



**School Boundary
Discussion for
school year
2026/2027**



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October 2025

Why Elementary Attendance Boundary Changes are Needed

Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools is adjusting elementary attendance boundaries to reflect board-approved site consolidation decisions. These decisions are part of the district's plan to optimize resources to adjust for current and projected enrollment.

The following facility changes have been approved:

- Closing WestWood Elementary as a neighborhood school in fall 2026
- Relocating La ola del lago at Grainwood to the WestWood building
- Closing and selling the District Services Center, with staff relocating to Grainwood (proceeds from the sale—where allowed by law—will be used to help offset the district's projected budget shortfall)

With these facility changes set, the district now needs to redraw elementary attendance boundaries to make the best use of available space, balance enrollment across schools and improve operational efficiency.



We will not:

- Violate laws or policies
- Create unreasonable inequities within buildings or across programs
- Significantly increase transportation costs
- Create non-contiguous boundaries
- Exceed identified capacities of buildings



Desired Results

As a result of updating elementary attendance boundaries starting in 2026-27, Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools seeks to:

- Balance enrollment across elementary schools to ensure efficient use of space
- Support the relocation and growth of La ola del lago in its new home at WestWood
- Minimize disruption to students, families and staff to the greatest extent possible
- Ensure equitable access to programs and learning opportunities for all elementary students
- Review transportation efficiencies including adjustments to school start times
- Maintain Early Childhood programming at Edgewood School and nature-based program at Jeffers Pond
- Keep the final cohort of 5th grade SAGE students together at WestWood
- Ensuring a thoughtful transition that maintains continuity of services for students
- Consider an Opt-In for transportation needs at the HS



Boundary Change Process

- Elementary boundary attendance timeline for 2026-2027 school year
- Assumptions
- Minimal criteria for ranking of scenarios for boundaries
- Feedback opportunity from BOE Committees (e.g., Finance and Operations, T&L, Policy)
- **Create 4 options to present to learning leaders**
- Narrow down no more than 2 options to present to board



Elementary Attendance Boundary Timeline



Elementary Attendance Boundary Timeline

Date	Meeting Type	Time	Topics
September 22	School Board Study Session	6:00 p.m.	Present early boundary map options, gather input, MDE notification
Sept. 23: Communications update to staff & families on boundary options and start times being considered.			
September 23	Finance & Operations Committee	8:00 a.m.	Adjust map designs based on Board input; narrow to two options
October 14	Finance & Operations Committee	8:00 a.m.	Final adjustments to prepare recommended option
October 20: Communications update to staff & families-overview of previously shared info and upcoming timeline			
October 27	School Board Study Session	6:00 p.m.	Review two draft map options
November 10	School Board Regular Meeting	6:00 p.m.	Present final proposed attendance boundary for 2026–27 for Board action
Nov. 11: Communications update to staff & families on final boundaries and start times for 2026-27. Preview opt-in for PLHS transportation.			
December 2025 - Kindergarten registration opens			

8-25-25

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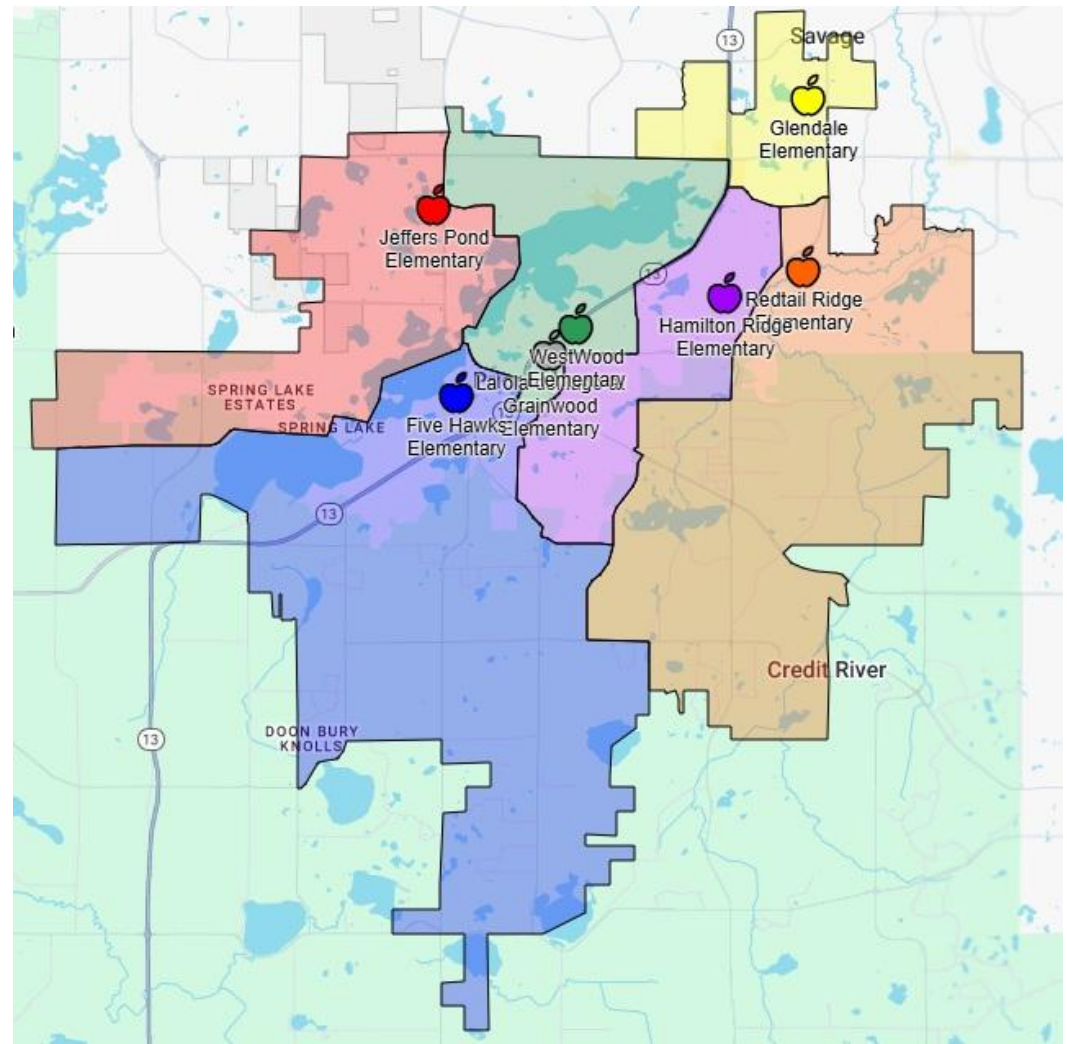
Boundary Discussion Assumptions

- La ola del lago program and SAGE 5th year students will reside at WestWood 2026-2027
- Data used will be 2025-2026 student population
- Attributes of the population are equal to those at end of 2024-2025 school year
- Student population used in our process will not change for the 2026-2027 school year (even though we know it will)
- No grandfathering (IDT) of students to current 2025-2026 schools
- Current open enrolled students are included in our consideration of total students served
- Community development



Current Boundaries

Current boundaries,
Includes LODL and Open
Enrolled students



Minimal Criteria for creation of a scenario

- Contiguous boundaries
- Within capacity limits
- Four sections per grade per building
- Ensure equitable access to programs and learning opportunities for all
- Cannot significantly increase cost of transportation



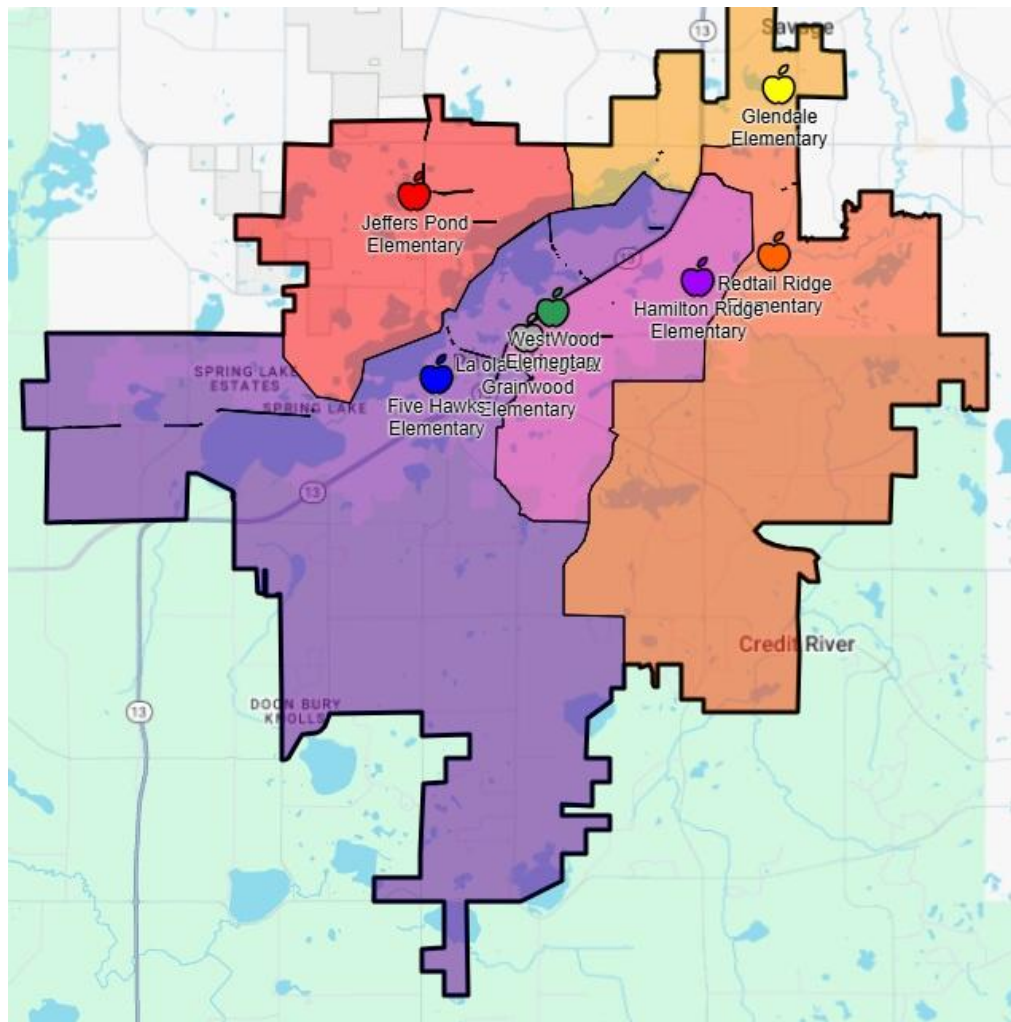
Assumptions and Context

Base numbers are found by having all LODL and Open Enrolled students pulled out, and all IDT's returned to their home school. These base numbers are used when creating and evaluating all scenarios.

Once the boundary discussion has been completed we will be able to look at any requests for IDT's and start our Kindergarten enrollment and the open enroll process.

Scenario A

Red = Jeffers Pond
Blue = Five Hawks
Purple = Hamilton Ridge
Orange = Redtail Ridge
Yellow = Glendale



Scenario A

Adjustment to all boundaries including-

- Five Hawks adding the area west of Hwy 13 and the SE side of Prior Lake,
- Redtail Ridge adding area South of Cty Rd 42,
- Splitting the NW side of Prior Lake to both Jeffer Pond and Glendale

By the numbers

[illegible]

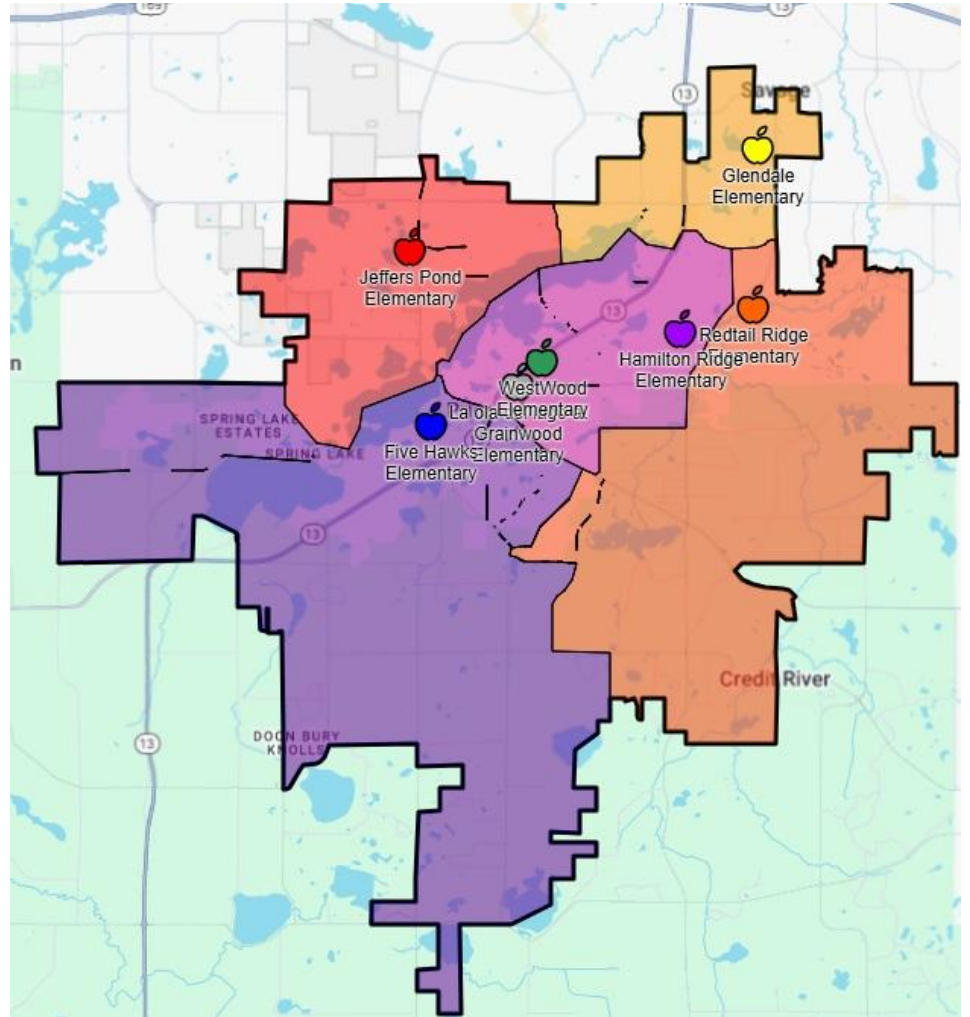
Scenario A

Analysis

- Meets minimum requirements.
- Not balanced enrollment numbers, Five Hawks at 81.6% capacity, lowest Glendale at 52.4%
- Five Hawks average longest drive times
- Not as future proof
- Least viable, requires purchasing several buses Estimate greater than \$1 million

Scenario B

Red = Jeffers Pond
Blue = Five Hawks
Purple = Hamilton Ridge
Orange = Redtail Ridge
Yellow = Glendale



Scenario B

Boundary adjustments include-

- Expanding Hamilton Ridge to Prior Lake on the West side of Hwy 13th,
- Five Hawks expanding West of Revere and Eagle Creek south,
- Splitting the area north of Prior Lake to both Jeffers Pond and Glendale.

By the numbers

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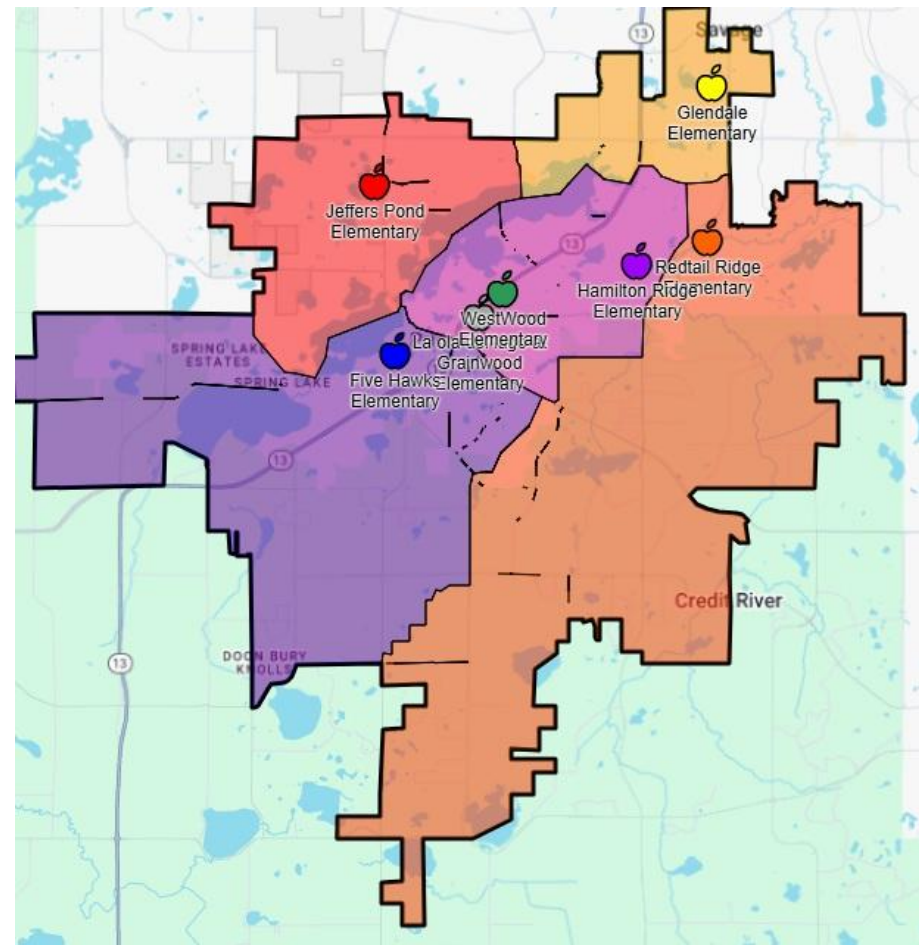
Scenario B

Analysis

- Meets minimum criteria
- Not balanced enrollment numbers, highest Five Hawks at 80.7% capacity, lowest Glendale at 58%
- Not as future proof as other scenarios
- Would need to swap a school in the 2nd tier with a school in the 3rd tier start time to accommodate bus needs
- Will require a start time change at 2 locations total of 1046 students
- 572 students will have a location change
- Total 1618 total students affected

Scenario C

Red = Jeffers Pond
Blue = Five Hawks
Purple = Hamilton Ridge
Orange = Redtail Ridge
Yellow = Glendale



Scenario C

Boundary adjustments include-

- Splitting southern part of district between Five Hawks and Redtail Ridge,
- Splitting are north of Prior Lake between Jeffers Pond and Glendale,
- Hamilton Ridge N of Eagle Creek to South Park central to SE side of Prior Lake.

By the numbers

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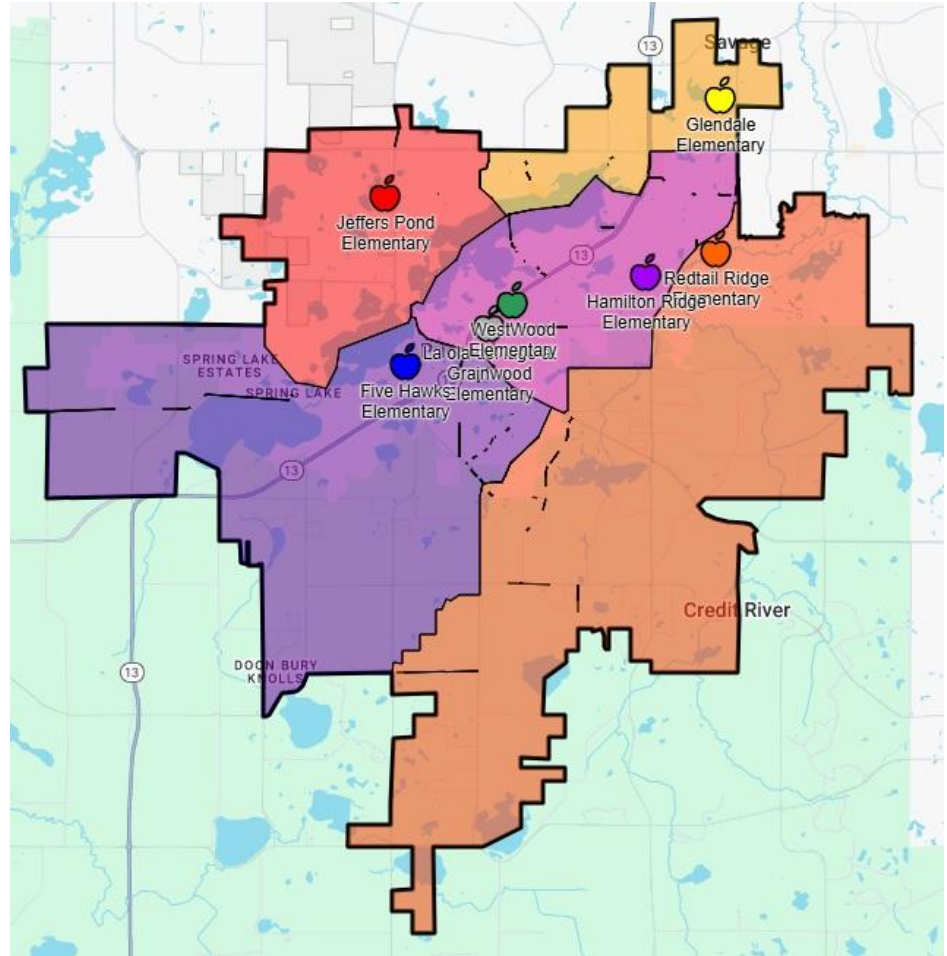
Scenario C

Analysis

- Meets all minimum criteria
- Lower average bus ride times but increases bus ride time for RR Students
- Not as balanced for enrolled students per bldg, all schools below 80%
- Not as future proof as other scenarios
- Would need to swap a school in the 2nd tier with a school in the 3rd tier start time to accommodate bus needs
- Will require a start time change at 2 locations total of 990 students
- 580 students will have a location change
- Total 1570 total students affected

Scenario D

Red = Jeffers Pond
Blue = Five Hawks
Purple = Hamilton Ridge
Orange = Redtail Ridge
Yellow = Glendale



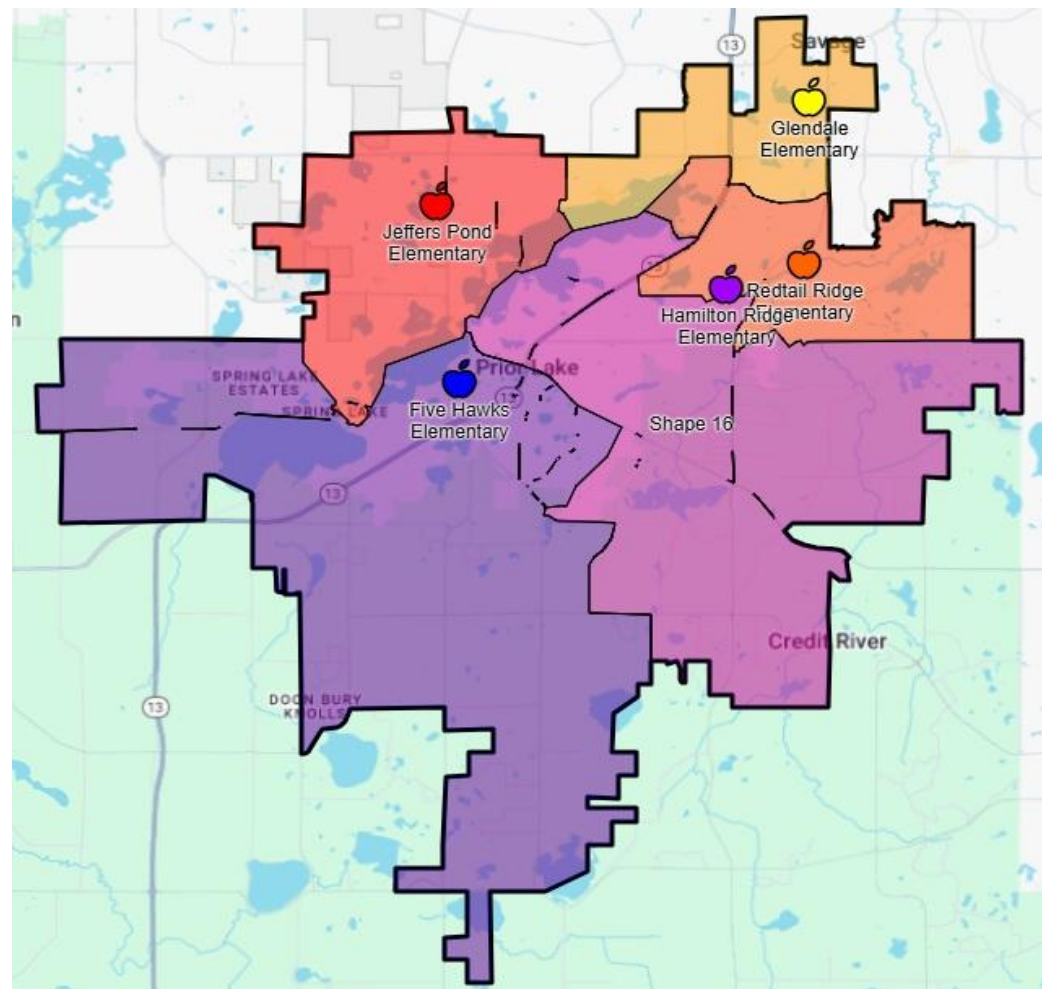
Scenario D

Analysis

- Meets all minimum criteria
- Highest number of students affected
- Lower average bus ride times, but does increase ride times for RR
- Less future proof with HR in center
- Balanced enrollment, all schools below 77.3%
- Would need to swap a school in the 2nd tier with a school in the 3rd tier start time to accommodate bus needs
- Will require a start time change at 2 locations total of 960 students
- 649 students will have a location change
- Total 1609 total students affected

Scenario E

Red = Jeffers Pond
Blue = Five Hawks
Purple = Hamilton Ridge
Orange = Redtail Ridge
Yellow = Glendale



Scenario E

Analysis

- Meets all minimum requirements
- Most balanced enrollment, all schools below 75%
- Shorter average bus ride times
- Most future proof, allows for growth in all locations
- High number of students affected
- Does not require changing start times at any schools
- Total students affected 635

Matrix to be Developed for Ranking of Scenarios

- Report is in the works with Location Analytics
- A ranking of 1-10 for points with
 - 1 = meeting minimal criteria not as advantageous
 - 10 = criteria is met and contributes to most advantageous outcome
- Measurement of scenarios will assist in ranking and determination of the final recommendation

Guiding Change



Guiding Change Parameters Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools Elementary Attendance Boundary Process for 2026-27 School Year

Current Reality “The Why”	Unacceptable Means “The Not How”	Results “The What”
Why Elementary Attendance Boundary Changes are Needed Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools is adjusting elementary attendance boundaries to reflect board-approved site consolidation decisions. These decisions are part of the district's plan to optimize resources to adjust for current and projected enrollment. The following facility changes have been approved: • Closing WestWood Elementary as a neighborhood school in fall 2026 • Relocating La ola del lago at Grainwood to the WestWood building • Closing and selling the District Services Center, with staff relocating to Grainwood (proceeds from the sale—where allowed by law—will be used to help offset the district's projected budget shortfall) With these facility changes set, the district now needs to redraw elementary attendance boundaries to make the best use of available space, balance enrollment across schools and improve operational efficiency.	We will not: • Violate laws or policies • Create unreasonable inequities within buildings or across programs • Significantly increase transportation costs • Create non-contiguous boundaries • Exceed identified capacities of buildings	Desired Results As a result of updating elementary attendance boundaries starting in 2026-27, Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools seeks to: • Balance enrollment across elementary schools to ensure efficient use of space • Support the relocation and growth of La ola del lago in its new home at WestWood • Minimize disruption to students, families and staff to the greatest extent possible • Ensure equitable access to programs and learning opportunities for all elementary students • Review transportation efficiencies including adjustments to school start times • Maintain Early Childhood programming at Edgewood School and nature-based program at Jeffers Pond • Keep the final cohort of 5th grade SAGE students together at WestWood • Ensuring a thoughtful transition that maintains continuity of services for students • Consider an Opt-In for transportation needs at the HS



Timeline



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Date	Meeting Type	Time	Topics
August 12	Senior Leaders	9:00 a.m.	- Develop attendance boundary parameters - Determine attendance boundary committee
August 14	Learning Leaders Retreat	8:00 a.m.	- Collect feedback on timeline and process - Determine elementary rep. for F&O Committee - Discuss start times - Parameters
August 25	School Board Study Session	6:00 p.m.	Present parameters, timeline and committee for Board feedback
Aug. 27: - Transportation develops boundary map options based on established parameters - Communications update to staff & families on committee, parameters and timeline			
September 9	Finance & Operations Committee	8:00 a.m.	Review up to 4 boundary map options
September 22	School Board Study Session	6:00 p.m.	Present early boundary map options, gather input, MDE notification
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Dates subject to change



Ongoing Communication

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Questions and Feedback

