

JCPS school changes: Some students could see resides school change

[Krista Johnson](#)

The boundary lines for some Jefferson County Public Schools will likely shift ahead of the next year to help with overcrowding in some areas.

Superintendent Marty Pollio told The Courier Journal earlier this month he will ask board members to approve shifts that would impact high schools in south Louisville, middle schools in east Louisville along with elementary schools near Fern Creek. This means that incoming kindergartners, sixth graders and freshman in these areas may be assigned to a different school than they would have been this year.

The changes are needed, in part, due to the new student assignment plan that was implemented last year.

"In a new student assignment plan, you have to adjust as you go along," Pollio said.

High schools impacted include Doss, Valley and Pleasure Ridge Park. Enrollment at Doss and Pleasure Ridge Park has grown significantly, while Valley's enrollment is far below the school building's capacity.

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PRP student population has grown by more than 250 students in the past two years and Doss has grown by about 270 students during that

time period, while Valley has lost more than 100 students. Valley has just 853 students, though the school could serve more than 1,300.

Beyond changes made to these schools' boundary lines with the student assignment plan, the shifts are also due to the establishment of Western High as a full magnet school. Too many students in one building puts a strain on staffing, while having too few students creates an issue of what offerings — such as advanced classes and extracurricular activities — the school can provide.

Echo Trail in eastern Louisville will also likely see its boundary lines shift. The new school is serving about 700 students in the sixth and seventh grades, but will fold eighth grade into the mix next year. Its building is designed to serve about 760 kids, though, leaving little room for the additional grade. Because of this, incoming sixth graders in the area currently assigned to attend Echo Trail could see their residence school change.

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The other group of schools expected to see changes are those near Bardstown Road in the Fern Creek area. Due to an increase in apartment development on that side of Louisville, Pollio said, those schools have seen an uptick in enrollment. For example, Goldsmith Elementary had less than 600 students three years ago but is now serving more than 650.

To find out which school your student is currently assigned to, [visit this JCPS' website](#) and enter your address.

Pollio did not specify when he would bring the boundary shifts to board

members, though they are expected to discuss potential start time changes in the coming months.

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