**Grade Configuration & MS Boundaries**

The Board of Education voted unanimously at their Nov. 9 meeting to approve staff recommendations on elementary grade reconfigurations at 17 schools and the alignment of middle school boundaries. The vote caps a process begun in June to discuss sixth grade configurations throughout the District. Details of the recommendations can be found via the "Approved Changes" link on the left.

Currently, San Juan Unified offers sixth grade in multiple configurations (K-6, K-8, and 6-8) which has lead to increasing fragmentation of sixth grade enrollments. In recent years, the number of sixth graders choosing a middle school format has grown to 33 percent which has resulted in elementary schools unable to offer two sixth grade classes, creation of combination classes, and overloads of students. The recommendations approved tonight seek to minimize under enrolled sixth grade classes, combination classes, and student overloads while continuing to provide families a choice in school configurations.

The 17 schools that will move from K-6 to K-5 configurations were selected because they have a demonstrated history of repeatedly needing to use combination classes or not being able to offer two full-sixth grade classes. Offering a minimum of two classes per grade level offers the opportunity for teachers to have grade-level collaboration with colleagues which is one of the key professional development strategies employed in the District. Of the 17 schools, 16 will move from K-6 to K-5 configurations while one school, Twin Lakes Elementary, will move to a K-8 configuration.

Middle school boundaries were adjusted to ensure that each elementary school's attendance area falls completely within a single middle school boundary. The changes allow for clear articulation patterns to be formed which will help schools coordinate instruction between the elementary and middle school levels.

All configuration changes will become effective for the 2011/12 school year. Families impacted by the changes will be notified directly.

The original staff proposal was discussed during a Board workshop in June. District staff then conducted four broad community meetings along with Principals hosting individual school meetings to share the proposal. Staff and the Board heard from hundreds of community members through the forums, letters, e-mails, and submissions via the District's Web site before taking action on the item.

**Schools moving from K-6 to K-5 for 2011/12:**

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| Arlington Heights Elementary |
| Cameron Ranch Elementary |
| Carmichael Elementary |
| Citrus Heights Elementary |
| Cottage Elementary |
| Edison Elementary |
| Grand Oaks Elementary |
| Greer Elementary |
| Mariemont Elementary |
| Mariposa Elementary |
| Oakview Elementary |
| Ottomon Elementary |
| Pasadena Elementary |
| Schweitzer Elementary |
| Trajan Elementary |
| Whitney Avenue Elementary |