



February 6, 2012

Dear Columbus Grove Parent Community:

We want to thank you for sharing your concerns and helping staff to understand the source of your frustrations related to the boundary change. After careful review of the Board Report, the Boundary Change Presentation, and the minutes from the June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Board Meeting, staff has clarified that the intent of the Board decision was to grandfather currently enrolled Columbus Grove students who will be in the second grade or above in the 2012-2013 school year AND their incoming siblings. After considering carefully the perspectives of the parent community and all of the documentation from the meeting, we realized that it was the use of the "sibling rule" language that created confusion, because the sibling rule does not, in fact, provide siblings the same priority as residents. So, to clarify moving forward, please know that our plan is to take the following steps:

1. All currently enrolled Columbus Grove students who will be in the **second grade or above** for the 2012-2013 school year will be allowed to continue as Stone Creek students.
2. The incoming siblings of these students shall also be allowed to enroll and remain at Stone Creek.
3. The currently enrolled Columbus Grove students and their incoming siblings will be given the same priority for placement as Stone Creek residents.

Another very important point of clarification is that any currently enrolled Kindergarten students from Columbus Grove, who do not have a sibling in the school, will not receive the same consideration. The Board direction was clear that the boundary change would affect Kindergarteners and first graders in the 2012-2013 school year. That said, after we have accommodated the Columbus Grove students and siblings who were grandfathered into the school and Stone Creek residents, if there is space available, we will accommodate these kindergartners as well.

If you have additional questions related to the actual enrollment process, we encourage you to contact the Stone Creek office staff. We would also like to reiterate that legacy siblings, those who might want to enroll after their other sibling has matriculated through, will not be grandfathered into the school. The intention of the School Board was to try to keep siblings together. However, if Stone Creek is participating in open enrollment, in the future, families may elect to submit for placement at Stone Creek through the open enrollment process.

We are deeply sorry for the anxiety and confusion that this process has created for our Columbus Grove Community, and we hope that this letter shall provide our families some measure of relief. We thank you for your patience, understanding, and continued support of Irvine schools.

Sincerely,

Cassie Parham

Assistant Superintendent, Education Services

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