

Regular Board Meeting – January 18, 2011

SUBJECT: K-5 REDISTRICTING OPTIONS

Overview

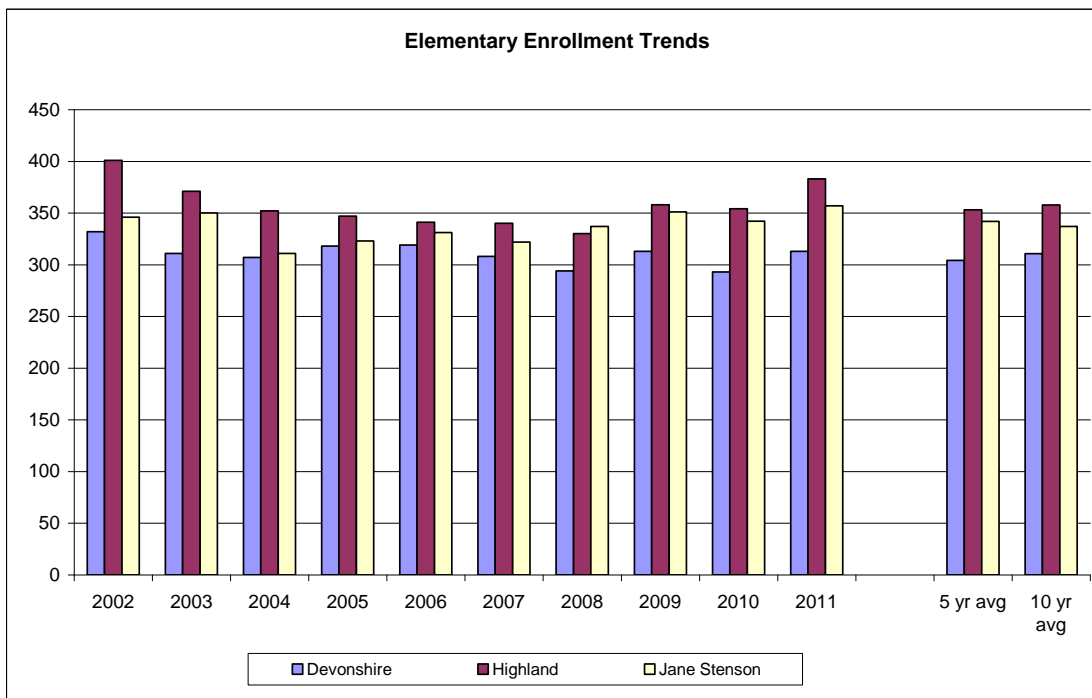
In October 2010, the Board reviewed K-5 enrollment trend data and related facility and staffing issues. In December, 2010, three possible options (Appendix A) were provided by district administration for K-5 redistricting. The Board discussed the three options from the philosophical perspective of whether it was preferable to move many students among the three wing schools to more logically align attendance boundaries versus maintain somewhat awkward attendance boundaries to disrupt fewer students. In all options, the families who would be impacted live in the triangle area bordered by Skokie Boulevard, Gross Point Road, and Dempster Street which has the highest concentration of students in the district.

Review of Data

The following charts provide enrollment trend data across the three wing schools, class sectioning data, staffing implications, and the numbers of students and families impacted by each redistricting option:

Chart 1: Enrollment Trends

This chart illustrates that Highland and Stenson have sustained higher annual enrollment than Devonshire over a ten-year period.



	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	5 yr avg	10 yr avg
Devonshire	332	311	307	318	319	308	294	313	293	313	304	311
Highland	401	371	352	347	341	340	330	358	354	383	353	358
Jane Stenson	346	350	311	323	331	322	337	351	342	357	342	337

Chart 2: Class Sectioning Data

Based on 6th day enrollment, this chart highlights the fact that Highland and Stenson have more classroom sections at the opening of the school year than Devonshire. More grade-level classroom sections can translate into the potential for lower class sizes. Devonshire has at times sustained higher class sizes than Highland and Stenson because the Devonshire enrollment in August at a grade level is often close to, but does not exceed, class size guidelines. New grade-level sections are opened when enrollment exceeds class guidelines, resulting in smaller class size. We have opened new classroom sections at Devonshire as late as the end of November if students continue to enroll throughout the fall. Balancing enrollment across the three wing schools will potentially stabilize class size at Devonshire, reducing the disruption caused by opening new classroom sections after the school year has begun.

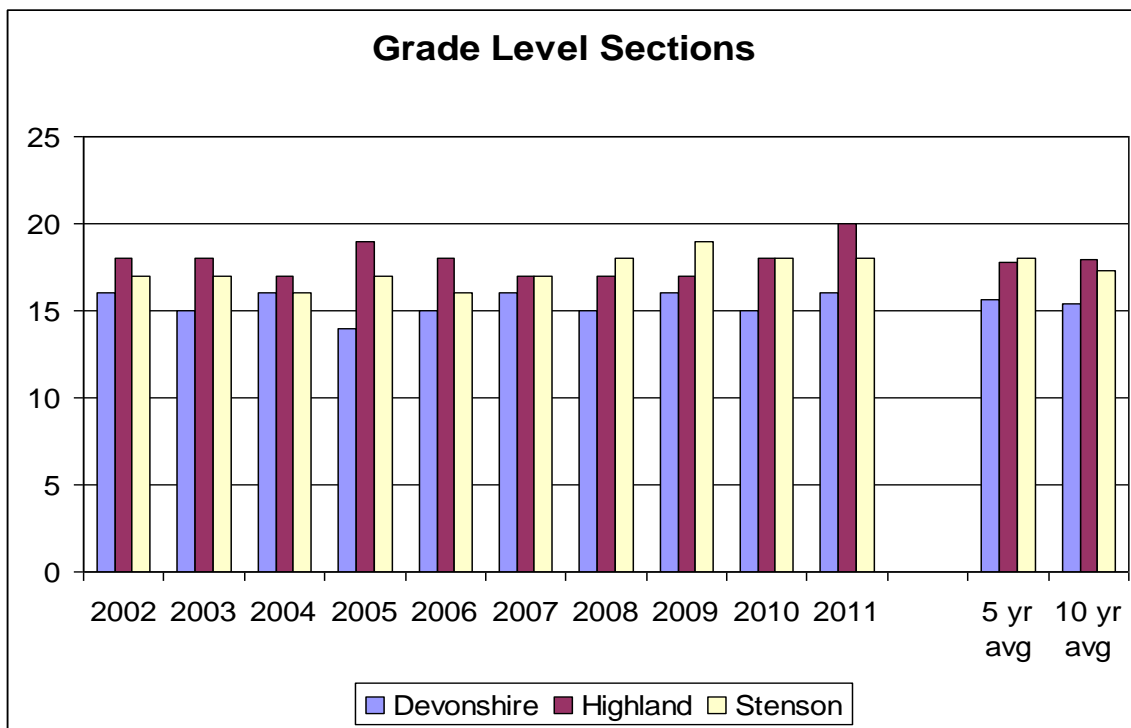


Chart 3: Staffing Allocations and Classroom Sectioning

This chart illustrates the need for additional part-time staffing in the co-curricular areas of physical education and/or general music. Seventeen classroom sections per K-5 school equate to a full-time teaching load for our co-curricular, or “specials” teachers. When a school has eighteen or more class sections, we incur additional staffing costs and are often challenged to find high-quality, certified teachers for part-time positions at various times of the school day.

K-5 Sections	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Devonshire	16	15	16	14	15	16	15	16	15	16
Highland	18	18	17	19	18	17	17	17	18	20
Stenson	17	17	16	17	16	17	18	19	18	18

18 or more sections

Chart 4: Number of Students and Families Impacted by Redistricting

This chart summarizes the number of students and families currently enrolled that would be impacted by Redistricting Options 1, 2, and 3 (Appendix A).

Current School	New School		Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Highland	Devonshire	Students	27		
		Families	22		
Highland	Stenson	Students		32	22
		Families		27	18
Stenson	Devonshire	Students		37	25
		Families		29	21
Total Impact		Students	27	69	47
		Families	22	56	39

Note: the relocation of the ELL Kindergarten will shift enrollment of approximately 17 students from Jane Stenson to Devonshire as part of Option 1.

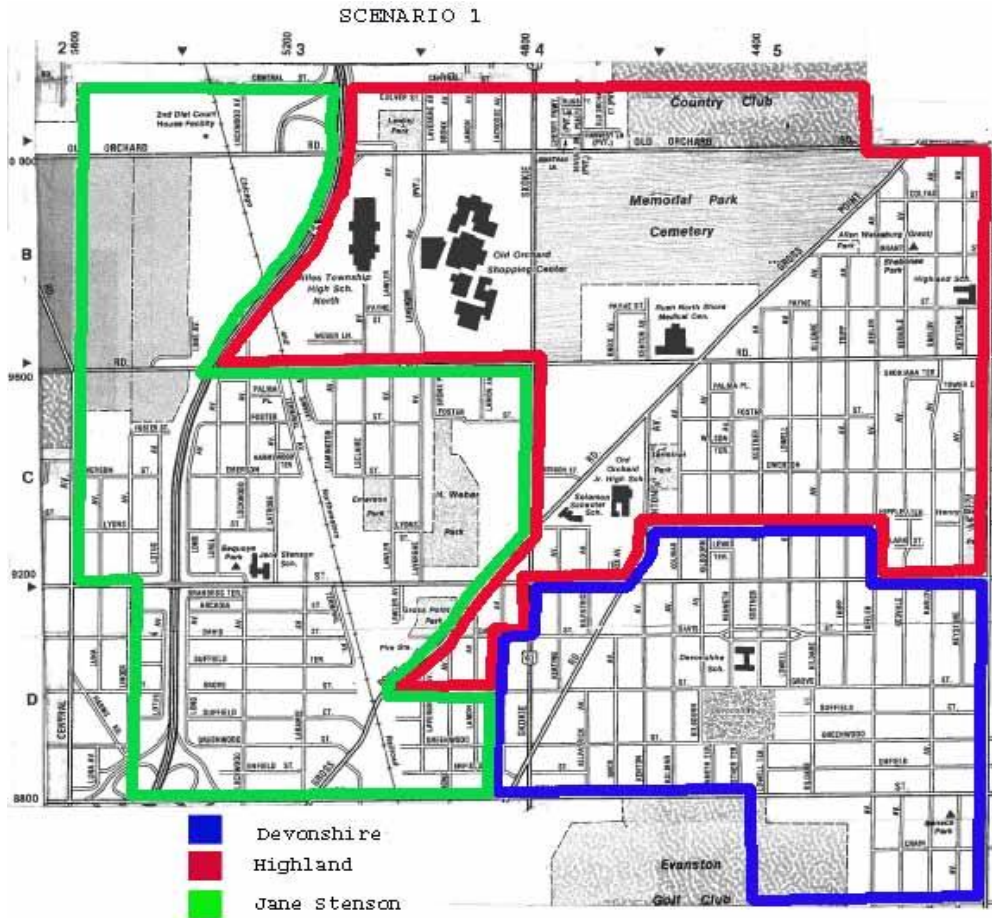
Conclusion

The enrollment trend data across our three K-5 schools reflect a sustained, disproportionate distribution of students. The administration recommends Option 1 as the least disruptive, most efficient redistricting plan. We believe Option 1 will maintain a more balanced enrollment across the three wing schools for the foreseeable future, will create the potential for lower class size at Devonshire, deploy co-curricular staff in a more efficient and cost-effective manner, and impact the fewest number of students and families.

APPENDIX A
Excerpt from December 14, 2010 Board Meeting

Option 1

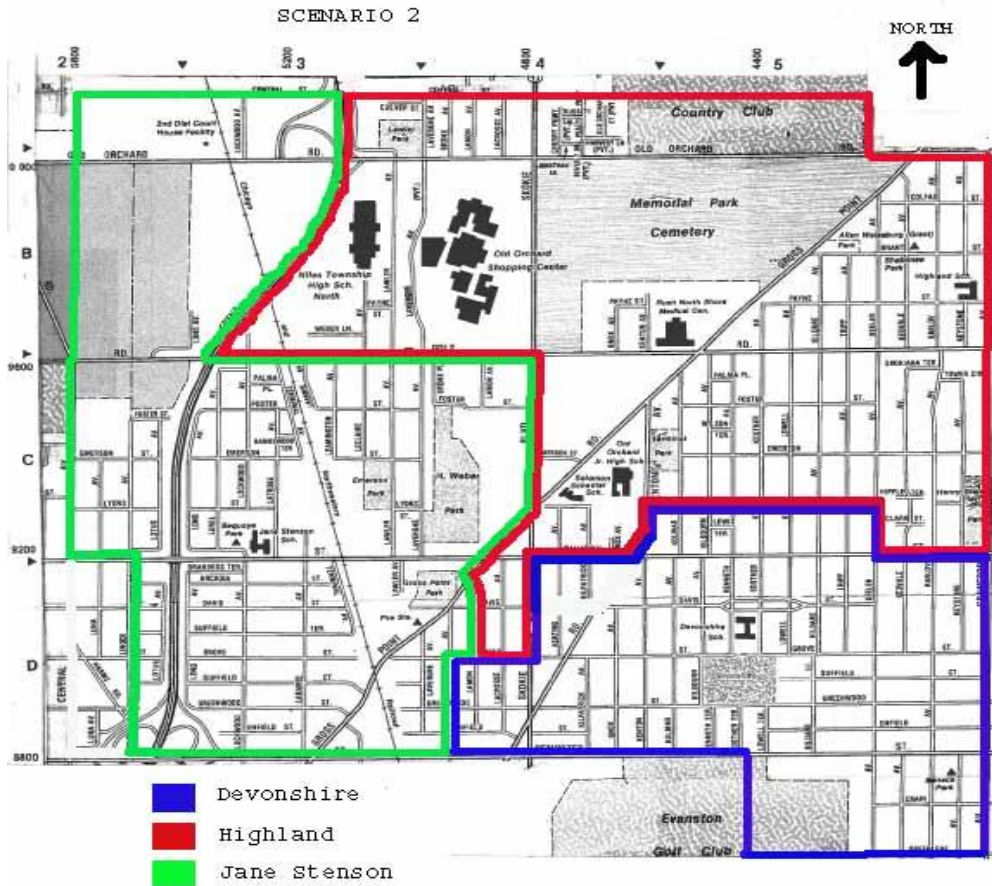
Extend the Devonshire attendance area that is currently on the west side of Skokie Boulevard one block north to Davis Street and relocate the ELL Kindergarten from Stenson to Devonshire.



Grade	Devonshire	Highland	Stenson
Kdg	55	44	57
1	62	62	65
2	63	52	57
3	46	60	56
4	55	54	53
5	60	76	52
Sub-total	341	348	340
District Programs	17	9	0
Total	358	357	340
Free/Reduced %	50.8%	45.7%	46.2%
Ethnicity			
American Indian	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%
Asian	28.2%	36.1%	31.8%
Black	10.9%	11.8%	11.8%
Hispanic	12.8%	14.6%	17.9%
White	43.3%	33.6%	32.1%
Mixed Race	4.7%	3.9%	6.2%

Option 2

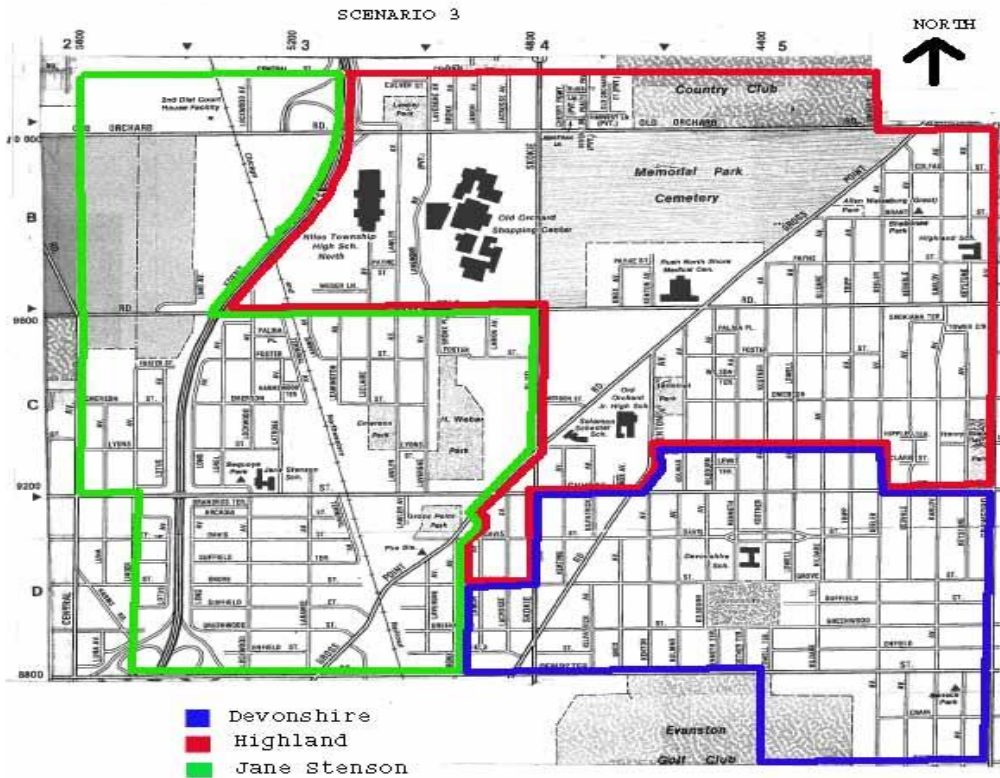
Extend the Devonshire attendance area west to Bronx Avenue, moving that group of students from Jane Stenson and move the portion of the current Highland attendance area bordered by Grove Street, Lamon Avenue, and Gross Point Road into the Jane Stenson attendance area.



Grade	Devonshire	Highland	Stenson
Kdg	58	46	52
1	62	67	60
2	63	49	60
3	52	56	54
4	56	53	53
5	60	72	56
Sub-total	351	343	335
District Programs	0	9	17
Total	351	352	352
Free/Reduced %	51.6%	44.3%	46.9%
Ethnicity			
American Indian	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%
Asian	28.2%	36.6%	31.3%
Black	12.3%	10.2%	11.9%
Hispanic	13.1%	15.3%	16.8%
White	41.3%	34.1%	33.8%
Mixed Race	5.1%	3.7%	6.0%

Option 3

Extend the Devonshire attendance area west to the alley between Bronx Avenue and Lamon Avenue moving that group of students from Jane Stenson and extend that boundary north from Grove Street to Gross Point Road, relocating students west of that boundary from Highland to Jane Stenson. Relocate the Instructional Kindergarten from the Highland to the Devonshire attendance area.



Grade	Devonshire	Highland	Stenson
Kdg	55	47	54
1	59	68	62
2	62	50	60
3	50	60	52
4	55	53	54
5	58	75	55
Sub-total	339	353	337
District Programs	9	0	17
Total	348	353	354
Free/Reduced %	50.3%	44.8%	47.7%
Ethnicity			
American Indian	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%
Asian	28.2%	36.5%	31.4%
Black	13.8%	10.2%	10.5%
Hispanic	11.8%	15.3%	18.1%
White	41.1%	34.3%	33.9%
Mixed Race	5.2%	3.7%	5.9%