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**Julie L. Hackett, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

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October 31, 2019

Dear Lexington School Community Member:

Lexington is in the process of redistricting all (K-8) elementary and middle schools. As we navigate the difficult decisions ahead, many of you have made your voices heard. We are sincerely grateful for your interest and involvement. We designed the redistricting decision-making process to be responsive to community feedback, and we are learning that community members generally look favorably on our efforts to “right-size” overcrowded buildings. We also acknowledge and appreciate your questions and concerns regarding safety, walkability, neighborhood cohesion, grandfathering, and transportation.

To be responsive to your questions and concerns, we are extending the redistricting decision-making process. Over the course of the project over 20 different scenarios have been reviewed. Each review included transportation discussions with our Transportation Coordinator and administrators who oversee operations. At the last public hearing, community members asked whether it is possible to conduct a transportation study like the one that we used for the later school start times decision that was made last year.

Now that we have narrowed the scenarios down to one recommendation, we have enlisted the assistance of the Transportation Consultant to review the recommended redistricting scenario. Also, we have asked him to consider a version of the minimal impact scenario. We will have a preliminary update on his findings at the 11/05/19 School Committee meeting. We have adjusted the redistricting decision-making timeline to account for the Transportation Consultant’s study. The new schedule is as follows:

- November 5, 2019 - The School Committee will receive an update on the Transportation Consultant’s analysis of the original recommendation and an alternative minimal impact scenario. The meeting will be held in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room and will begin at 7:00 p.m.
- November 18, 2019 - The School Committee will hold an additional public hearing at Clarke Middle School Auditorium. The public hearing will begin at 6:00 p.m.
- December 3, 2019 - The School Committee will vote on the redistricting recommendation. The meeting will be held in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room and will begin at 7:00 p.m.

We do not know what the outcome of the transportation study will be; therefore, we believe it is important to emphasize that the possibility exists for adjustments to be made to our recommendation. The outcome of the transportation study could mean that those not initially impacted by the redistricting scenarios might be impacted when the final decision gets made. We also do not know if there will be any changes to our original recommendation. Still, in fairness to all residents currently and potentially impacted, we want to make you aware that adjustments to the recommendation under consideration are always a possibility.

Thank you in advance for weighing in on this important topic and for your ongoing support of our schools. I know I speak for the School Committee and Administration when I say that we all truly value your input and appreciate your participation in this challenging process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Hackett".

Dr. Julie Hackett  
Superintendent of Schools