



2051 Brendon Drive
Dunwoody, GA 30338

Nov. 5, 2019

Dekalb County Board of Education
1701 Mountain Industrial Blvd.
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Dr. Green, Mr. Drake, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Jester, Mr. Orson, Mr. Erwin, Ms. Gevertz, Mrs. Turner, Mr. DaCosta, and Dr. Morely

The Kingsley Elementary PAC wants to first thank you for the thoughtfulness and effort put into the Austin redistricting in order to benefit the entire Dunwoody cluster. We are thankful that you are allowing the community to give input and feedback.

The Kingsley Elementary PAC has carefully reviewed the options presented at the second redistricting meeting on Oct 23, 2019. After review of the 3 options, it must be noted that the Kingsley community will be most significantly impacted by the redistricting shift. We have concluded that the Option 3 presents the best available solution for achieving DCSD's goals, and following the districts redistricting policies.

Option 3 follows closest to the DCSD geographical location policy and keeping neighborhoods intact, is the best long term solution that provides the most relief to the entire cluster, provides the most students access to a brand new school, and delivers the fewest number of trailers throughout the entire cluster. Furthermore, it maintains the socio-economic diversity we are proud of at KES, instead of creating consolidation. At Kingsley, we are emphatically proud of the diversity that we represent, and want to keep the proportions in tact that create a truly inclusive environment.

The other options presented violate the DCSD policy when redistricting, as students are being placed three times further away than with schools in closer proximity, which doesn't give our school an equitable chance at maintaining a close knit neighborhood school. To that end, the 2011-2012 redistricting drew lines way outside the KES community, which Options 1 and 2 would be expanding. It is not an equitable solution, that produces only about 40% of the children in the KES zone to actually attend Kingsley.

Beyond Kingsley's objectives, we also are looking at the needs of their entire cluster, past only the elementary school needs. Due to significant overcrowding across all schools, removing students from the cluster is the only way to decrease this strain.

In review we have specific recommendations for your consideration:

1. In drafting the next map, please consider growth projections that extend beyond 2021 so that our community will not have to immediately repeat this process.
2. Remove areas in Option 1 (**Area "E"**) and Option 2 (**Area "F"**) that are violating DCSD's geographic location policy and gives KES a disproportionate balance of students, thus segregating high socio-economical families. This violates keeping intact neighborhoods, as students are traveling far outside their address to get to KES.
3. Consider **expanding areas in Option 3** as appropriate in *Area's D, E, and F* if it facilitates relief for other schools in the cluster.
4. Alleviate overcrowding in the Dunwoody cluster by utilizing space in the new Doraville United Elementary School, as indicated in Option 3.

We appreciate DCSD's hard work in finding an equitable and long term solution to all Dunwoody schools, in a time of rapid growth for the area. We urge you to use Option 3 or a close revision of it for the reasons that we have set above.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lucy Quinonez
Kingsley PAC President

Erika Harris
Kingsley PAC Parent

Leah Kouloumberis
Kingsley PAC Secretary

Carrie Willard
Kingsley PAC Parent

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