



## New High School/New School Attendance Assignments FAQ's

**Q.** Where is the new High School going to be built?

**A.** The new high school will be built on 80 acres on the west side of Sommers Road, approximately ½ mile north of Discovery Ridge Elementary. You can view a map of the property location on the District website at <http://wentzville.k12.mo.us/mod/resource/view.php?id=2184>

**Q.** When will the new high school be completed, and how will it be filled with students?

**A.** The groundbreaking is scheduled for early 2012, and the new high school is scheduled to be open for a freshman class in August of 2013. The first year the school would have only freshmen students, the second year it would have freshmen and sophomores, etc. The first graduating class from the new high school would be the class of 2017.

**Q.** What will the new high school look like?

**A.** The District design team has spent months working on a site development concept plan and a building concept plan, and both have been approved by the WSD Board of Education. The site plan takes into consideration the natural characteristics of the site, desired orientation of the various athletic fields, appropriate parking capacity, anticipated traffic patterns, as well as future building and site development. The building plan outlines the instructional and support spaces needed in both current and future phases. You can view the site plan and the building plan on the District website at <http://wentzville.k12.mo.us/mod/resource/view.php?id=7932>

**Q.** Who will attend the new high school the first year?

**A.** For the 2013-14 school year, the initial freshman class will be comprised of the students who will be 8<sup>th</sup> graders in the Frontier Middle School boundaries during the 2012-13 school year.

**Q.** What if my student at the new high school is capable of taking advanced classes?

**A.** The new high school will offer the same classes that are available to freshmen at the other two high schools. In some rare instances students might be bused to another high school to take advantage of an Advanced Placement class.

**Q.** What high school activities will be available (and at what level) the first and second year?

**A.** The activities available at the other two high schools will be available at the new high school. Depending on the sport, some teams might be able to compete on the varsity level. Athletes in individual sports would be able to compete at the district level and an outstanding freshman or sophomore athlete could still win an individual Missouri State Title in swimming, wrestling, tennis, golf, cross country, or track and field.

**Q.** How did you decide which students will be attending the new high school?

**A.** In preparation for the opening of the new high school, the WSD formed a committee organized by the Administrative Services Department and made up of one parent representative from each school in the District to determine school attendance assignments. This is not a school boundary change for the elementary schools, but a change in school assignments for some middle and high school students. With nine elementary schools, three middle schools and soon a third high school, the District has an opportunity to realign attendance assignments so all of the students from three elementary schools attend one middle school, and all of those students attend one high school. After several meetings and careful consideration of the charge, the School Assignment Committee recommended the new school assignments. The committee considered multiple factors which included location, enrollment balance, transportation, and future transitions. To view the proposed attendance diagram and map, please visit the District website at [http://wentzville.k12.mo.us/file.php/32/New\\_School\\_Assignments\\_for\\_2012.pdf](http://wentzville.k12.mo.us/file.php/32/New_School_Assignments_for_2012.pdf)

**Q.** Why are you making middle school students move next year?

**A.** The addition of 20 new classrooms at South Middle School will be complete for the 2012 school year, and utilizing those classrooms will ease the crowding at Frontier Middle School. Moving the middle school students for the 2012 school year also gives them the opportunity to make friends and form bonds with their future high school classmates. The transition to high school can be difficult enough without having to make new friends as well.

**Q.** Where will the current 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Frontier go next year?

**A.** The current 8<sup>th</sup> graders at FMS will still attend the high school to which they were previously assigned.

**Q.** Why have you not allowed “grandfathering” of middle school students so they can stay at their current middle school?

**A.** The School Assignment Committee reviewed this concept and determined the best course would be to gather students into their companion groups as quickly as possible. As a result, the 2012-13 middle school students will be placed with their future high school graduating class of peers. The committee believed this was in the best interest of students as they transition into high school. The intra-district transfer process will be available for families who wish to consider another option, but the committee believes most students will want to attend middle school with their future high school peers. The principals and staff at each middle school are committed to working closely with students and families to ensure that this is a smooth transition for all.

**Q.** I have a student who is currently in high school; will they be required to move as part of the new assignments?

**A.** No, current high school students will not be asked to move to a different high school.

**Q.** With the new attendance assignments, I will have two children at different high schools. What can I do if I want them to attend the same high school?

**A.** All District residents have the option to apply for an intra-district transfer for their students to change schools. These requests can be made by email, letter, or by using the “Intra-District Transfer Request” form available in each school. The District guidelines and form for all intra-district transfers are available on the District website at <http://wentzville.k12.mo.us/file.php/28/2011%20Intra-District%20Form.pdf>

**Q.** Will school boundaries or attendance assignments change again?

**A.** As the fastest growing school district in the state of Missouri, there is always the possibility that at some point in the future more changes might be necessary. Demographic considerations such as the number of new students and where in the District they reside would greatly impact any decision.