



**Board-to-Board, November 2021**

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*A monthly report from the Albemarle County School Board to the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors*

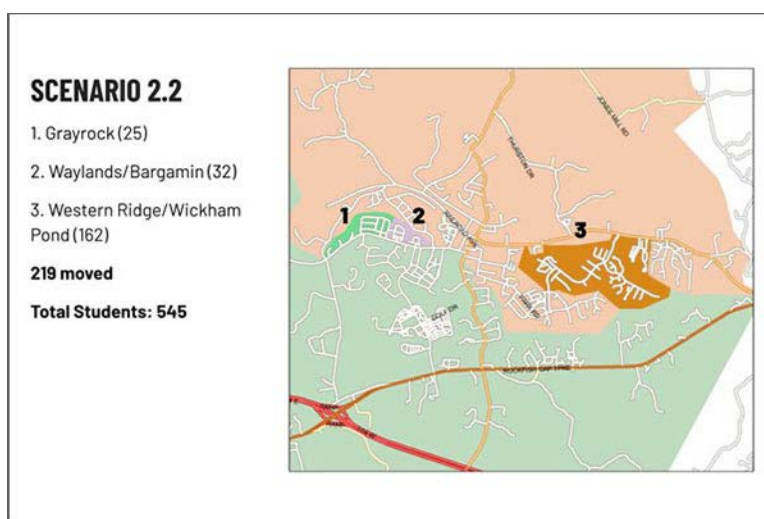
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***Redistricting Committee Will Recommend Moving 219 Students to Crozet Elementary School District***—At its meeting on November 15, the Crozet/Brownsville Redistricting Advisory Committee decided to recommend moving 219 students from three areas in the Crozet community to the Crozet Elementary School district who currently attend Brownsville Elementary School. Given progressive overcrowding at Brownsville, the committee was formed to help Albemarle County Public Schools (ACPS) draw new school boundaries that would ease concern around the school’s size and also make use of an [addition currently under construction at Crozet Elementary School](#). That addition will add capacity for about 340 more students at the school.

The committee’s recommendation would put students who live in the Grayrock, Waylands/Bargamin, and Western Ridge/Foothill Crossing/Wickham Pond neighborhoods of Crozet, currently districted to attend Brownsville, in the Crozet Elementary School district. Those neighborhoods would account for 25, 32, and 162 students, respectively, leaving space for future growth.

The committee based its recommendation on research that it conducted about the Crozet area, public feedback that it received at two community meetings held on November 4 and 9, and a public survey sent to the Brownsville/Crozet community on October 28. That survey showed one scenario, known as Scenario 2, to be the overwhelming preference of participants, with 70% of respondents saying that it would be the best possible option.

The committee applied the large amount of feedback it received to improve the preferred scenario, Scenario 2, before deciding to recommend a new version called [Scenario 2.2](#). The new scenario leaves students from the Route 240 to Oak Drive neighborhood who would have been moved to Crozet in Scenario 2 in the Brownsville district. That change to the scenario will help better balance enrollment numbers at both Brownsville and Crozet



elementary schools. Our survey responses suggested that this would also keep ride times for students reasonable while decreasing local traffic and keeping students at the school that is closest to them.

This recommendation will next go to the superintendent, Dr. Matthew Haas, on November 29 at 6 p.m. Interested members of the public can watch this meeting via livestream at <http://streaming.k12albemarle.org/ACPS/publicmeeting.htm>. Dr. Haas will present his recommendation to the Albemarle County School Board at their December 2 meeting. The board will hold a public hearing in January and vote on the superintendent's recommendation in the same month.

The new boundaries will go into effect for the 2022-23 school year, and the new attendance areas will serve the district for at least three to five years, with a goal of five to seven. The principles that guided the committee throughout this process have been the objectives of creating mostly contiguous attendance areas, considering walking areas and length of transportation routes, assigning neighborhoods to the same school whenever possible, and maximizing demographic balance where feasible.

More information on the redistricting process can be found on the division's [Crozet/Brownsville Redistricting](#) web page.

***Name Review Survey Shows a Majority of Respondents Are Familiar With Life of Philanthropist Broadus Ira Wood***—In a recent survey related to the Broadus Wood Elementary School name review, over 55% of respondents said they are familiar with the life and career of Broadus Ira Wood, the early 20th century farmer and businessman for whom the school was named. Almost 58% said that they were familiar with the school division's values of equity, excellence, family and community, and wellness. 62% said they had a meaningful understanding of the school's guiding principles of academic excellence, character development, love of learning, collaboration and independence, respect, and appreciation and awareness of others.

The survey received responses from 397 people including 111 Broadus Wood parents, 73 community members, and 168 students. It also asked those who took the survey which naming categories were important to consider in naming a school. The location of a school and the school's values topped that list.

At a recent public meeting of committee, Wood's grandson and great-granddaughter shared their memories of the man for whom the school is named, describing him as having been dedicated to the Earlysville community and to notions of equity for his fellow community members. Both family members said that Mr. Wood spent his life serving his community as a businessman, farmer, and member of the local school board.

A second public meeting will be held on November 30 at 6:30 p.m. Anyone who would like to speak at that meeting may sign up by emailing [SchoolNamingReview@k12albemarle.org](mailto:SchoolNamingReview@k12albemarle.org) by 9 a.m. on the day of the meeting. Members of the public may livestream the meeting at <http://streaming.k12albemarle.org/ACPS/schoolrenaming.htm>.

The 14-person advisory committee was recently chosen from among those who expressed interest in serving. Two members are the school's principal, Amy Morris, and the division's Community Education Coordinator, Karen Waters-Wicks. Katie Breaud, who serves the school as a talent development resource teacher, and Ray Chrobak, the school librarian, are the committee's co-chairs. Other members include parents of Broadus Wood students, alumni, and residents of the school community.

A second survey, which was sent to the community in earlier this month, asked for specific name suggestions. If Broadus Wood is one of the names chosen by survey respondents, the advisory committee will complete as much research as possible on the life of Mr. Wood in order to determine if it is consistent with school division values. The school naming review policy also requires the advisory committee to notify any descendants of the Broadus Wood family of the naming review, and has asked anyone who can be helpful in providing suggestions or assistance in identifying descendants to contact the committee.

Broadus Wood is the sixth school in the division to conduct a naming review. In directing that all schools in the division that are named for individuals have their names reviewed, the school board said the purpose should be to ensure that the names of all schools represent the division's four values of equity, excellence, family and community, and wellness.

Broadus Ira Wood, a farmer and local businessman who served on the local school board for over three decades, was born in Earlysville in 1864. In 1906, Wood sold four acres of his land for use as the site of Earlysville High School for \$50 and later gave the school two more acres to expand its playing fields. When Earlysville High School burned down in 1934, a new school was built in its place, this time named after Wood. The school transitioned for use as an elementary school in 1954.

The five previous school naming reviews also were conducted by volunteer community advisory committees, with the school board voting to change the name of four schools and to retain the name of another. Summaries of all completed reviews and those in progress are accessible from the school division's [School Names Under Review](#) web page.

In addition to the upcoming public meetings, feedback or questions are welcome at any time by emailing the advisory committee at [SchoolNamingReview@k12albemarle.org](mailto:SchoolNamingReview@k12albemarle.org).

***Nominations Open for the 2022 Golden Apple Awards for Teaching Excellence***—Community nominations are now open for the 2022 Golden Apple Awards. The program, which began in 2001, honors outstanding teachers in public and private schools in Albemarle County and Charlottesville City. Sponsored by Better Living Building Supply & Cabinetry, the awards recognize educators from preschool through the 12th grade for their influence on the success of their students.

Honorees are selected for a Golden Apple based upon their demonstrated excellence in the classroom, their innovative instructional strategies and techniques, and their partnership with parents and other community members. Nominations can be made by students, parents, other

educators, and members of the community. The [Golden Apple Nomination Form](#) is available on Albemarle County Public Schools' [Golden Apple Awards](#) web page.

One teacher will be selected from each of the 42 public and private schools and teaching programs in the city and county. Among the teaching programs included are, for example, the University of Virginia's Hospital Education Program and the county school division's Virtual School.

Nomination criteria include creating a love of learning among all students; stimulating thought and dialogue in the classroom; raising student expectations for success; understanding and providing for individual student needs; and involving families in the education process. In addition to receiving a Golden Apple, each award recipient will also receive a \$500 grant, which can be used for classroom materials or to support the teacher's professional development.

Dr. Kevin Castner, a retired superintendent of Albemarle County Public Schools, again is chairing the selection committee for the awards. The committee also includes parents and educators from both school divisions and representatives from the Virginia Association of Independent Schools.

The deadline for nominations is January 24, 2022. Previous Golden Apple recipients can be nominated for a second award providing that three years have elapsed since they received their award. The online ceremony honoring the 2022 recipients is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 19, 2022.