

# A History of MCCSC: School Plans and Redistricting

**July, 1968:** Bloomington Metropolitan Schools and seven of the nine townships in Monroe County incorporate to form the Monroe County Community School Corporation.

**1972:** Smithville, Unionville and University High Schools closed; new Bloomington High School North opened; students redistricted. [BHS North enrollment larger than BHS South]

**1974-75:** Hunter and McCalla Elementary Schools closed; new Batchelor Middle School occupied Central and Smithville Middle Schools closed; students redistricted.

**1976-77:** New Lakeview Elementary occupied; Harrodsburg, Kirksville, and Smithville Elementary Schools closed; students redistricted.

**1982-83:** Elm Heights Elementary School closed, students redistricted.

**1983-84:** Alternative High School closed

**1984-85:** Sixth graders moved back to elementary schools; Binford and Dyer became elementary schools; Tri-North School opened at BHS North (created two middle schools, Batchelor and Tri-North, feeding into two high schools); Unionville and University Middle Schools and Brown and Sanders elementary Schools closed; students redistricted. {BHS South enrollment increased.}

**1989-90:** Redistricting committee studied imbalance in high school enrollments and expected growth in BHS South district; additional students redistricted to BHS North

**1990-91:** New Highland Park School opened; new and larger Clear Creek Elementary replaced older school; students redistricted accordingly.

**1992-94:** New University Elementary School and new, larger Templeton Elementary School opened. Students within a three mile radius of Templeton were invited to apply for transfer with transportation provided in an effort to increase enrollment without redistricting.

**1994-95:** Board determines major redistricting needed.

**February 1995:** Interim Supt. Jim Harvey started a conversation about redistricting. Board decides to wait for the new superintendent to begin redistricting plan.

**February 1995:** Dr. Coomer began to talk about the necessity of redistricting and a Redistricting Committee was formed.

**1996:** A series of meetings were held with building principals to assess capacity and building needs by looking at specific maps of buildings for areas of need.

**April 3, 1996:** Dr. Coomer had a meeting with the Redistricting Committee outlining a schedule to meet with building principals.

**May 28, 1996:** Dr. Coomer requests a meeting on June 17 to meet with the all principals to assess “room” and needs in their buildings.

**June 13, 1996:** A redistricting survey was given to a variety of community members (board members, city planners, realtors, social workers, teachers etc.)

**June 1996:** The redistricting committee met with PTO reps at all schools.

**July:** Collection of information from ad hoc committees that included city planners, PTO members, social workers, etc. (same group of people who were given the redistricting survey)

**August 20, 1996:** Goals of redistricting were outlined. The goals were as follows:

- Eliminate overcrowding in school
- Minimize busing
- Maintain neighborhood schools
- Retain diversity among student populations
- Solicit input from all community stakeholders (parents, students, faculty, etc...)

**October 1996:** Public forums were set for October 14, October 30<sup>th</sup> at two elementary schools. Committee listens with no comment.

**January 24, 1997:** The redistricting committee put together its draft recommendations for redistricting

**March 6, 1997:** The redistricting committee finalizes its report to the School Board

**March 27, 1997:** Meetings were held at BHS North to discuss the recommendations

**April 1, 1997:** Dr. Coomer wrote a memorandum stating that the Board recommended adopting the redistricting plan

**\*\*Fall 1998:** Jackson Creek Middle school Opens

**2000:** 90 students from Grandview changed schools due to overpopulation

**2001:** Jackson Creek has 100 more students than Batchelor and Tri-North. Hoosier Acres, Gentry Estates, and a few other areas shifted from Jackson Creek to Tri-North.

**2005:** Secondary Realignment Task Force created to review potential impact of shifting neighborhoods from the southeast side of town to Tri-North and Bloomington North. Much contentious community input and discussion has been archived. “Parents Against Redistricting” group was formed and emotional board meetings and communication with the community led to the final decision at the end of 2005.

**December, 2005:** The Board voted 4-3 to approve the redistricting effort.

**2024-25-** It has been 20 years since the last redistricting took place in the MCCSC.