Enrollment Update

May 30, 2019
Neighborhood Schools

- 3-year process for boundary and school enrollment changes
  - Stakeholder input, Enrollment Priorities Task Force
- Board goal to create neighborhood schools at 450
- Open Jose Antonio Vargas Elementary
- Reduce overcrowding at Bubb, Huff, and Landels
New Boundaries Impact on Enrollment
Student movement due to new boundaries

- 540 students moved due to boundary changes
- 95 5th graders stayed at their original schools
- 43 siblings of those 5th graders will stay for 1 year
Changes to the enrollment process...

• Based on recommendation from Enrollment Priorities Task Force and Board directive, staff created a Student Placement Exemption process
  – 5th grade students and their siblings could stay at current school for 1 year
• Additionally, any school that is under-enrolled to be a part of a 2nd process
• Parents allowed to select only one choice school during open enrollment
Student Placement Exemption Process Flow

Parents have concern about student placement in school boundaries

School site staff

District Office

Exemption process forms

Parents complete and return form to District Office: Student Services

Student placement exemption committee

Committee of Board member, administrator and at-large community member does a blind review of forms, based on parameters.

Requests are approved or denied

District Office notifies parents by June 1 of the decision, and that the decision is final

Mountain View Whisman School District
Welcome Events for Transitioning Students

In response to concerns raised by parents and EPTF, all schools receiving transitioning students created welcome events. Examples of events include:

- Parent meetings hosted by receiving school
- Pancake breakfast
- Ice cream social
- Lunches with teachers & students
- Family playdates
- Kinder potlucks
- Friendship chains
Impact of Enrollment and Exemptions on Schools
Enrollment is a moving target

- Enrollment is variable throughout the year: Spikes twice throughout the year, September and April.
- Official enrollment count in October to comply with CALPADS
Staffing and Enrollment

• Certificated staffing is driven by enrollment:
  – TK-3 grade: 24 students
  – 4-5 grade: 30 students
  – 6-8 grade: 33 students
  – Combination classes reduce operating costs

• Held meetings at every site with staffing plans
Staffing shifts with Enrollment

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Use of Portables

- Last year of Bond program, able to use the existing portables with rental fee
  - Existing rental portables at 3 schools are scheduled to be removed next year (2020-21)
  - Portables funded by Measure G (funds not on-going)
- Used only in 2019-20 to accommodate
  - Excess enrollment due to 5th grade students and their siblings (exempted 1 yr)
  - School communities need to function without dependence on portables
Decisions and
Next Steps
Enrollment exemptions

• Reasons that exemptions might be made:
  – Title IX civil rights (qualified reasons of harassment, violence or bullying)
  – Special education placement for special day class
  – Active US Military to Monta Loma only

• Of 81 exemptions submitted, 9 qualified, 5 are pending (follow-up of information per Exemptions Committee request)
  – Unapproved requests examples: transportation, afterschool activities, perceptions of school quality

• Since October 2018, we have stated on the form that decisions of the Student Placement Exemption Committee are final; no appeals
Next Steps

• Notices for exemption requests go out after June 1
• No under-enrolled schools using the Board parameters
  ─ 3rd Grade Theuerkauf Elementary
• Determine impact to transportation; possible repurpose or reduction in force
• Developing a plan to address verification process for over-enrolled schools
• Per EPTF, does the Board have an interest in diversifying choice schools?