

January 31, 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian of a Student residing in the Stonegate Residential Community:

Please carefully review the following letter, which provides important information about the middle and high school your son or daughter is assigned to, beginning in the fall of 2019. If you have a child currently enrolled in 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, this letter does not apply to that child. This letter is applicable to future students and/or students currently in Kindergarten through 7<sup>th</sup> grade, who are attending Irvine Unified School District schools and reside in the Stonegate Community.

As you are aware, Irvine is one of the fastest growing cities in the nation. The area east of the Santa Ana (5) Freeway continues to experience significant new residential growth, which has resulted in increased student enrollment. After several months of reviewing enrollment data, listening to feedback from the community and receiving input from the <u>Boundary Advisory</u> <u>Committee</u>, the IUSD Board of Education heard a final District staff presentation and public comments before making its decision to approve a boundary adjustment during the December 12, 2017 Board Meeting. This adjustment will keep the Stonegate Elementary School community cohort together and beginning in 2019, change the attendance areas from Portola High School to Northwood High School and from Jeffrey Trail Middle School to Sierra Vista Middle School.

The following boundary changes will begin in the fall of 2019:

- 1. The Stonegate Elementary School community area will change assignment for high school attendance from Portola High School to Northwood High School beginning with the incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade class in the fall of 2019.
- The Stonegate Elementary School community area will change assignment for middle school attendance from Jeffrey Trail Middle School to Sierra Vista Middle School beginning with the incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grade class in the fall of 2019.
- Students enrolled in 7<sup>th</sup> grade during the 2018-19 school year will not be affected by the change for middle school; however, their high school assignment will be changed to Northwood High School, as they enter 9<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Students who are enrolled in 9<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> grades for the 2018-19 school year will not have their high school attendance area affected.

## Siblings:

In the interest of keeping families together, younger siblings of students concurrently enrolled in a school may apply to attend the same school as their older sibling. Families may continue enrollment at their current middle school from 7<sup>th</sup> through their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year or their current high school from 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. A sibling request for a change in an assigned school can

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be submitted to the district through the Intra-district School Choice process in January prior to the year a student is transitioning between schools.

**Intra-district Transfers:** Additional information for intra-district transfers is available at the IUSD webpage by clicking on this link or typing this link into your web browser:

https://iusd.org/about/iusd-enrollment/intradistrict-school-choice

IUSD staff and the Board of Education recognize that altering school boundaries impacts our families. However, adjustments are necessary from time to time to manage enrollment shifts that create capacity issues and overcrowded campuses, which can have a negative effect on students in all of our schools. The boundary changes created for the 2019-20 school year were vetted through an extensive process, which involved a Boundary Adjustment Committee composed of parents, students, teachers, and administrators, a Board Study Session, and community meetings. Most importantly, we believe these changes will create stability for our families and communities as a whole.

You can reference new attendance boundary maps from the IUSD website under Enrollment at <u>https://iusd.org/about/iusd-enrollment/school-boundaries-assignments</u>. For more information about this detailed boundary adjustment process, visit <u>iusd.org/boundaryadjustments</u>. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact the principal of your assigned school.

Thank you,

Hat Turn

Keith Tuominen Executive Director / Education Services