



EDMOND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Empowering all students to succeed in a changing society

January 21, 2021

Dear EPS Elementary Families,

Many of you may already be aware that we will be opening our 18th elementary school, Redbud Elementary, in August 2021. At the January board meeting, Mrs. Evan Dargen, current principal at Angie Debo Elementary, was named to be the 2021-22 principal at Redbud for the next school year. As Mrs. Dargen begins making preparations for Redbud, district leaders are starting the boundary realignment process.

Anytime we open a new school, challenging decisions must be made. One of those biggest decisions is identifying the attendance boundaries for a new school. Not only will EPS be opening Redbud in August 2021, but we will also be opening Scissortail Elementary the following school year in August 2022. Having had the experience to be the principal of a new school when Frontier Elementary opened eight years ago, I know firsthand the anxiousness and anticipation parents are experiencing as they wait to hear if their attendance boundaries will be altered. In an effort to be as transparent as possible, I would like to outline for you the boundary realignment process.

EPS works closely with Templeton Demographics and uses their services to identify the populations of the various neighborhoods within Edmond school boundaries. We have established a boundary realignment committee composed of an administrator and a parent representative from each school. We have invited every school to participate in this committee in order to ensure any school that could potentially be affected by changes would be represented. Outlined below is the anticipated timeline for the committee meetings and upcoming boundary proposal.

January:

- 21st: Boundary Realignment committee established

February

- 3rd & 10th: Continued committee discussions

- 17th: A public forum where the proposed boundary suggestions for Redbud and Scissortail will be shared

March

- 3rd: Final committee meeting
- 10th: The committee presents the proposal to the school board

I understand that change can be difficult to embrace, but children are resilient. Students who will be moved to attend a new school, whether it be Redbud Elementary in August 2021 or Scissortail Elementary in August 2022, will make many unique memories such as helping to select the school colors or name their mascot. They will make new friends and get to know new teachers and administrators.

I want to thank you in advance for your understanding as we work together as a community to establish the boundaries for these two new schools. I will keep you informed and updated as frequently as possible.

Thank you for sharing your children with us!

Sincerely,

Cara Jernigan

Executive Director of Elementary Education