Path to Successful Boundary Change
AN EFFECTIVE PROCESS FOR EVALUATING AND MODIFYING SCHOOL ATTENDANCE BOUNDARIES

GATHER & ANALYZE DATA
Create a committee to gather and analyze data on projected enrollments, demographics, school capacities, and district goals

THE BIG QUESTION: “What principles should guide our decisions and compromises as we plan new boundaries?”

USE DATA TO:
Optimize facility use
Minimize transportation time and costs
Balance student demographics
Align feeder patterns
Review grade configurations
Meet policy requirements
Satisfy other local needs

COMMUNICATE WITH THE COMMUNITY
The committee recommends boundary change decisions based on the data-analysis and guiding principles.
TWO WAY COMMUNICATION IS KEY to leading the entire community to understand the solution.

FINALIZE POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS
The committee uses feedback, data, and agreed-upon criteria to develop recommendations to present to the school board. The school board provides input on the plan and the committee refines the recommendations. Another round of revisions may be necessary before the school board votes on the final solution.

Provide indicators for how the solutions solve challenges, such as percentage of utilized capacity at each school and average transportation time.

APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT THE PLAN
The school board votes on the final boundary plan, which includes community feedback, data and recommendations from the committee. District leaders create an implementation plan that includes a timeline of events, communication plan, and FAQs for the community.

By establishing guiding principles, promoting community involvement, and using data to drive recommendations, school districts are better positioned to make smooth boundary transitions that create good learning environments for students and teachers.