

Quincy School Board adopts K-5 boundary plan for new schools

Quincy Public School District # 172
Boundary Advisory Task Force
Map 3.01 Revised 07Feb17

Task Force Goal

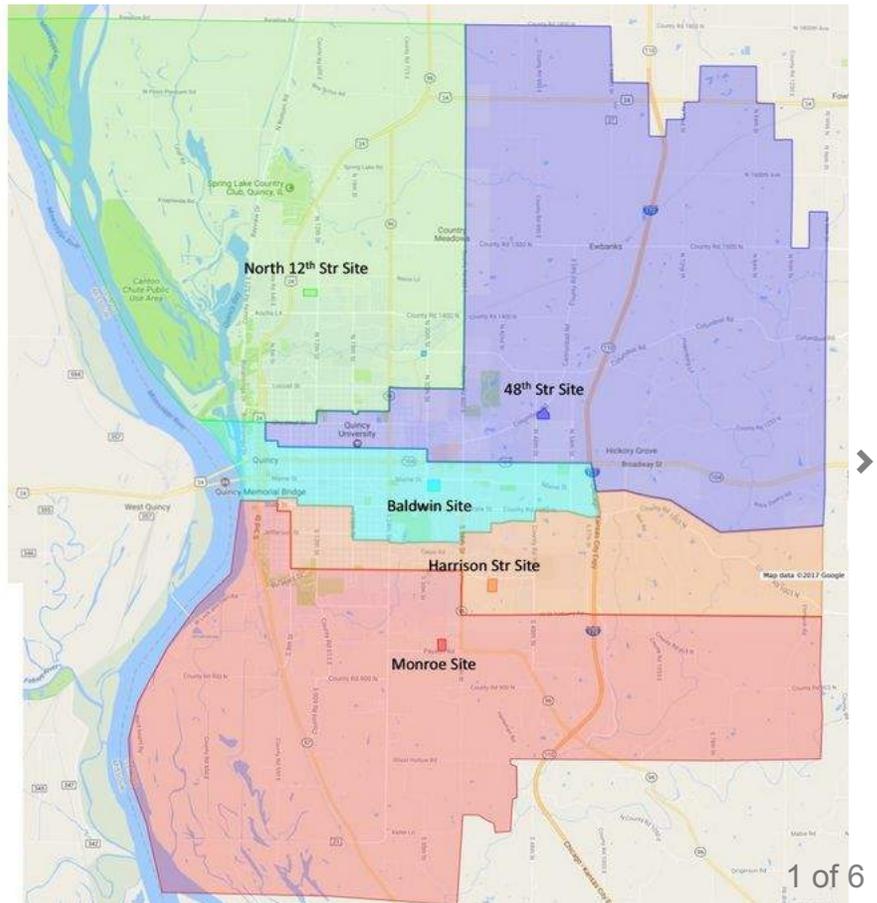
Improved Educational Outcomes and Opportunities for All Students

Guiding Principles

- Achieve a more balanced socioeconomic demographic among the five new elementary schools while evenly dispersing students by numbers to maintain balanced classroom sizes and school populations.
- Attendance boundaries should recognize district-wide needs. The attendance boundaries should reflect what is in the best interest of all students in the district.
- Attendance boundaries should recognize the importance of maintaining boundaries as long as possible, but recognize the reality that enrollment changes may require future changes in boundaries.

	Enrollment	% of Free & Reduced	% of Minority	% of IEP
North 12th Street	576	64.4%	21.9%	17.0%
48th Street	581	65.4%	24.1%	17.4%
Baldwin Site	582	66.8%	23.2%	14.3%
Harrison Street Site	586	59.4%	19.5%	14.0%
Monroe Site	578	61.1%	18.2%	15.7%

	K	1	2	3	4	5
North 12th Street	95	93	101	77	108	102
48th Street	81	103	105	93	107	92
Baldwin Site	105	96	99	97	92	93
Harrison Street Site	112	77	91	102	105	99
Monroe Site	96	107	96	87	88	104



By **Deborah Gertz Husar** Herald-Whig

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QUINCY -- Quincy's K-5 students now know what school site they will attend in the 2018-19 school year.

The Quincy School Board adopted a plan Wednesday night proposed by the Boundary Advisory Task Force that assigns students to the five new elementary schools.

The plan also came with task force recommendations on other issues for the board to consider, ranging from the transfer policy to transportation concerns, including the need to transport more students. Other issues include public transit service to the school sites and adjustments needed to better serve parents, families and students better not only during the day, but also for evening activities.

"These are concerns of the community. We need to address these," said School Board member Sheldon Bailey, who served on the task force. "When you move a school away from a community, you change the community maybe not in a good way. Is there something we can do to fill that gap?"

The attendance boundary plan, revised in January after an initial presentation in November, maintained the same criteria of creating learning



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communities with equal enrollment and more balanced socioeconomic demographics.

Bailey said the plan will help end segregation in Quincy.

"Just by looking at numbers in our schools, our low-income population and high minority population are concentrated in a certain couple geographies, and this kind of levels that playing field," he said. "Decades of data says low income, not race, is a negative factor for academic performance. So if you minimize some of these effects in the school system by the programs we offer, by the way we establish our student population, maybe we can minimize some of those effects, not eliminate them, but minimize them so all students actually perform better."

School Board and task force member Jim Whitfield said he was happy with the boundary plan.

"The boundaries are pretty fair," Whitfield said. "People really took into consideration to try and have the schools mirror one another."

All five sites will serve a portion of Quincy's population west of Eighth Street, but boundaries for the 48th Street and Harrison sites don't reach to the Mississippi River. The Baldwin site boundaries are the most compact, a narrow band stretching from the river to Interstate 172 and basically from Oak and Broadway to Madison and State.

The task force -- designed to improve educational outcomes and opportunities for all students by achieving balanced demographics among the five new elementary schools -- began its work in September.

"There was good, and there was bad. Overall it was all good," task force member Dennis Williams said. "We learned some things. The committee learned some things.

Bailey and Whitfield, Director of Transportation Shane Barnes, the five new K-5 learning community principals -- Chrissy Cox, Cindy Crow, Melanie Schrand, Jim Sohn and Brian Trowbridge -- and more than 30 community members served on the task force.

"There were a lot of good questions asked, not just by committee members, but by the community," Whitfield said.

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