and Support

Understanding the challenges and emotions involved in this transition for families, students, and staff

Path Forward

Together, we can move forward by embracing this transition as a unified community

For the Greater Good

Recommendations align with our long-term vision to provide the best educational experiences for every student in our district

Adaptive Change

While change can be difficult, we are committed to supporting everyone in adapting to new school communities, routines, and relationships



Technical Adjustments

The new boundary lines ensure equitable learning environments, balancing class sizes and optimizing our resources to meet enrollment needs

Background

Current attendance areas since 2003

- DT closure whole school move to Keller)

Enrollment decline

↓ 36% PK-5 (2004-24)

↓ 22% 6-8 (2004-24)

Extra-curricular challenges across three middle schools (budget and logistics)

School size imbalance across schools

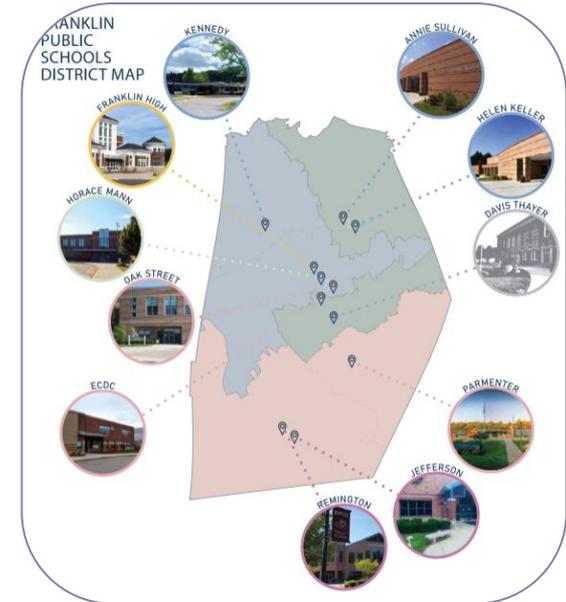
Keller=565 Oak=404
Jeff=338 JFK=332
Parm=289 ASMS=324
HMMS=388 RMS=351

Class size fluctuations across grades

Tight staffing margins (budget, scheduling, travel to schools)

Equitable resources allocation

Across all schools (Shared staffing, PD, curriculum, special education, etc.)



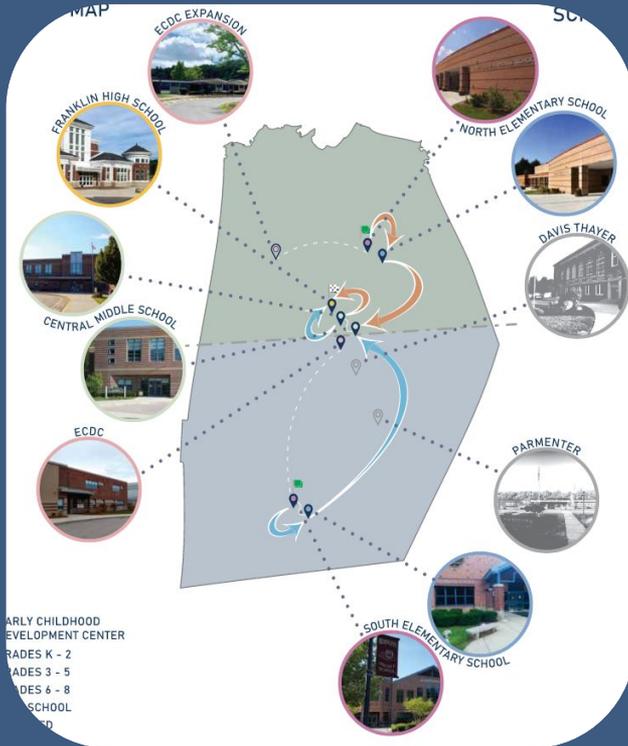
Short-Term Approved Recommendations

Three strategic recommendations to implement in **SY2025-26**. Attendance boundary and assignment of all students and staff during SY 2024-25

- 1. Unify 3 middle schools into 1 middle school**
 - a. 6-8 student experience in same building
 - b. Located on Oak Street adjacent to the FHS site
 - c. ASMS and RMS location no longer used as middle schools

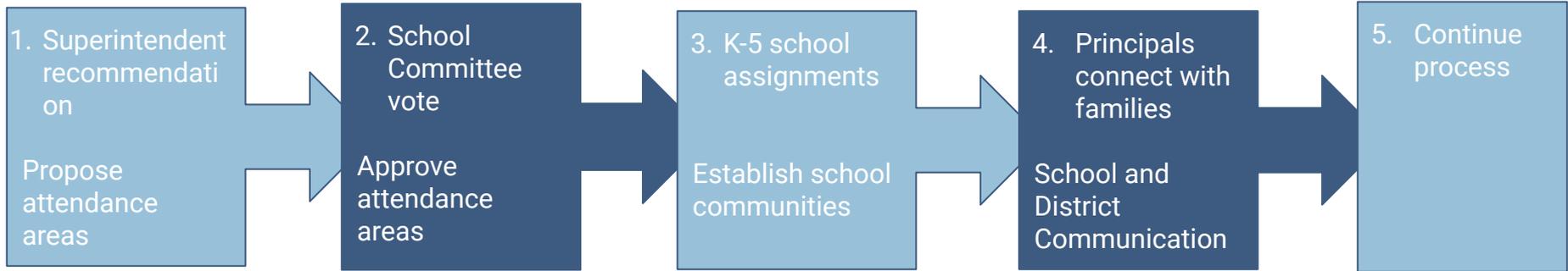
- 2. Unify 5 elementary schools into 4 elementary schools in 2 complexes**
 - a. K-5 student experience in same complex
 - b. Washington Street: "South Elem", K-2 & 3-5
 - c. Lincoln Street: "North Elem", K-2 & 3-5
 - d. Kennedy, Oak, and Parmenter K-5s no longer used as elementary schools

- 3. Prepare for ECDC expansion at Pond Street location**
 - a. Substantial increase number of children served
 - b. Approaching Universal Pre-K numbers
 - c. Explore revenue generating opportunities including childcare options to utilize space



Establishing the Elementary Boundary Line for School Attendance Areas

Initial Task: to establish the elementary school attendance areas with a single boundary line to establish new school communities.



A decision on attendance areas initiates other processes:

- Staff assignments
- Budget Development
- Scheduling
- PCCs
- Transportation

Policy JC- Attendance Areas

- Attendance areas will be developed by the Superintendent and/or designee subject to the approval of the School Committee prior to implementation.
- Primary considerations include school capacity, transportation and financial considerations
- Students will attend the school in the attendance area in which they live

Guiding Principles Boundary Line

Balanced enrollment
distribution of students

Adequate instructional spaces within functional capacity
North = 1252
South = 1151

Natural Boundaries
I-495, Conservation Land, State Forest, Commercial Zones

Adequate dedicated spaces for **in-district specialized programs**

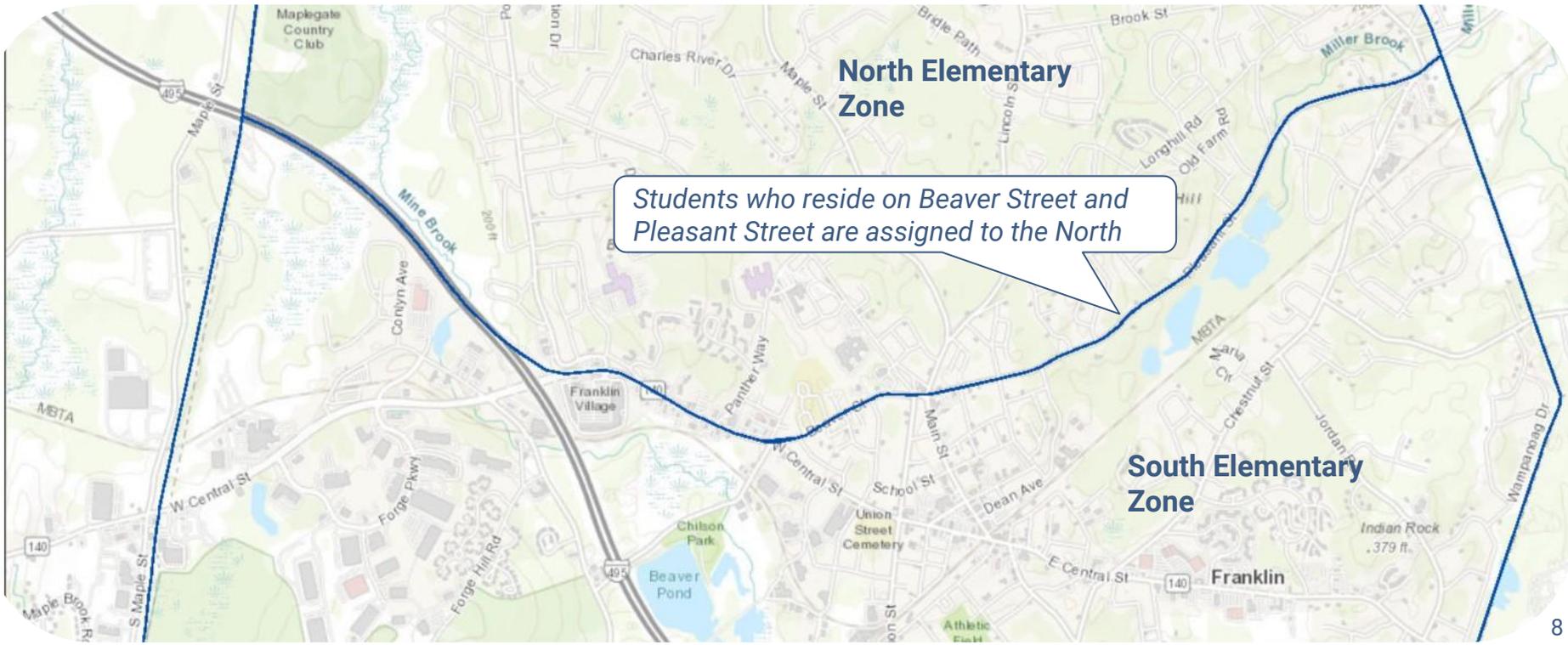
Sustainability and consideration for future population shifts

Geographic proximity to school

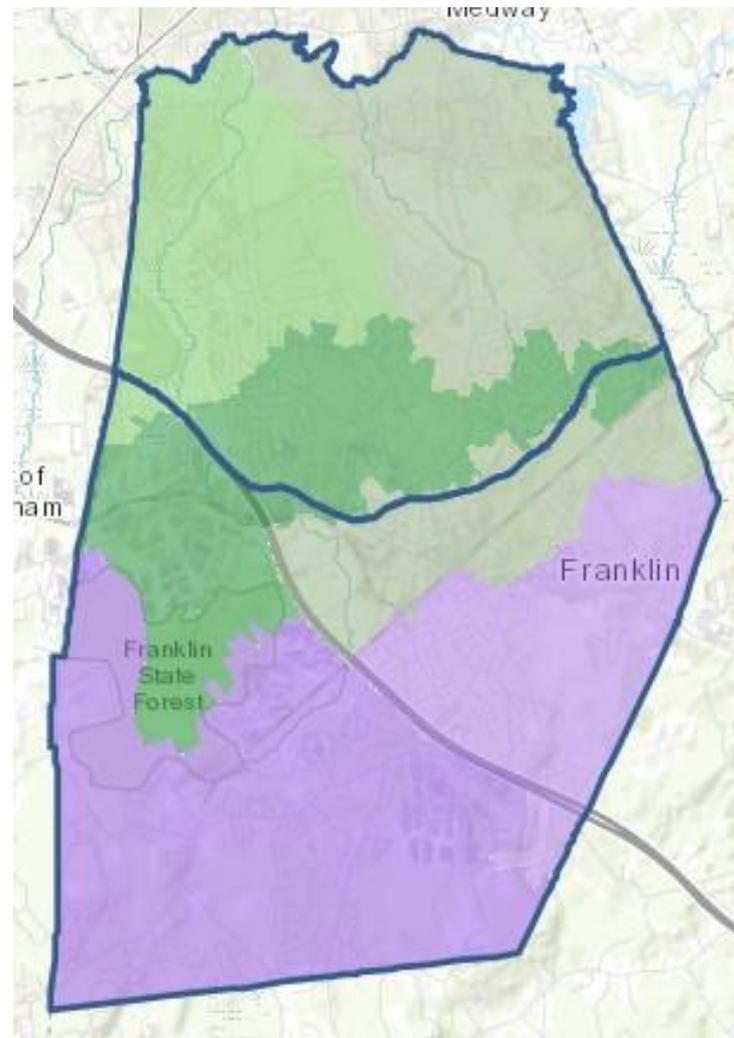
Consideration for **Davis Thayer 5th Graders**

Transportation considerations

Proposed Elementary School Boundary Line 495 - 140 - Beaver St. - Pleasant St.

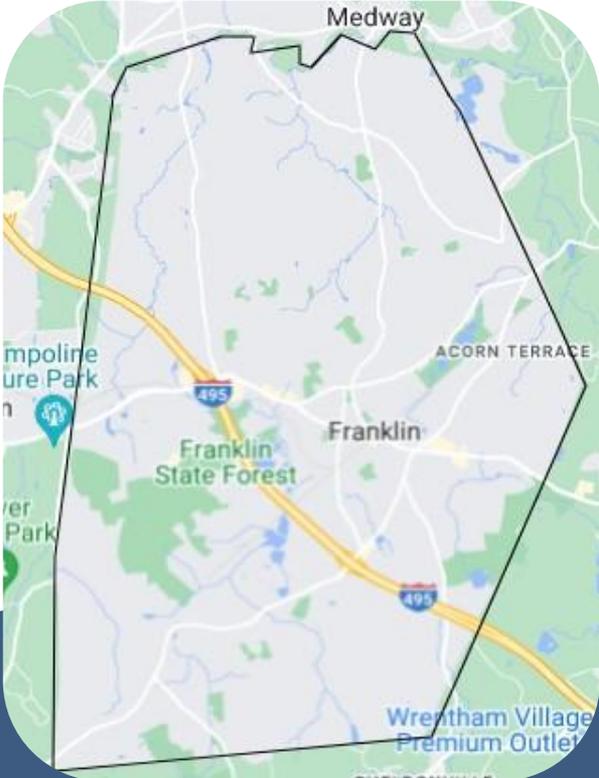


Current Zones on Recommended Boundary

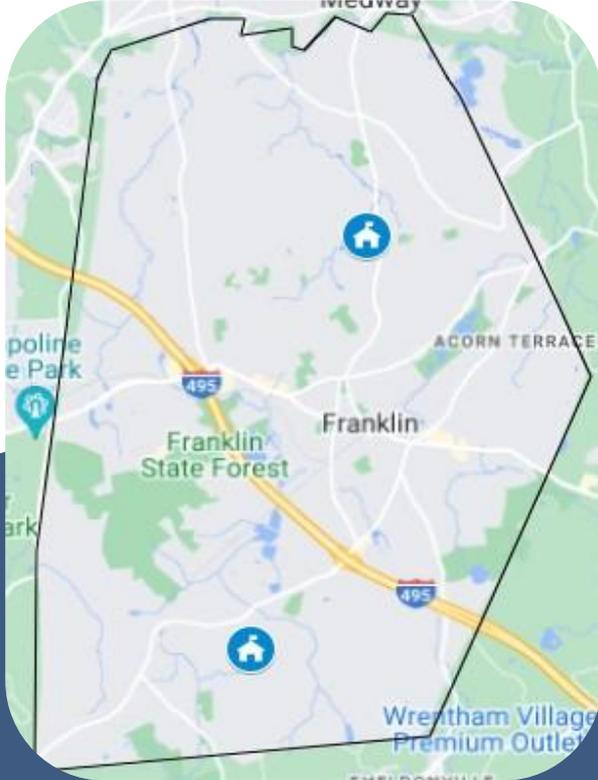


Map Analysis

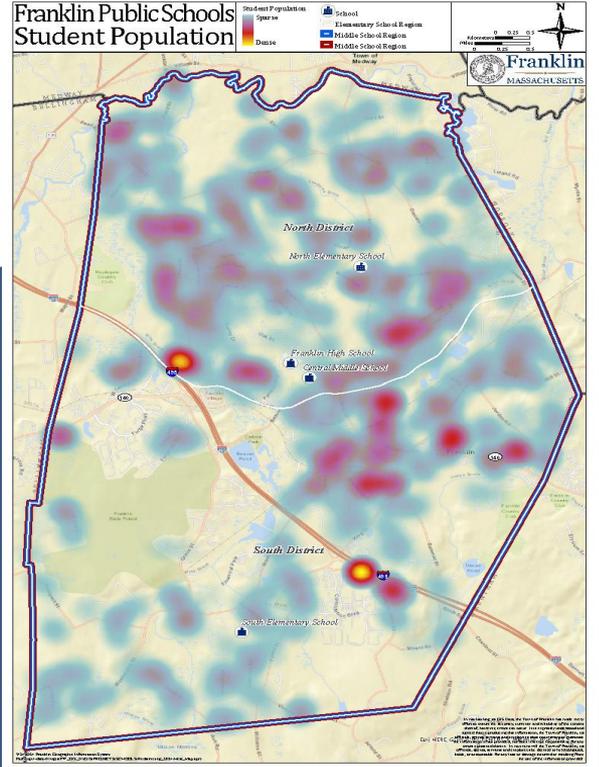
Franklin



K-2-3/5 Elementary Complexes



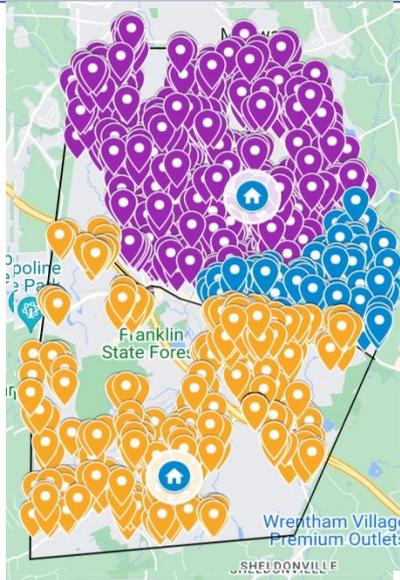
2025-26 Elementary Population



Boundary Line Considerations

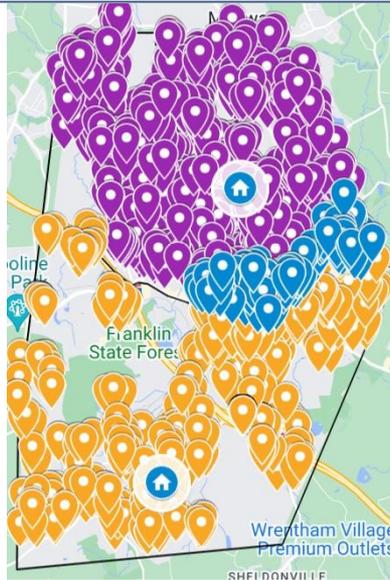
Explored multiple boundary line scenarios

Area 1: 495 - 140



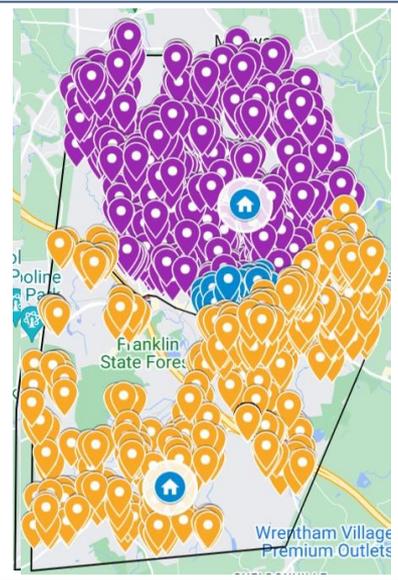
North: 1291 South : 640

Area 2: 495 - 140 - Chestnut -
Mill



North: 1198 South: 733

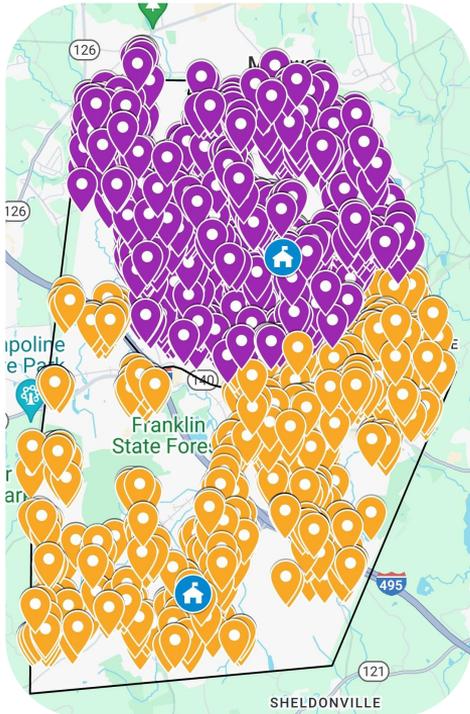
Area 3: 495 - 140 - Main Street -
Dean Ave - Pleasant



North: 1095 South: 836 11

Student Demographics Projected vs. Current

Narrowing the gap in the our demographic categories



| | Enrollment | Free & Reduced* | Students with IEP* | English Language Learners* |
|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Current 2024-25 | | | | |
| Highest Indv. School | 560 | 35% | 26% | 10% |
| Lowest Indv. School | 311 | 13% | 18% | 3% |
| Difference | 249 | 22% | 8% | 7% |
| Projected 2025-26 | | | | |
| North Elementary | 1027 | 16% | 17% | 7% |
| South Elementary | 904 | 27% | 19% | 11% |
| Difference | 123 | 11% | 2% | 4% |

* Grade K estimated for 2025-26 School Year based on historical trends.

Student Population 2025-26 Projected

Balanced class sizes across the district

More flexibility to absorb enrollment shifts

North Elementary School

| Grade | Enroll | # Classes | Class Size |
|------------------|--------|-----------|------------|
| Grade 5 YOG 2033 | 168 | 8 | 21 |
| Grade 4 YOG 2034 | 174 | 8 | 22 |
| Grade 3 YOG 2035 | 172 | 8 | 22 |
| Grade 2 YOG 2036 | 176 | 9 | 20 |
| Grade 1 YOG 2037 | 171 | 9 | 19 |
| Grade K YOG 2038 | 166 | 9 | 19 |
| North Elementary | 1027 | | |

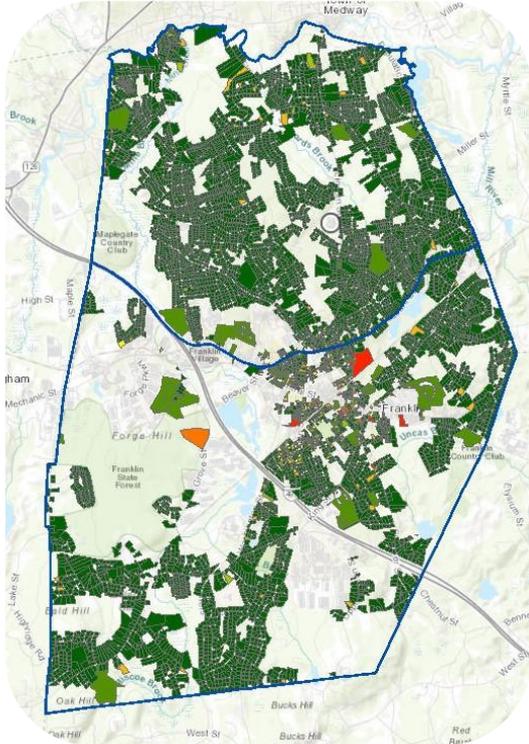
South Elementary School

| Grade | Enroll | # Classes | Class Size |
|------------------|--------|-----------|------------|
| Grade 5 YOG 2033 | 162 | 8 | 21 |
| Grade 4 YOG 2034 | 150 | 7 | 22 |
| Grade 3 YOG 2035 | 148 | 7 | 22 |
| Grade 2 YOG 2036 | 147 | 8 | 19 |
| Grade 1 YOG 2037 | 155 | 8 | 20 |
| Grade K YOG 2038 | 142 | 8 | 18 |
| South Elementary | 904 | | |

*Numbers are projected and are subject to budget approval

Residency with Franklin

Supports boundary line location based on the total number of liveable units at this time



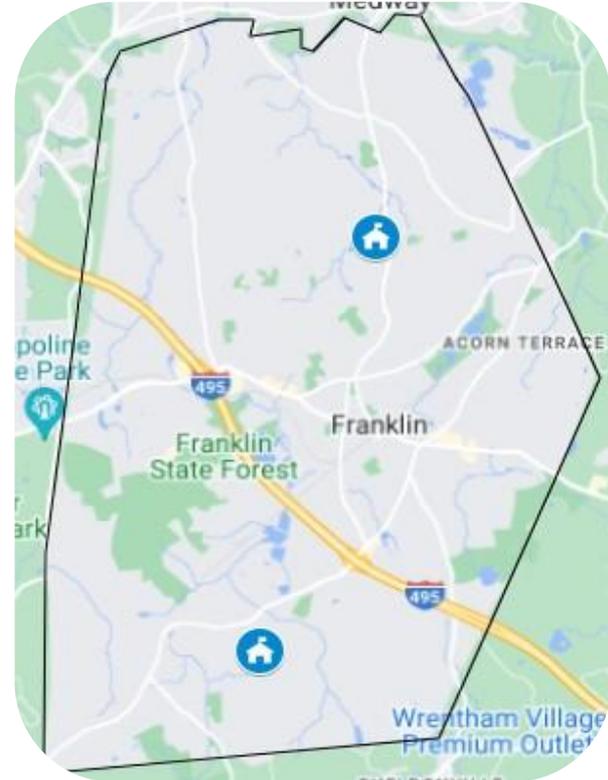
| Residency Type | North Zone (Number Units) | South Zone (Number Units) |
|--------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| One Family | 4455 | 3311 |
| Two Family | 24 | 207 |
| Three Family | 3 | 64 |
| Condo Unit | 802 | 1115 |
| Multiple HSE | 25 | 28 |
| Apartments 4-8 | 1 | 47 |
| Apartments 9> | 0 | 9 |
| Total Units | 5310 | 4781 |

Transportation

Current bus route structure serves as a foundation for the new boundary line

Transportation Infrastructure

- Routes to two schools designed to minimize ride time and maximize efficiency
- Overlapping routes will be streamlined to reduce traffic flow and congestion
- Bus stops will be strategically placed and clearly communicated with riders and families
- Additional transportation details will follow once boundary line is finalized and riders are confirmed.



Other Considerations

Per Master Plan recommendation, consideration given to 25 former **Davis Thayer** 5th graders

- 25-5th grade students currently attending Keller who moved from DT - Last remaining DT class
- One-time exception offered to those 25-5th grade students

Attend North 3-5 elementary
Per [policy JCA](#), responsible for transportation

Attend school in South 3-5 where they reside
Bus transportation available

- Applies to 5th Grader's from DT only
- All siblings attend school in the attendance area they reside
- District will communicate directly with former DT 5th grade families.

All Students and Families

Elementary and middle schools will be comprised of **new and familiar** staff and students.

- All grade 3-5 location will be housed in new locations.
- New mix of
 - Classmates
 - Teachers
 - Staff members
 - Administrators
 - Schedule
 - Locations

Maintaining Enrollment Balance in the Future

Attendance Area Considerations

Consider policy language to address increased enrollment shifts over time.

- Assigning new students to the school with lower enrollment to keep elementary class sizes balanced across the district.
- **NOT** to impact any current FPS student or family enrolled in FPS
- Apply to **NEW** registrations with **NO** current students in the District

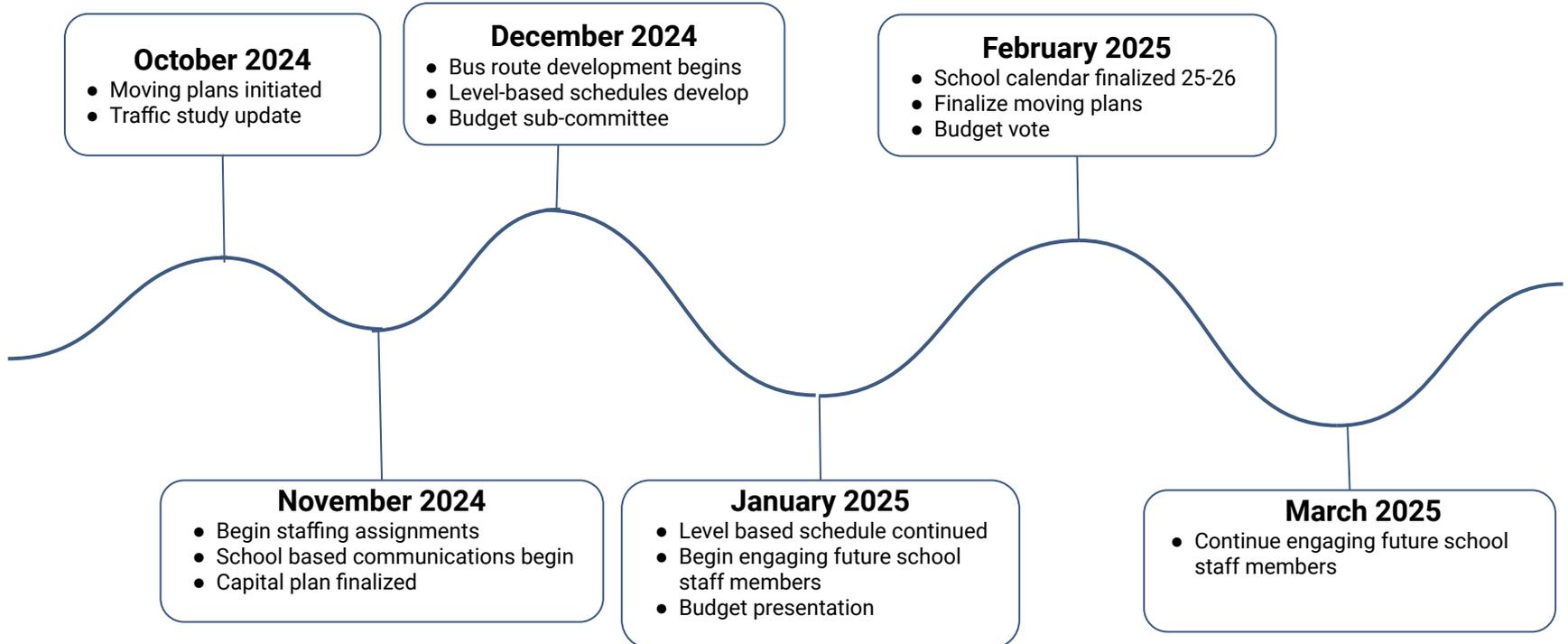
Potential Process

1. District monitors school enrollment for imbalances that impact capacity limits, school size or class sizes
2. NEW registrations with an address near the boundary line are reviewed
3. School assignments for newly registered students to the district with no currently enrolled siblings will be made to the school with lower enrollment at the time of registration
4. If District assigns school - transportation rules apply
5. No predetermined “buffer zone” - based on close proximity to boundary line and an identified need.

Attendance Area Next Steps

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. Sub Committee Presentation | June 5, 2024 |
| 2. Populated Student Data | September 9, 2024 |
| 3. Built Story Map | September 13, 2024 |
| 4. Shared Story Map | September 18, 2024 |
| 5. Presentation to School Committee | September 24, 2024 |
| 6. Open House - Feedback Session | September 30, 2024 |
| 7. School Committee Vote (target date) | October 8, 2024 |
| 8. Update Aspen Student "Next School" | October 11, 2024 |
| 9. Communication From Principal | October 18, 2024 |

Next Steps



Thank you

A special thanks to:

Storymap Development

Kate Hinckley, Director of GIS, Town of Franklin DPW

Natalie Regan-Lampert, GIS Specialist, Town of Franklin DPW