Our GIS-focused approach allows you to optimize attendance boundaries and model scenarios based on the criteria you choose.

Boundary Planning Services

GIS-BASED SOLUTIONS

Rapid or uneven enrollment shifts, demographic changes, political pressures, concerned parents, safe walking routes to schools, costs—these realities and more create complexities and difficulties that administrators face when tasked with reshaping school attendance boundaries. The Planware suite of software and services from Educational Data Systems can alleviate the burden and controversy of making changes by providing districts with fact-based and data-driven boundary scenarios.

Utilizing Geographic Information Systems (GIS), we create customized reports that identify the location of every student on a map and pinpoint how each boundary scenario impacts individuals, programs, and groups.

With specialized GIS services, we provide multiple scenarios that take into account school capacities, student demographics, natural barriers, travel distances, inter- and intra-district transfers, and more. These scenarios take the guesswork out of drawing attendance boundaries; and, when it comes time to present boundary changes to parents and the community, they provide verifiable data that demonstrate the rationale behind boundary decisions.

With the ability to produce multiple models that take into consideration numerous variables, you will not only be able to demonstrate why your ultimate decision was made, but why other alternatives would have come up short.

PLANware **A Division of Educational Data Systems**

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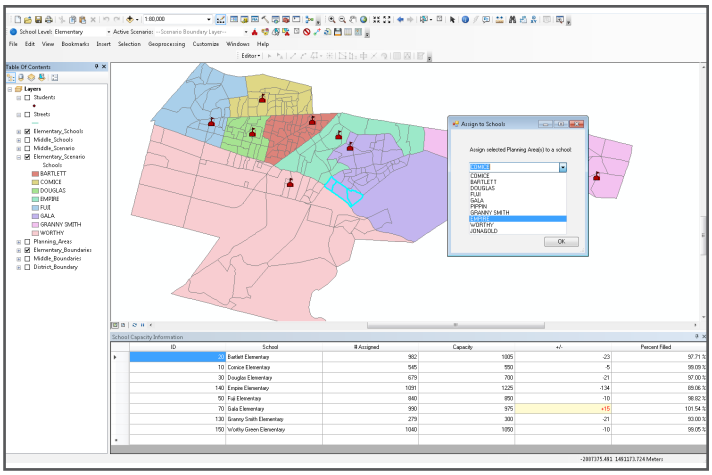
Boundary Optimization

Fundamental to our boundary planning service is the geographical display of student locations, which allows you to see students in relation to their school of attendance. Incorporating planner-imposed constraints, we assign students to the nearest school with available capacity. Constraints can include travel distance limits, safe street crossings, pre-assignment of housing areas or neighborhoods, or any other pertinent information.



The benefit of the optimization feature is the speed with which various district-wide assignment plans can be generated. Multiple scenarios can quickly be created until a desired solution is found. Images and reports of scenarios may be inserted into presentations or board materials.

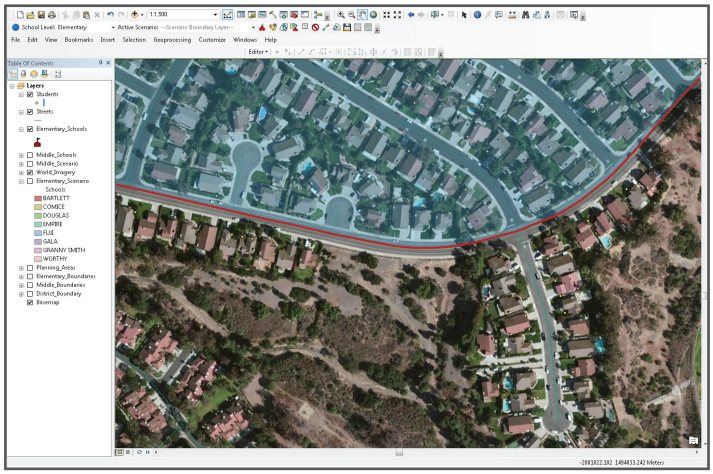
Multi-layered GIS Database

Our attendance boundary planning system uses a database of students, schools, and other geographic information in the planning process, allowing the district to achieve maximum facility utilization and develop contiguous school attendance areas.

Changing the assignment of students from one school to another automatically alters the affected schools' enrollments, grade level distributions, ethnic distributions, transfer assignments, and average distance traveled. You decide what to control for based on what is most important to your district and community. We create model boundary scenarios that allow you to quantify and visualize the impact each different boundary decision will have on your students.

Benefits of Planware's GIS Boundary Planning Services:

- Present graphical representation of numerous boundary scenarios
- Prevent unintended consequences of well-meant plans
- Pre-assign specific neighborhoods or students to certain schools
- Maximize utilization capacities
- Limit exposure to dangerous roads on walks to school
- Make decisions based on rationales that can be supported with data
- Store all planning information in one location



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