



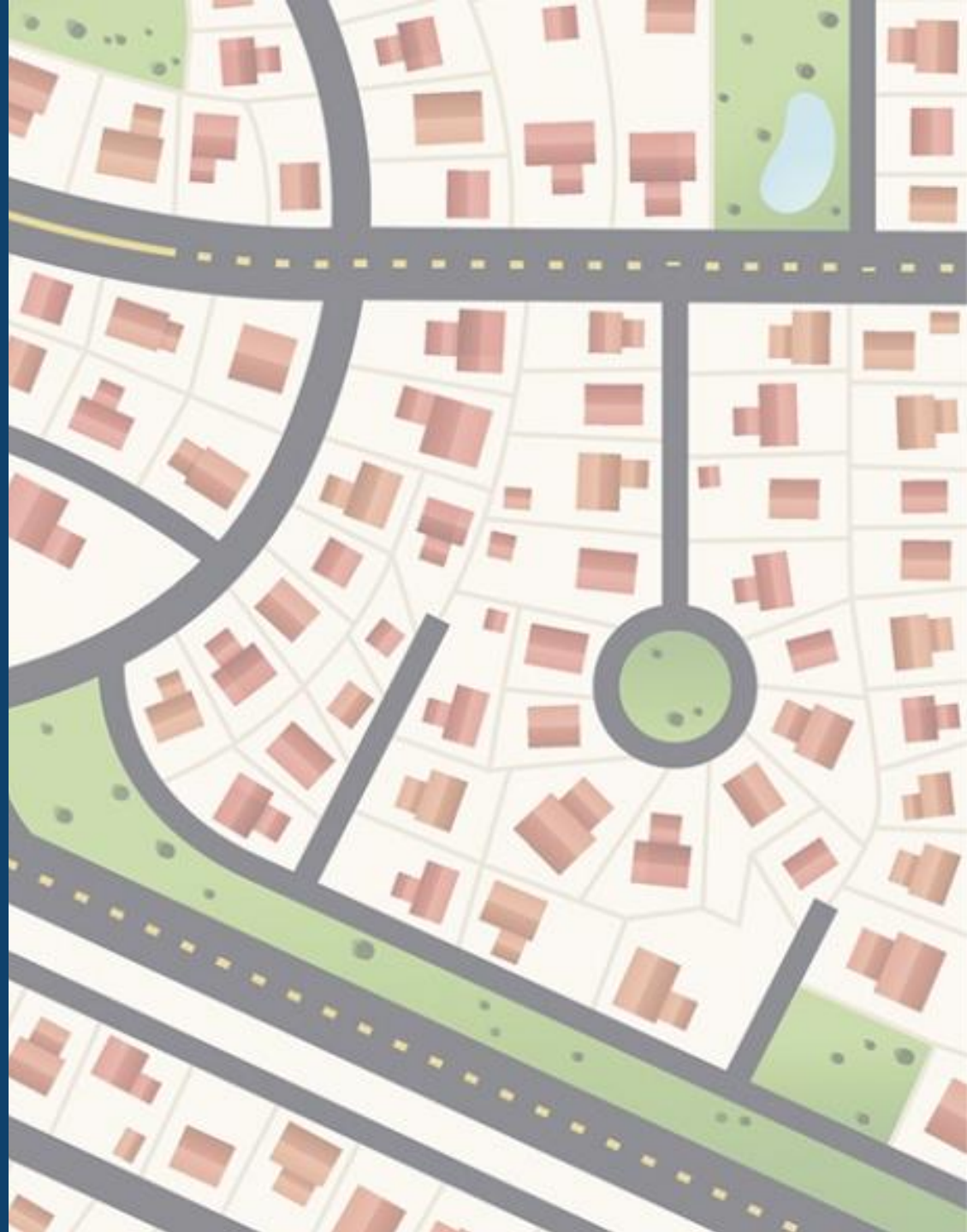
Boundary Process Considerations

Shawnee Mission School District

BOE Update

June 22, 2026

Process facilitated by RSP



RSP & Associates

RSP Quick Facts:

- Founded in 2003
- Professional educational planning firm
- Expertise in multiple disciplines (GIS, Planning, Facilitation)
- Over 20 years of planning experience
- Over 80 years of education experience
- Over 20 years of GIS experience
- Projection accuracy of 97% or greater

RSP Clients:

RSP was started with the desire and commitment to assist school districts in long-range planning.

RSP has served over **130** clients in:

- | | | |
|------------|----------------|----------------|
| • Arkansas | • Minnesota | • South Dakota |
| • Colorado | • Missouri | • Tennessee |
| • Iowa | • Nebraska | • Wisconsin |
| • Illinois | • North Dakota | |
| • Kansas | • Oklahoma | |

RSP Planning Team:

Robert Schwarz, CEO

- Military, County, City, and School District Planner
- University of Kansas, Master of Urban Planning (MUP)
- American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)
- Certified Education Facilities Professional (CEFP)

Todd White, Retired Superintendent

Ginna Wallace, Senior Planner

RSP Recent Projects:

Kansas City Kansas USD 500

- Enrollment Analysis, 2025/26
- Boundary Analysis, 2024/25

Unified School District 232

- Enrollment Analysis, 2025/26

Spring Hill School District USD 230

- Enrollment Analysis, 2025/26



Partnership with RSP

BENEFITS OF PARTNERSHIP:



Data-Driven
Decision Making



Optimized Learning
Environments



Right-Sizing Facility
Utilization



Practical, Actionable
Planning Support

Overview of Work:

Enrollment Analysis: *Provided long-term forecasting and planning support to guide facility decisions.*

- 2019/20
- 2021/22
- 2025/26

Boundary Analysis: *Evaluated boundaries to balance enrollment and maintain equitable access to facilities*

- **2021/22:** Planned for the re-balance of enrollment between Briarwood and Tomahawk elementary school with the opening of new Tomahawk Elementary.
- Process included:
 - **Three Work Group Meetings**
 - **Two Public Input Sessions**
 - **Three Board Meetings**

District Growth During the Partnership

- **Enrollment Change:** Decline of **approximately 4.6%** during the partnership period
 - 2019/20: **26,681 students**
 - *Peak in 2019/20 with enrollment stability from 2021/22 to 2025/26*
 - 2025: **24,465 students**
- **Community Population Growth:** The local population has **increased by 1.3%**, reflecting strong regional development
 - 2020: **231,386 residents**
 - 2025: **234,500 students**
- **Housing Growth:** Continued residential expansion contributing to **student enrollment stability**
 - 2020: **111,660 housing units**
 - 2025: **112,707 housing units**

3-Step Enrollment Procedure

Purpose: Defines how utilization concerns **will be identified and evaluated**. Creates a **transparent framework** for future decision-making.

STEP #1: Enrollment Measure Matrix

- ↓ **Low Utilization = Below 70%** (ES Student Floor = **300 students**)
- ↑ **High Utilization = Greater than 95%** (ES Student Ceiling = **575 students**)

STEP #2: Degree of Urgency

- Categorizes schools into the levels of **Monitor, Review, or Implement** based on enrollment conditions

STEP #3: Potential Action Review Toolboxes

- Incorporates additional **operational, facility, and community considerations** before any recommendations are made

Guiding Principles

Purpose: Ensure boundary decisions remain **aligned with Board priorities and district goals** while providing a consistent framework for evaluating options.

These principles establish:

- What outcomes the district is trying to achieve
- What factors should be prioritized during decision-making
- The parameters and expectations for future boundary reviews

Prioritized Boundary Criteria

Purpose: Establish a **clear decision-making hierarchy** that helps guide scenario development and **provides transparency** regarding how competing priorities will be weighed.

3-Step Enrollment Procedure

STEP 1 - DATA

Every school's current and projected enrollment is applied to the following:

Elementary Student Floor:	300 Students
Low Utilization Threshold:	70% of Capacity
High Utilization Threshold:	95% of Capacity
Elementary Student Ceiling:	575 Students

STEP 2 - Timeline

Each school is categorized into one of the following timeline phases depending on Step #1:

- Phase 1 - Monitor
- Phase 2 - Review
- Phase 3 - Implement

STEP 3 - Action

For schools in Phase 3 - Implementation, utilize the toolboxes to identify recommended action(s):

- Student Experience
- District & Board
- District Curriculum
- District Financial
- District Architect



Received 100% Support from Admin Work Group Survey

Guiding Principles

The 2026 SMSD Boundary Work Group agrees to the following guiding principles, which will inform the boundary recommendation presented at the conclusion of this process:

1. Boundary adjustments should maximize utilization of existing facilities (targeting efficient capacity ranges) and promote long-term financial sustainability without creating unnecessary operational costs.
2. Boundaries should be designed to anticipate and accommodate future residential growth, allowing developing areas to grow into available capacity and supporting long-term enrollment stability.
3. Boundaries should support equitable access to educational opportunities, programs, and resources so that students across all schools have a consistent and high-quality educational experience.
4. Where possible, boundaries should respect neighborhoods and community identity, supporting the neighborhood school concept while balancing broader district needs.
5. Consideration should be given to create clear, logical, and easily understood attendance areas.
6. Boundaries should promote reasonable demographic balance across schools, supporting diversity and ensuring a comparable student experience district-wide.
7. Grandfathering, transfer options, and student placement decisions will be determined by administration to support smooth implementation and address unique circumstances.
8. The district will maintain its current grade configuration of K-6 elementary schools, 7-8 middle schools, and 9-12 high schools.
9. Consideration may be given to the potential retirement or repurposing of school facilities as part of the boundary planning process.
10. Boundary recommendations should be developed within the context of the district's anticipated 2027 bond decision and associated planning assumptions.
11. Boundary recommendations should, where feasible, maintain established secondary feeder patterns to support continuity for students and families.
12. Boundary recommendations should preserve the attendance boundaries established through the 2021/22 boundary planning process for the Tomahawk and Briarwood elementary attendance areas.



Received 100% Support from Admin Work Group Survey

Prioritized Boundary Criteria

What are boundary criteria? Specific data-driven metrics used to evaluate and compare potential changes to school attendance zones. These metrics can include both quantitative data and qualitative considerations.

The Ten Boundary Criteria are:



1. Boundary Natural Features

All portions of the boundary are physically adjacent, no disconnected islands within the boundary.



2. Demographic Considerations

Boundaries that seek some level of balanced socioeconomic indicators. Variables may include programming, race/ethnicity, census household, etc.



3. Duration of Boundaries

Boundaries that anticipate future changes in enrollment and seek to make the boundary last as long as possible using forecasted data.



4. Feeder System

Boundaries are geographically aligned between grade level to create a system where students mature in similar cohort



5. Fiscal Considerations (Capital)

Ensure boundary changes minimize the need for additional construction projects until overall enrollment growth dictates



6. Fiscal Considerations (Operational)

Boundaries that are planned to maximize district resources.



7. Neighborhoods Intact

Boundaries that ensure subdivisions are maintained in a school's boundary. RSP utilizes Planning Areas as neighborhood lines.



8. Projected Enrollment/Building Utilization

Boundaries that focus on balancing enrollment, so each building is utilized efficiently while not projected to exceed functional capacity for several years.



9. Students Impacted by Boundary Change

Boundaries that minimize the number of current students that have to change schools.



10. Transportation Considerations

Boundaries that consider transportation logistics including bus route efficiency and length of time students spend on bus.

The Top Three Boundary Criteria are:



#1: Feeder System



#2: Projected Enrollment/Building Utilization



#3: Fiscal Considerations (Operational)



Results from Admin Work Group Survey

Process Update

Admin Work Group

- Two Meetings
- One Survey
- Results presented to BOE

Boundary Work Group

- Four Meetings
- Starts in August 2026
- Results presented to BOE

Public Input

- Three Nights of Community Meetings
- One Survey
- Results presented to BOE

Board of Education

- Approval of recommendation planned for October 2026

Facilitated Boundary Process
Process follows Strategic Plan Actions 6.1 and 6.2
2026/27 School Year

