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**UNOFFICIAL NOTES:
10/20/2020 MCPS DISTRICTWIDE BOUNDARY ANALYSIS –
PHASE 2 WEBINAR: INTERACTIVE BOUNDARY EXPLORER**

MODERATELY MOCO

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10/20 MCPS DISTRICTWIDE BOUNDARY ANALYSIS – PHASE 2 WEBINAR: INTERACTIVE BOUNDARY EXPLORER

ATTENDEES:

- MCPS: Derek Turner
- Public Engagement Associates: Steve Brigham
- WXY: Kushan Dave, Mario Giampieri, Adam Lubinsky, Abby Zan
- ~160 members of the public

SUMMARY

Background was provided about the interim report and the lenses of utilization, diversity, proximity and assignment stability. The main purpose of the meeting was to provide a demo and let attendees practice using the Interactive Boundary Explorer (IBE) tool. WXY will collect feedback from those using the tool. This information will be part of a report that WXY is working to present to MCPS in December, it is expected to be made public in Jan/Feb 2021.

The audience was polled, and the top answers were: 81% are parents, 50% are from the southwest portion of the county, 41% had attended a previous boundary analysis meeting, and 56% are white.

Currently, we are in phase 2 of the analysis. Phase 2 involves 2 public webinars (including this one), 1 community feedback session on Oct 28, student engagement activities, outreach to targeted groups, and the interactive tool.

Utilization was defined by the number of students divided by program capacity. Diversity included FARMS/EVERFARMS, ESOL, and racial dissimilarity (a higher score means a school is more dissimilar from its neighbors). Proximity considered road distance, walk zones (safe and reasonable route by foot), and the proportion of students attending the nearest school (not including consortia). Currently 38% of elementary, 25% middle, and 29% high school students are in walk zones.

There was a demo of the IBE. There are 6 links/sections across the top with more information, including lenses, insights, getting started, the tool, and a survey.

The first part of the demo was “learning about my school.” There are multiple ways to search (map, entering name). White lines are attendance areas and black lines are cluster boundaries. Larger circles indicate a selection.

The second part of the demo was “comparing schools.” The closest schools can be selected or a custom compare can be done.

The third part of the demo was “wider trends.” Information can be visualized using a color-code map, filter, histogram, and scatter plot. Considerations are clusters with disparities, outliers, and the relationship between lenses.

Q&A

1. There were several questions about the data:
 - The school facilities data are from the FY2021 Capital Improvement Plan. The student-derived data are from the school year 2019-2020 enrollment data and from MCPS student-level data sets.
 - WXY is working with MCPS to be able to update the data in the future, such as with data from future years or data from projections. But currently the data are limited to the data mentioned above. Additionally, there is no way to change the boundaries and test scenarios with the current tool.
2. The tool is not mobile-friendly. It can be used for some features, but a tablet or larger is needed to visualize the maps. It may be improved for use on phones in the future.
3. There were questions about what racial dissimilarity numbers mean (do higher or lower numbers mean a school is more diverse). Kushan Dave said a higher percentage means a school is more dissimilar to the cluster or county, but he did not want to define any goals for the numbers or interpret the numbers.
4. Pandemic effects
 - WXY added a survey to the tool.
 - Derek Turner said there would be considerations for students wanting an all virtual model long-term.

NEXT STEPS

- Oct 28 community feedback and discussion meeting. Topics include insights, balance of lenses for your school and nearby schools, and clusters or parts of the county with challenges. There will be breakout rooms.
- Resources: help videos, guided exercises, cheat sheet, webinar recording

IBE WEBSITE AND CHEAT SHEET

[HTTP://INTERACTIVEBOUNDARYEXPLORER.COM/
MCPS.HTML](http://interactiveboundaryexplorer.com/mcps.html)

[HTTPS://DRIVE.GOOGLE.COM/FILE/D/
140AVL8S_OF7RCY-J1XOHA9PU65VZTYBD/VIEW](https://drive.google.com/file/d/140AVL8S_OF7RCY-J1XOHA9PU65VZTYBD/view)