



Southington Public Schools

Scenario Planning

February 2023



Agenda

- Objectives and Metrics
- Capacity Assumptions and Targets
- Planning Scenarios



Purpose of Scenario Planning

- Scenario Planning is a conceptual exercise
 - Helps the district understand systemwide building usage and individual school building usage under different configurations as part of its long-range planning efforts.
 - **Helps “right-size” building projects to align with projected enrollment.**
- The boundaries shown on the following slides are not set in stone, but rather are intended to test the feasibility of different scenarios.
- Changes to attendance zones would need to be approved by the Board, and typically are finalized one year prior to implementation.



Objectives and Metrics

Objective	Description	Metrics		
		Good	Fair	Poor
Improve Efficiency and Overall ES Utilization	Districtwide elementary utilization at the midpoint of the projections (2026-27)	85% to 90% utilization districtwide	75% to 85% utilization 90% to 95% utilization	Less than 75% utilization Greater than 95% utilization
Balance Utilization Across all Schools	Individual school utilization at the midpoint of the projections (2026-27)	<10% difference between highest utilization and lowest utilization	10% to 20% difference between highest utilization and lowest utilization	>20% difference between highest utilization and lowest utilization
Direct Feeder Pattern	All elementary schools directly feed into middle schools (no split feeder). MS enrollment is balanced	Feasible and balanced enrollment	Feasible, but imbalanced enrollment	Not feasible
Maintain Geographic Proximity	Eliminate satellite areas. Maintain logical transportation routes. Walking communities preserved. <i>Qualitative assessment.</i>	Good	Fair	Poor
Minimize Redistricting Impacts	Number of students redistricted	Less than 10% of students impacted	10% to 20% of students impacted	20% or more students impacted



Capacity Assumptions

Planning Capacity and Utilization Targets

School	Capacity (Max Based on SPS Class Size Policy)	Planning Capacity	
		85%	90%
Derynoski	709	603	638
Flanders	399	339	359
Hatton	468	398	421
Kelley	426	362	383
Oshana	333	283	300
South End	333	283	300
Strong	355	302	320
Thalberg	532	452	479
Elementary Total	3,555	3,022	3,200
Target Range			

- Capacity is calculated based on 2021-22 room usage and SPS **maximum** loading levels
- In our experience, 85% to 90% utilization is an optimal for school districts that group by neighborhood.
 - Allows for efficient use of space and reasonable class sizes, while providing some buffer space (headroom) to accommodate enrollment bubbles.
- Planning scenarios strive for between 85% and 90% utilization both systemwide and at individual schools
- It is also important to consider potential long-term programmatic changes (such as Pre-K expansion)



Capacity Considerations: New Schools

Assumed Capacity for SPS Building Projects

Sections Per Grade	Max Capacity (SPS Standard)	Planning Capacity	
		85%	90%
3 Section Per Grade	417	354	376
4 Section Per Grade	550	469	494
5 Section Per Grade	683	581	615

** Assumes extra K section based on class size maximums*

- Planning capacity utilized a "Section per Grade" approach, which is common in ES neighborhood-based systems
 - Includes extra K classroom due to smaller class sizes (e.g. 3-section per grade school has 4 K classrooms)
- Max capacity based on SPS maximum loading level policy multiplied by # of classrooms
- Planning capacity represents optimal operating range at between 85% and 90% of maximum – Enrollment target for planning scenarios.



Scenario Building Key

Scenario Key

MAINTAIN

Maintain Status Quo

BUILD

Build New or
Renovate-as-New

CLOSED

Close Facility

Assumptions:

- Uses SPS Capacity based on class size maximums for building projects – target 85% to 90% of maximum
- Students in self-contained programs were not reassigned
- All out of area placements returned to their district of residence
- Used utilization at midpoint of projections (2026-27) to assess feasibility



SPS Elementary Facilities Today (Status Quo)

Derynoski

Max Capacity: 709

Flanders

Max Capacity: 399

Hatton

Max Capacity: 468

Kelley

Max Capacity: 426

Oshana

Max Capacity: 333

South End

Max Capacity: 333

Strong

Max Capacity: 355

Thalberg

Max Capacity: 532

Max K-5 Capacity: **3,555 seats**

2026-27 Enrollment: **2,841 students**

2026-27 Utilization: **79.9%**

Scenario Key

MAINTAIN

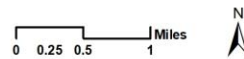
BUILD

CLOSED

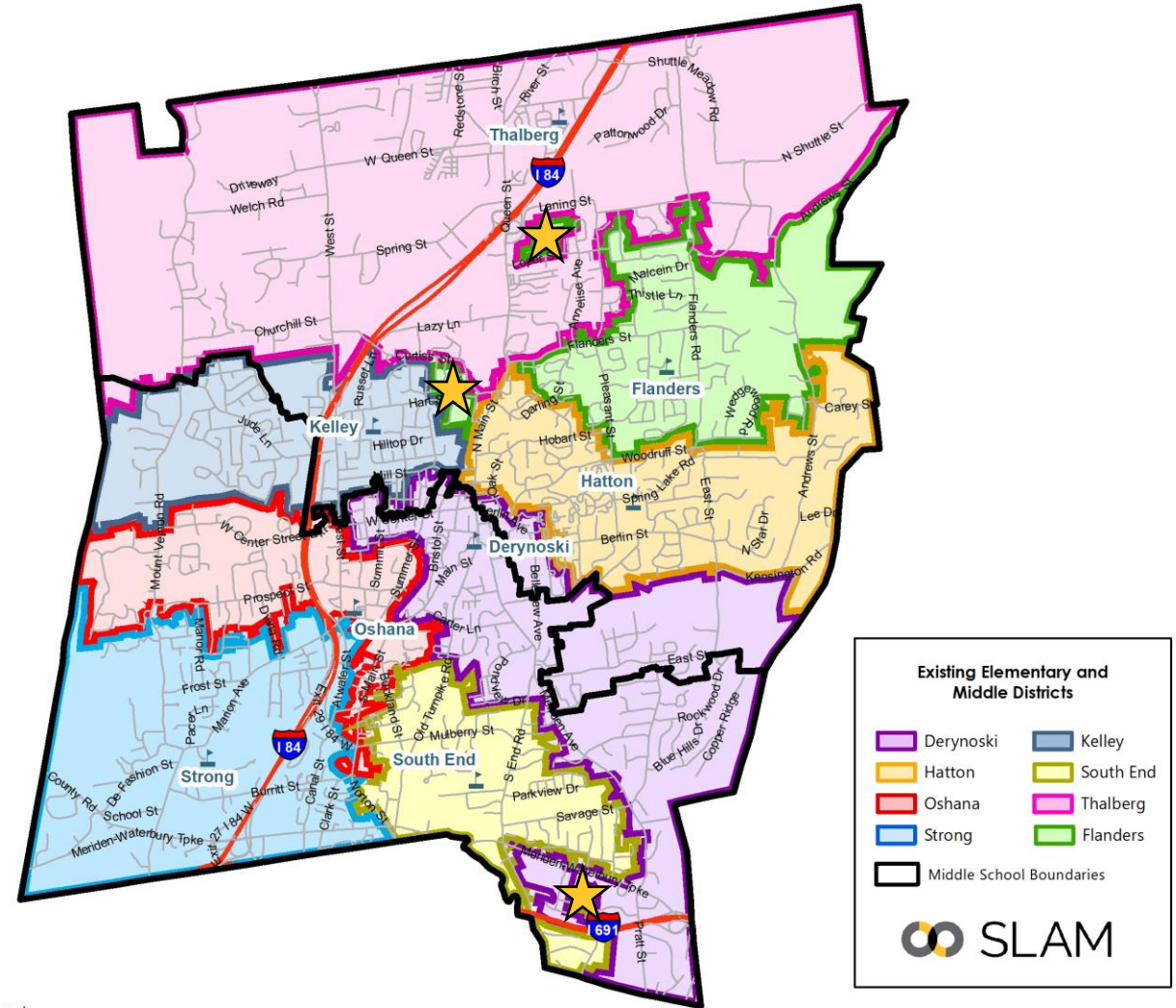


SPS Boundaries Today (Status Quo)

- Indirect Middle School Feeder Pattern
- Three current satellite areas:
 - ★ Willow Creek (assigned to Flanders, although most of these students have been attending Thalberg)
 - ★ Little Fawn, Muir Terr, Garden Gate, Meander Lane, Sabina Drive area – assigned to Flanders
 - ★ Hillcrest Village – assigned to South End



This map was developed for use as a planning document. Delineations may not be exact.





Status Quo: Feasibility

- No changes to current facilities or boundaries
- Imbalanced utilization for 2021-22 school year, projected to increase by 2026-27
 - Disparities increase by 2026-27, with Strong being 90% utilized and Kelley being 67% utilized.
- Existing indirect middle school feeder pattern remains
- Existing satellite zones remain

Status Quo Feasibility

School	Status Quo Capacity	2021-22 Utilization (Max Capacity)	2026-27 Utilization (Max Capacity)
Derynoski	709	75.9%	82.8%
Flanders	399	69.4%	76.8%
Hatton	468	69.2%	72.4%
Kelley	426	67.1%	66.9%
Oshana	333	73.3%	81.9%
South End	333	69.1%	79.2%
Strong	355	74.1%	90.1%
Thalberg	532	79.5%	87.7%
Total	3,555	72.7%	79.9%
Seat Δ		970	714

Objective	Status Quo Metric
Improve Efficiency and Overall Utilization	79.9% ES utilization
Balance Utilization Across all Schools	Poor (23.2% spread)
Direct Feeder Pattern to MS	Maintain Existing Indirect Feeder
Geographic Proximity	3 satellite zones remain
Redistricting Impacts	None



Scenario A: 8 Elementary Schools

Maintain 8 Elementary School Alignment

- Complete three building projects at Kelley, Flanders, and Derynoski
 - Kelley – 3 sections per grade
 - Flanders – 3 sections per grade
 - Derynoski – 5 sections per grade
 - All three buildings roughly the same size as they are today (similar elementary capacity)
- Maintain remaining buildings
- Pocket redistricting to balance enrollment across all buildings
- Align middle school to elementary school boundaries (direct feeder)



Scenario A: Building Projects

Derynoski

5 Section Per Grade
Max Capacity: 683

Flanders

3 Section Per Grade
Max Capacity: 417

Hatton

Max Capacity: 468

Kelley

3 Section Per Grade
Max Capacity: 417

Oshana

Max Capacity: 333

South End

Max Capacity: 333

Strong

Max Capacity: 355

Thalberg

Max Capacity: 532

Max K-5 Capacity: **3,538 seats (-17 seats)**

2026-27 Enrollment: **2,841 students**

2026-27 Utilization: **80.3%**

Scenario Key

MAINTAIN

BUILD

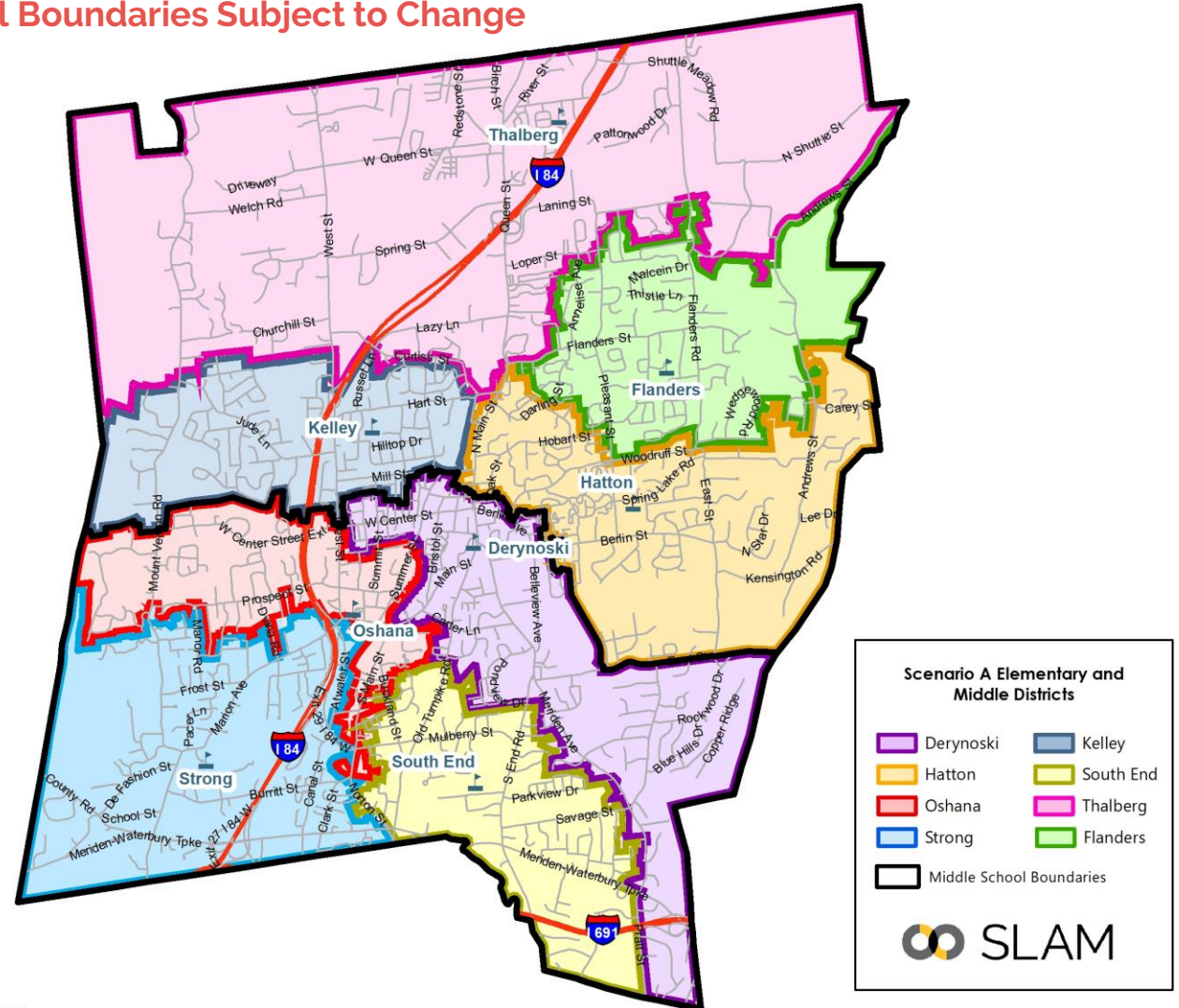
CLOSED



Scenario A: Conceptual Boundaries

- Pocket redistricting to balance enrollments across all elementary schools
- Eliminates “satellite” areas
- Creates a direct feeder between the elementary and middle schools
 - Flanders, Hatton, Kelley, and Thalberg to DePaolo Middle School
 - Derynoski, Oshana, South End, and Strong to JFK Middle School

Conceptual Boundaries Subject to Change



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

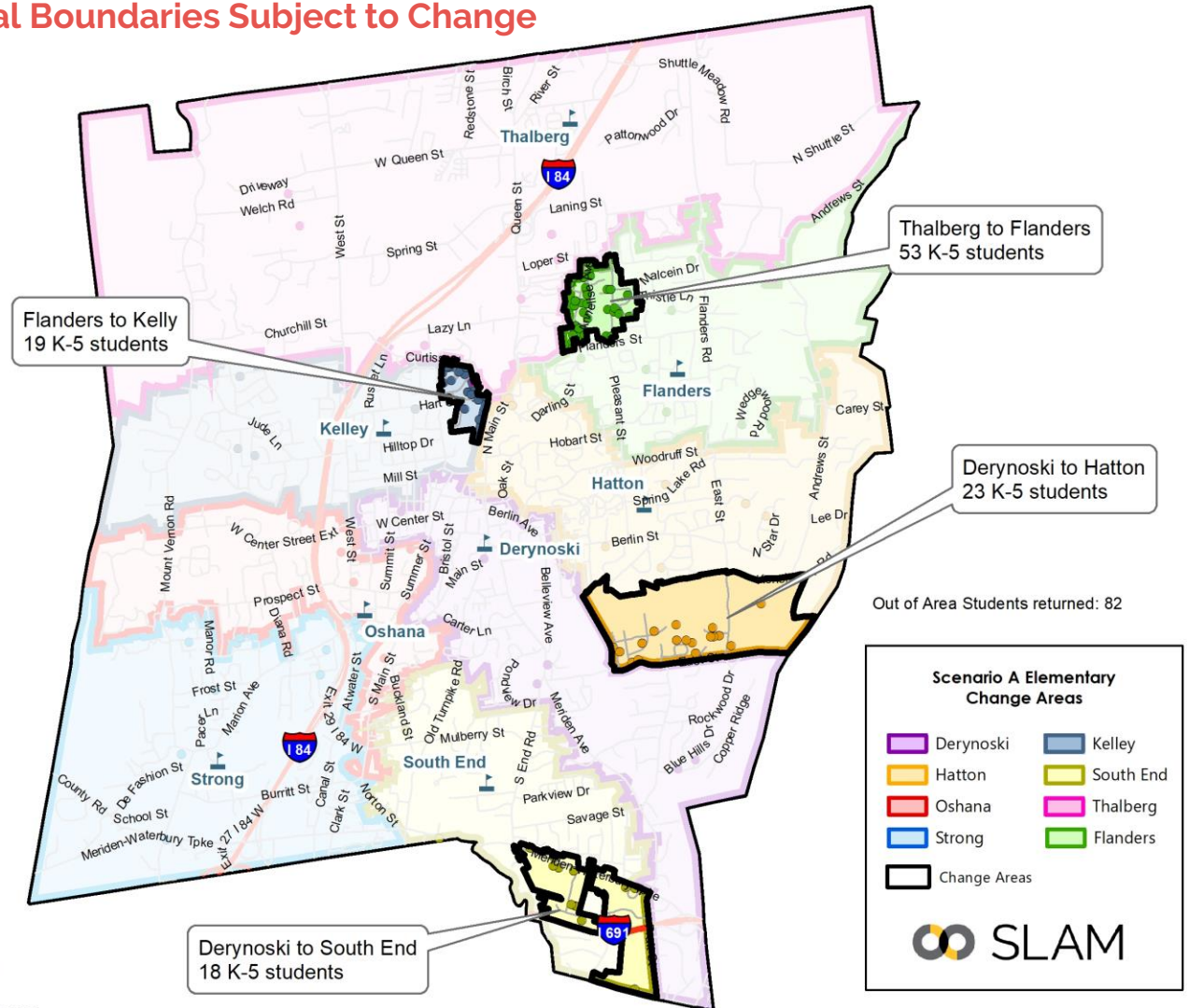
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Scenario A: Elementary Change Areas

- Would impact ~7.5% of elementary students
- Middle school redistricting impacts could be mitigated if implemented over a 3-year period beginning with incoming 6th grade class

Conceptual Boundaries Subject to Change



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

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Scenario A: Feasibility

- Minimal change to overall elementary capacity
- Balanced utilization for 2021-22 school year across all elementary schools.
 - Disparities increase by 2026-27, with Strong being 92% utilized and Kelley being 70.6% utilized.
 - Disparity could be reduced by moving areas out of Strong but would result in greater redistricting impacts.
- Overall utilization in 2026-27 is below target 85%-90% levels.
 - All schools but Strong and South End are below target.
 - Available space provides flexibility for future program expansion (such as expanded Pre-K)
- Direct feeder between elementary and middle schools is feasible, with roughly equal enrollment at both middle schools in 2026-27.

Scenario A Feasibility

School	Scenario A Capacity	2021-22 Utilization (Max Capacity)	2026-27 Utilization (Max Capacity)
Derynoski	683	74.2%	77.5%
Flanders	417	72.9%	80.3%
Hatton	468	75.6%	81.1%
Kelley	417	70.5%	70.6%
Oshana	333	71.5%	79.0%
South End	333	71.8%	85.7%
Strong	355	76.6%	92.0%
Thalberg	532	70.9%	80.1%
Total	3,538	73.1%	80.3%
Seat Δ		953	698

Objective	Scenario A Metric
Improve Efficiency and Overall Utilization	80.3% ES utilization (below target)
Balance Utilization Across all Schools	Poor (21.4% spread)
Direct Feeder Pattern to MS	Feasible and balanced enrollment
Geographic Proximity	Good
Redistricting Impacts	7.5% of elementary students



Scenario B

7 Elementary Schools (Close Flanders)

- Move to a 7-school alignment
- Close Flanders
- Complete two building projects at Kelley and Derynoski
 - Kelley – 3 sections per grade
 - Derynoski – 5 sections per grade
- Maintain remaining buildings
- Redistricting to reassign Flanders students and balance enrollment across all buildings
- Align middle school to elementary school boundaries (direct feeder), if possible



Scenario B: Building Projects

Derynoski

5 Section Per Grade
Max Capacity: 683

Flanders

CLOSED

Hatton

Max Capacity: 468

Kelley

3 Section Per Grade
Max Capacity: 417

Oshana

Max Capacity: 333

South End

Max Capacity: 333

Strong

Max Capacity: 355

Thalberg

Max Capacity: 532

Max K-5 Capacity: **3,121 seats (-434 seats)**

2026-27 Enrollment: **2,841 students**

2026-27 Utilization: **91.0%**

Scenario Key

MAINTAIN

BUILD

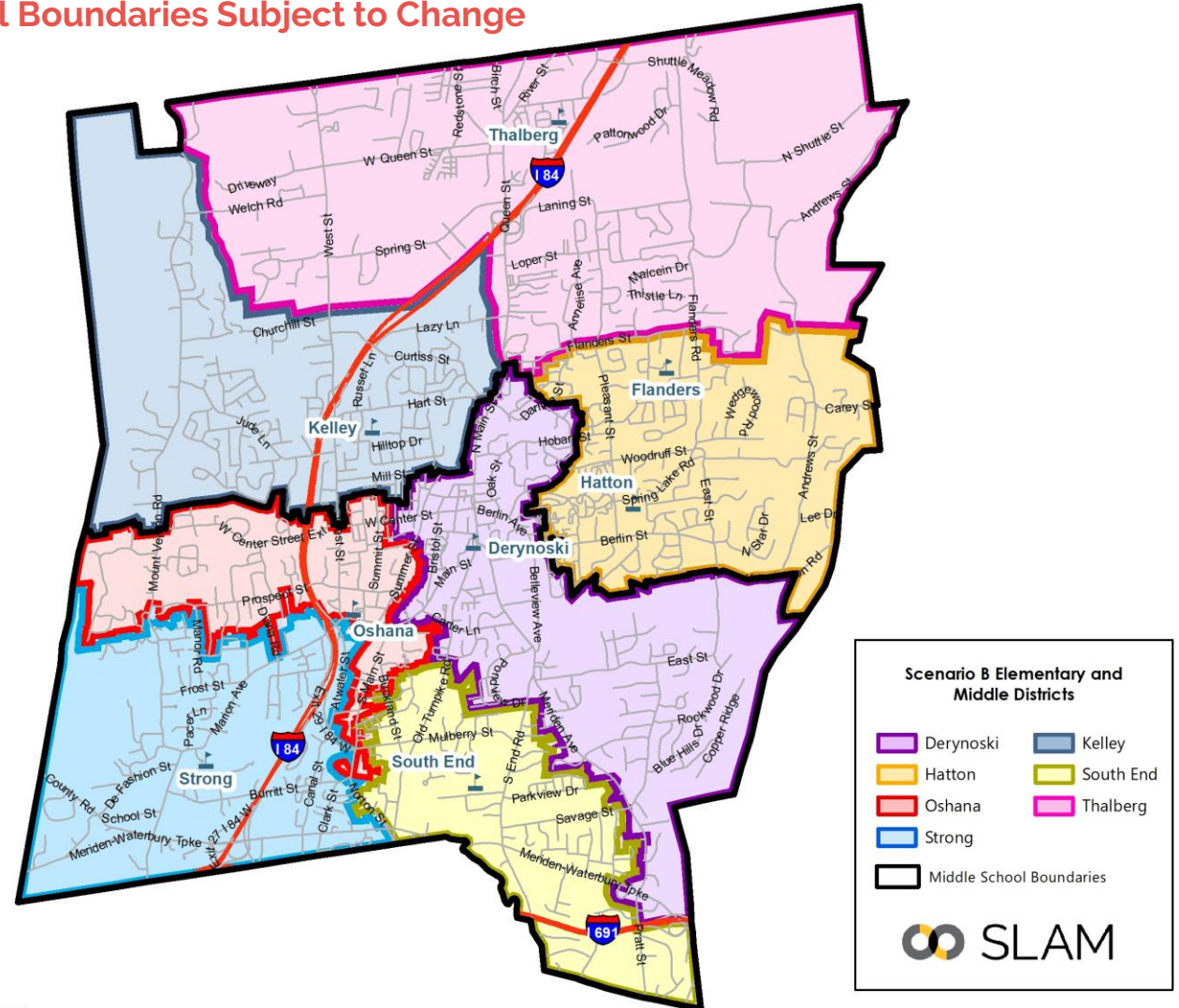
CLOSED



Scenario B: Conceptual Boundaries

Conceptual Boundaries Subject to Change

- Flanders students reassigned to Hatton, Thalberg, and Kelley
- Pocket redistricting to balance enrollments across remaining elementary schools
- Eliminates “satellite” areas
- Creates a direct feeder between the elementary and middle schools
 - Hatton, Kelley, and Thalberg to DePaolo Middle School
 - Derynoski, Oshana, South End, and Strong to JFK Middle School



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

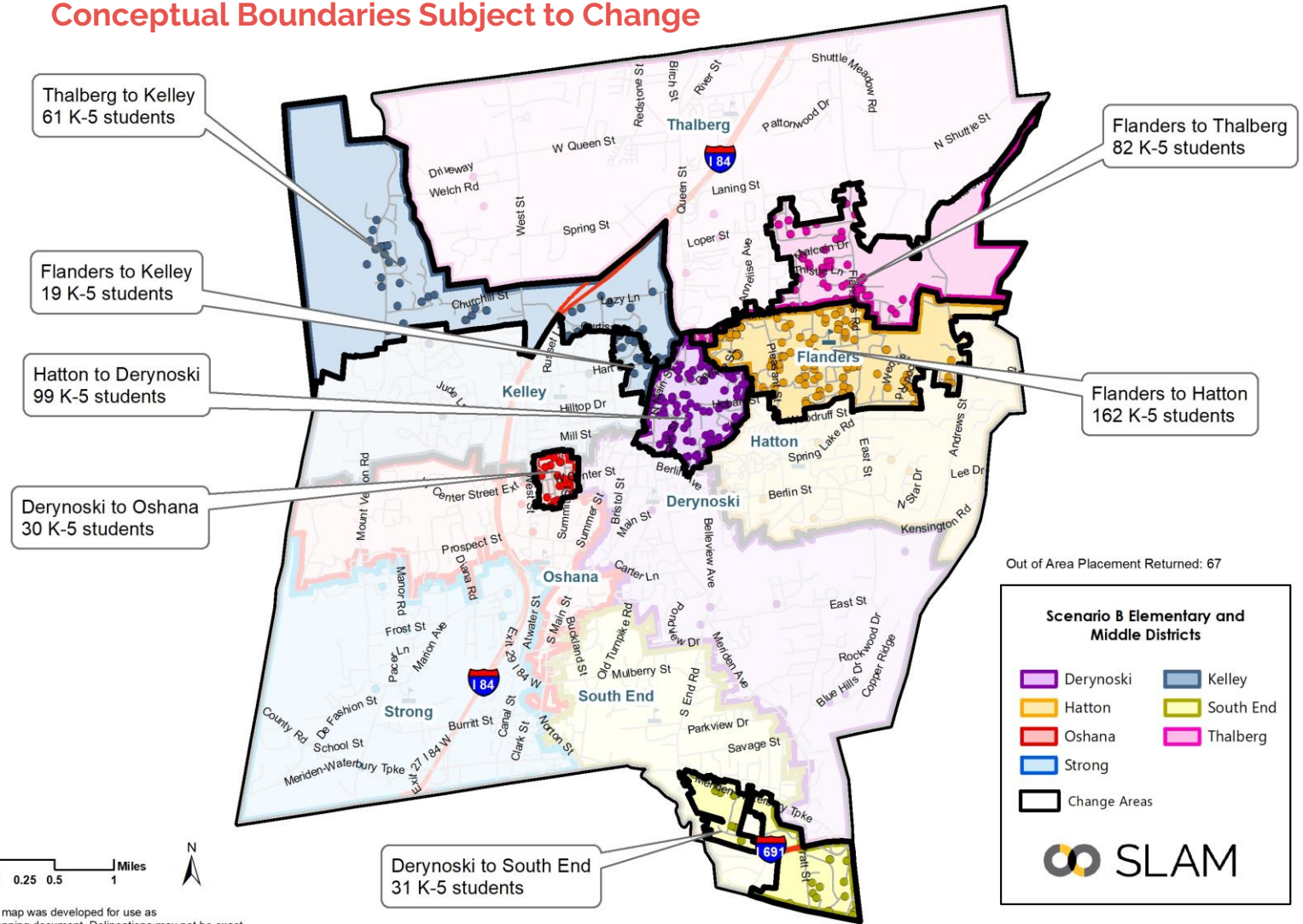
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Scenario B: Elementary Change Areas

- Would impact ~21.3% of elementary students.
- About half of impacted students are Flanders students.
- Middle school redistricting impacts could be mitigated if implemented over a 3-year period beginning with incoming 6th grade class.

Conceptual Boundaries Subject to Change





Scenario B: Feasibility

- Loss of 434 seats of elementary capacity, primarily through closure of Flanders.
- Balanced utilization for 2021-22 school year across all elementary schools.
- All elementary schools within 5% of districtwide utilization in 2026-27.
- Overall utilization in 2026-27 is 91.0% - above target.
 - Oshana, Hatton, Strong, and Thalberg over 90% utilization target.
 - Remaining schools approaching 90% utilization.
- Direct feeder between elementary and middle schools results in much larger JFK (781 students) compared to DePaolo (631 students) in 2026-27.
 - Split/indirect feeder pattern necessary

Scenario B Feasibility

School	Scenario B Capacity	2021-22 Utilization (Max Capacity)	2026-27 Utilization (Max Capacity)
Derynoski	683	86.2%	89.3%
Flanders	CLOSED		
Hatton	468	83.8%	91.7%
Kelley	417	87.8%	89.5%
Oshana	333	80.8%	90.2%
South End	333	75.4%	88.8%
Strong	355	76.6%	92.8%
Thalberg	532	83.8%	94.5%
Total	3,121	82.8%	91.0%
Seat Δ		536	280

Objective	Scenario B Metric
Improve Efficiency and Overall Utilization	91.0% ES utilization (above target)
Balance Utilization Across all Schools	Good (all schools within 10%)
Direct Feeder Pattern to MS	Not feasible
Geographic Proximity	Good
Redistricting Impacts	21.3% of elementary students



Scenario C

7-Elementary Schools (Close Flanders), with Larger Kelley

- Move to a 7-school alignment
- Close Flanders
- Complete two building projects at Kelley and Derynoski
 - Kelley – 4 sections per grade
 - Derynoski – 5 sections per grade
 - Larger Kelley helps offset some of the loss of capacity at Flanders
- Maintain remaining buildings
- Redistricting to reassign Flanders students and balance enrollment across all buildings



Scenario C: Building Projects

Derynoski
5 Section Per Grade
Max Capacity: 683

Flanders
CLOSED

Hatton
Max Capacity: 468

Kelley
4 Section Per Grade
Max Capacity: 550

Oshana
Max Capacity: 333

South End
Max Capacity: 333

Strong
Max Capacity: 355

Thalberg
Max Capacity: 532

Max K-5 Capacity: **3,254 seats (-301 seats)**

2026-27 Enrollment: **2,841 students**

2026-27 Utilization: **87.3%**

Scenario Key

MAINTAIN

BUILD

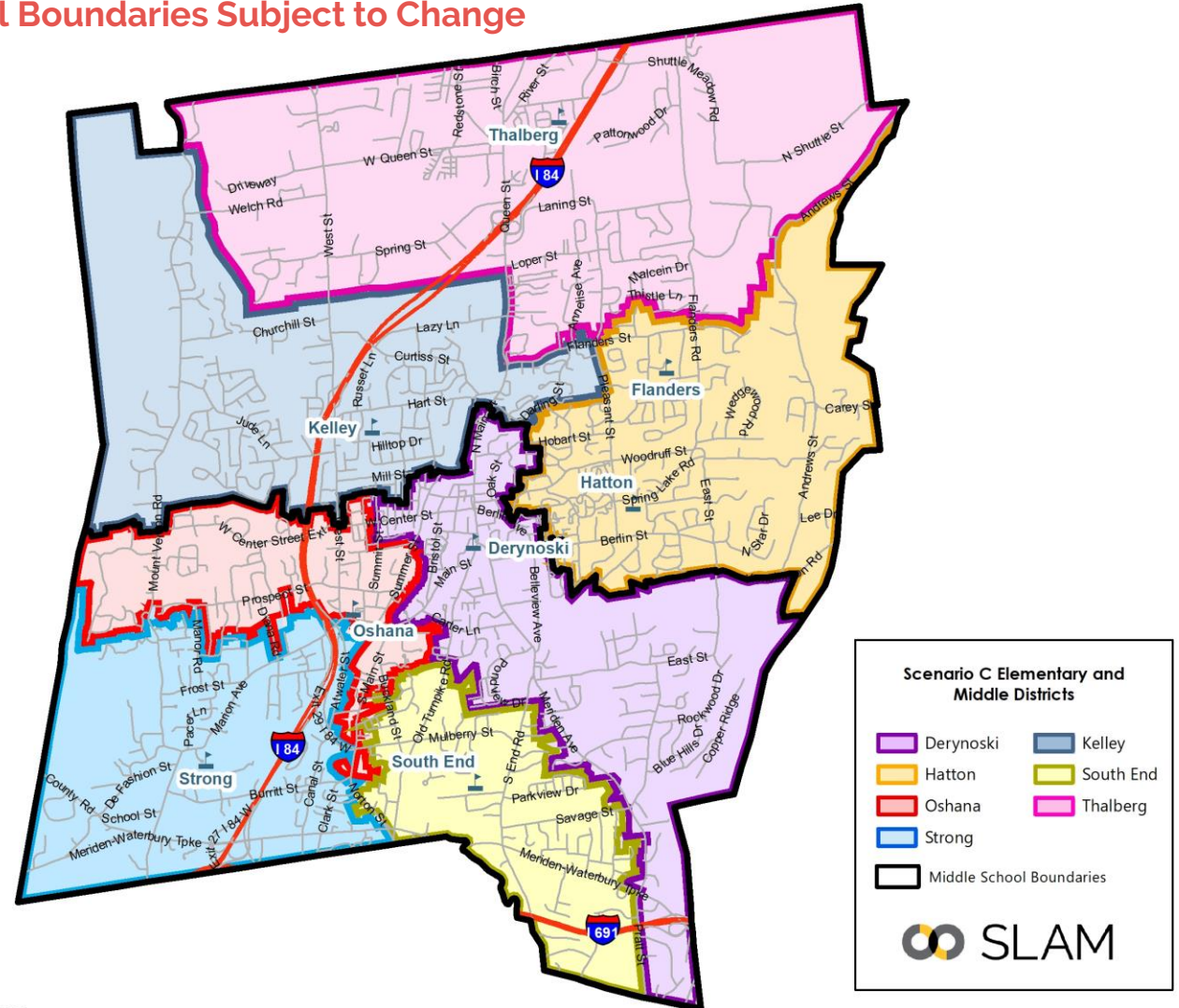
CLOSED



Scenario C: Conceptual Boundaries

Conceptual Boundaries Subject to Change

- Flanders students reassigned to Hatton, Thalberg, and Kelley
- Pocket redistricting to balance enrollments across remaining elementary schools
- Eliminates “satellite” areas
- Creates a direct feeder between the elementary and middle schools
 - Hatton, Kelley, and Thalberg to DePaolo Middle School
 - Derynoski, Oshana, South End, and Strong to JFK Middle School



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

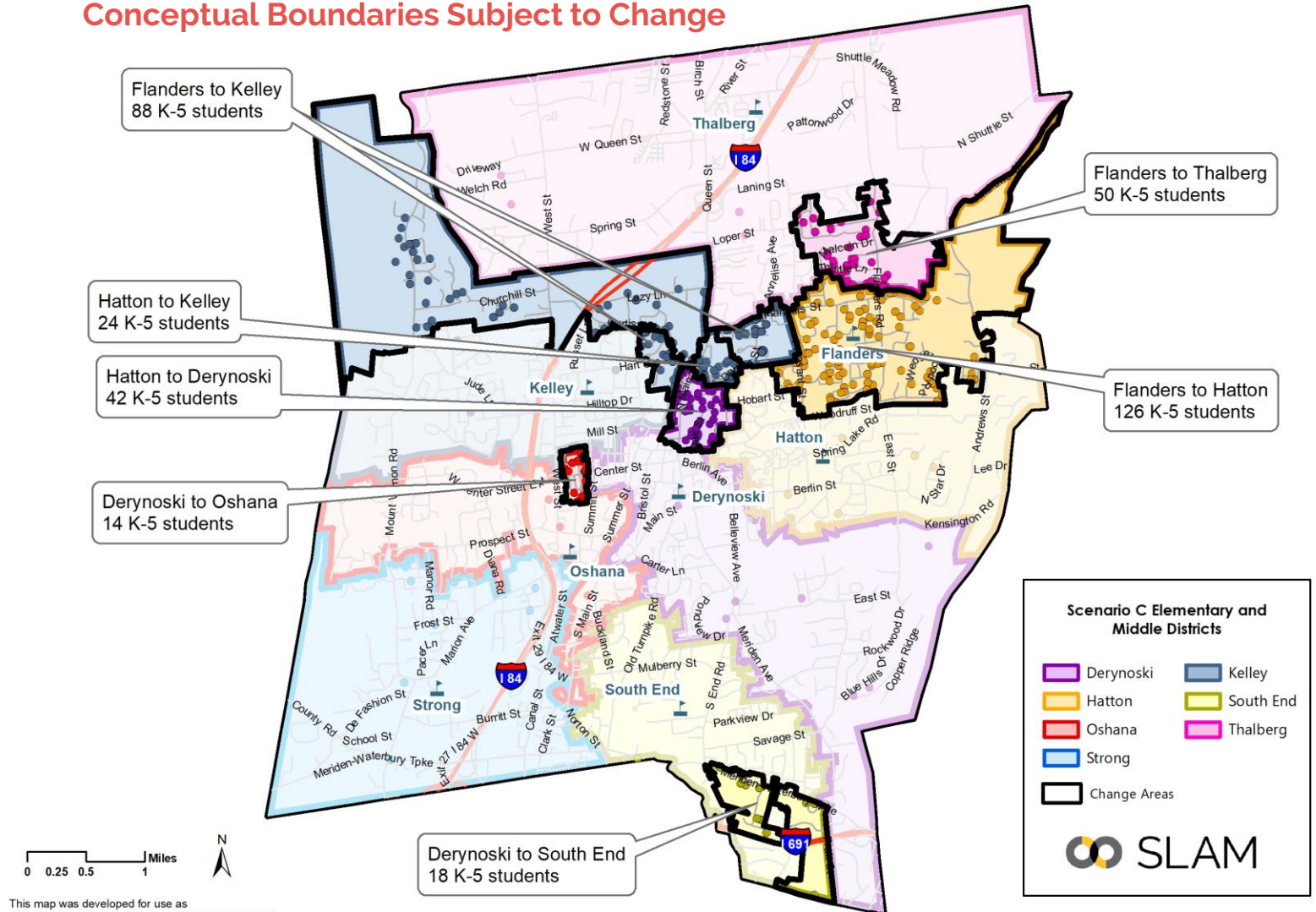
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Scenario C: Elementary Change Areas

- Would impact ~19.1% of elementary students.
- About half of impacted students are Flanders students.
- Middle school redistricting impacts could be mitigated if implemented over a 3-year period beginning with incoming 6th grade class.

Conceptual Boundaries Subject to Change



This map was developed for use as a planning document. Delineations may not be exact.

Southington Public Schools



Scenario C: Feasibility

- Loss of 301 seats of elementary capacity. Larger Kelley offsets some of the seats lost at Flanders
- Balanced utilization for 2021-22 school year across all elementary schools.
- Overall utilization in 2026-27 is 87.2% - within target levels.
- All elementary schools within 5% of districtwide utilization in 2026-27.
 - All schools within or near 85% to 90% target range.
- Direct feeder between elementary and middle schools results in larger JFK (754 students) compared to DePaolo (670 students) in 2026-27.
 - Feasible with imbalanced enrollment.
 - Split feeder could equalize MS enrollment.

Scenario C Feasibility

School	Scenario C Capacity	2021-22 Utilization (Max Capacity)	2026-27 Utilization (Max Capacity)
Derynoski	683	82.0%	86.6%
Flanders	CLOSED		
Hatton	468	83.1%	87.7%
Kelley	550	83.6%	88.2%
Oshana	333	75.7%	82.8%
South End	333	71.8%	86.4%
Strong	355	76.6%	92.1%
Thalberg	532	77.6%	86.5%
Total	3,254	79.4%	87.2%
Seat Δ		669	416

Objective	Scenario C Metric
Improve Efficiency and Overall Utilization	87.2% ES utilization (within target)
Balance Utilization Across all Schools	Good (all schools within 10%)
Direct Feeder Pattern to MS	Feasible with imbalanced enrollment
Geographic Proximity	Good
Redistricting Impacts	19.1% of elementary students



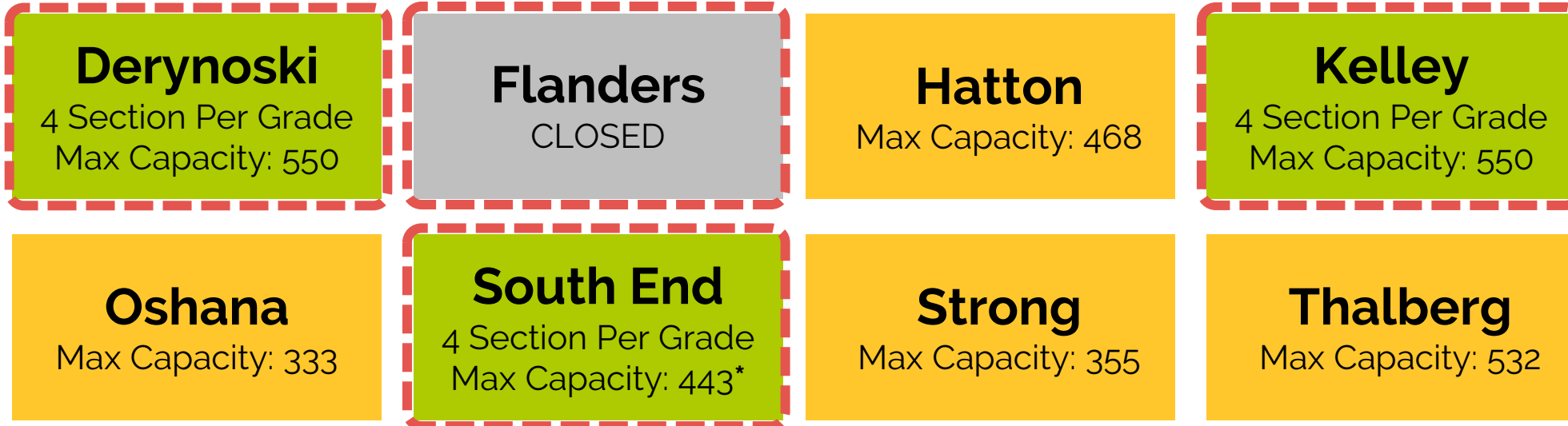
Scenario D

7 Elementary Schools (Close Flanders), Smaller Derynoski with South End Addition

- Move to a 7-school alignment
- Close Flanders
- Complete three building projects at Kelley, Derynoski, and South End
 - Kelley – 4 sections per grade
 - Derynoski – 4 sections per grade (smaller facility than today)
 - South End – Expand with 5 additional classrooms (loaded at 22 students), increasing maximum capacity to 443 students.
- Maintain remaining buildings
- Redistricting to reassign Flanders students and balance enrollment across all buildings



Scenario D: Building Projects



* Based on a 5-classroom addition at South End, loaded at 22 students per classroom.

Max K-5 Capacity:	3,231 (-324 seats)
2026-27 Enrollment:	2,841 students
2026-27 Utilization:	87.9%

Scenario Key

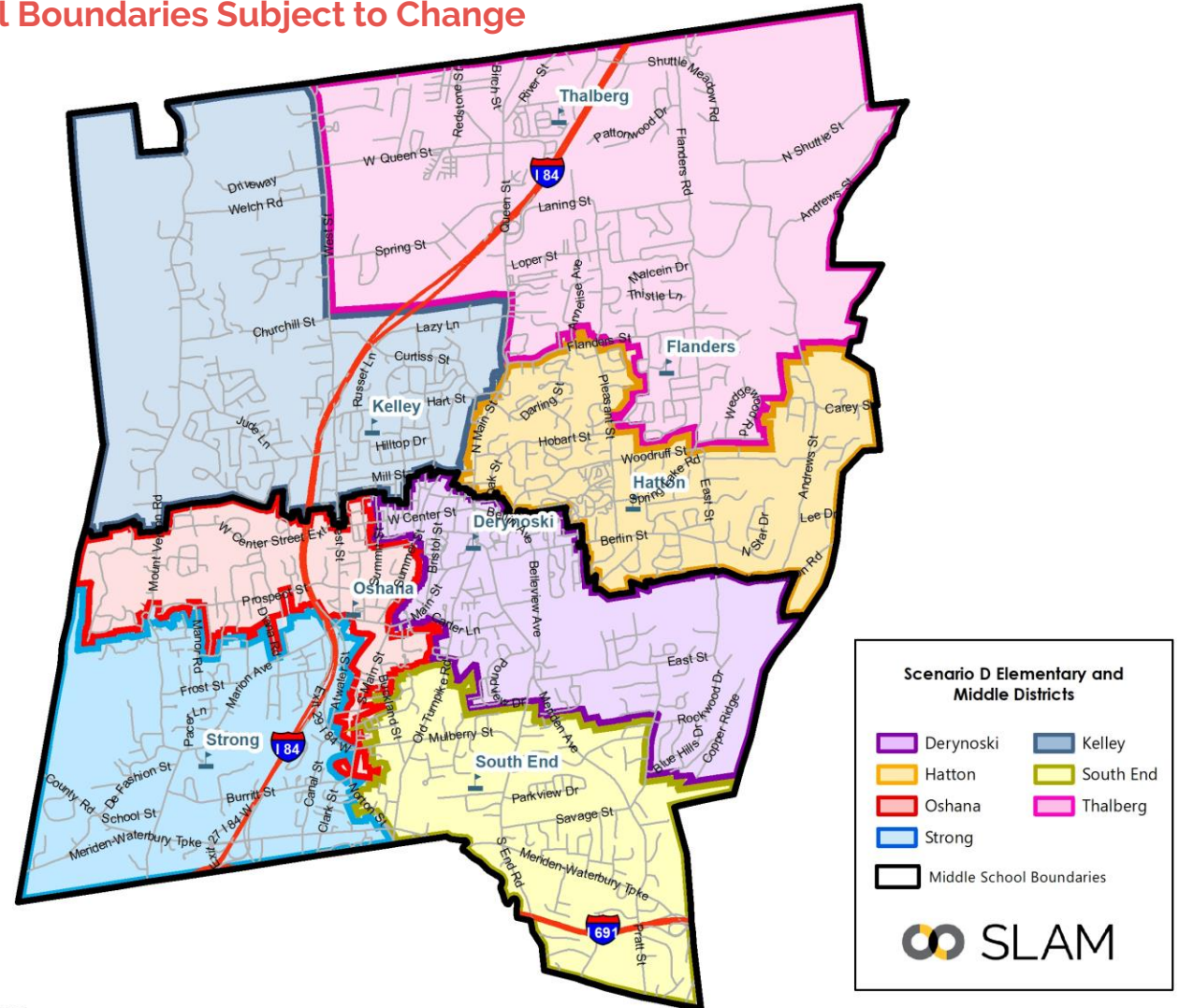




Scenario D: Conceptual Boundaries

Conceptual Boundaries Subject to Change

- Flanders students reassigned to Hatton, Thalberg, and Kelley
- Shift additional students from Derynoski to South End, leveraging additional space
- Pocket redistricting to balance enrollments across remaining elementary schools
- Eliminates “satellite” areas
- Creates a direct feeder between the elementary and middle schools
 - Hatton, Kelley, and Thalberg to DePaolo Middle School
 - Derynoski, Oshana, South End, and Strong to JFK Middle School



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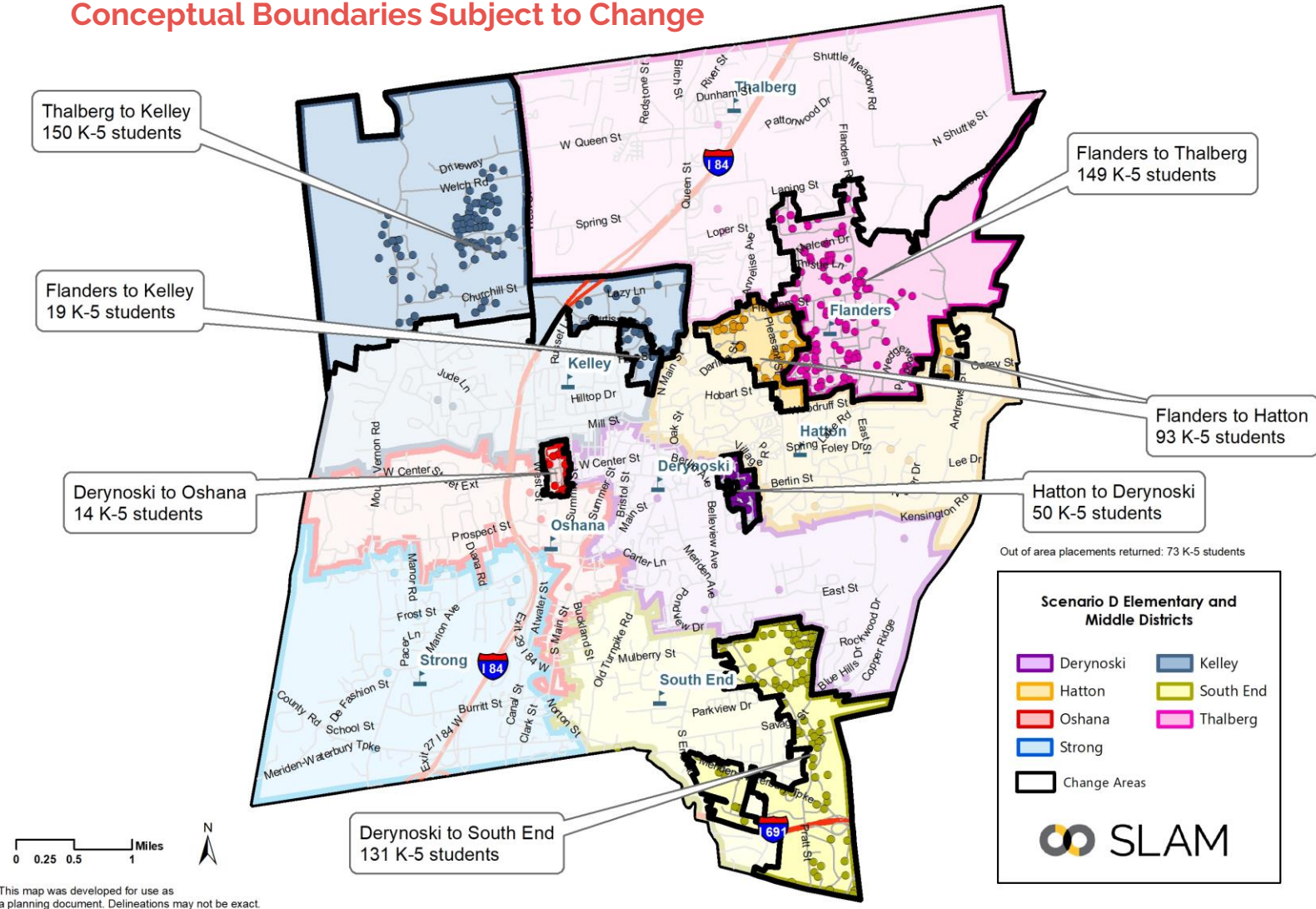
Southington Public Schools



Scenario D: Elementary Change Areas

- Would impact ~25.2% of elementary students.
- About 42% of impacted students are Flanders students.
- Middle school redistricting impacts could be mitigated if implemented over a 3-year period beginning with incoming 6th grade class.

Conceptual Boundaries Subject to Change





Scenario D: Feasibility

- Loss of 301 seats of elementary capacity. Larger Kelley offsets some of the seats lost at Flanders
- Balanced utilization for 2021-22 school year across all elementary schools.
- Overall utilization in 2026-27 is 87.9% - within target levels.
 - All schools within or near 85% to 90% target range.
- Direct feeder between elementary and middle schools results in larger JFK (745 students) compared to DePaolo (679 students) in 2026-27.
 - Feasible with imbalanced enrollment.
 - Split feeder could equalize MS enrollment.

Scenario D Feasibility

School	Scenario D Capacity	2021-22 Utilization (Max Capacity)	2026-27 Utilization (Max Capacity)
Derynoski	550	85.8%	90.5%
Flanders	CLOSED		
Hatton	468	80.8%	86.7%
Kelley	550	82.9%	88.6%
Oshana	333	75.7%	82.5%
South End	443	74.5%	90.2%
Strong	355	76.6%	92.1%
Thalberg	532	79.9%	84.1%
Total	3,231	80.0%	87.9%
Seat Δ		646	391

Objective	Scenario D Metric
Improve Efficiency and Overall Utilization	87.9% ES utilization (within target)
Balance Utilization Across all Schools	Good (all schools within 10%)
Direct Feeder Pattern to MS	Feasible with imbalanced enrollment
Geographic Proximity	Good
Redistricting Impacts	25.2% of elementary students



Scenario Comparison

Scenario Description Objective	Status Quo	Scenario A	Scenario B	Scenario C	Scenario D
	<u>Elementary Schools</u> : 8 <u>Facilities Closed</u> : None <u>Building Projects</u> : None	<u>Elementary Schools</u> : 8 <u>Facilities Closed</u> : None <u>Building Projects</u> : Flanders, Kelley, Derynoski.	<u>Elementary Schools</u> : 7 <u>Facilities Closed</u> : Flanders <u>Building Projects</u> : Kelley, Derynoski.	<u>Elementary Schools</u> : 7 <u>Facilities Closed</u> : Flanders <u>Building Projects</u> : Kelley (larger), Derynoski.	<u>Elementary Schools</u> : 7 <u>Facilities Closed</u> : Flanders <u>Building Projects</u> : Kelley (larger), Derynoski (smaller), South End (expansion).
Improve Efficiency and Overall Utilization	79.9% ES utilization	80.3% ES utilization	91.0% ES utilization	87.2% ES utilization	87.9% ES utilization
Balance Utilization Across all Schools	Poor (23.2% spread between high and low)	Poor (21.4% spread between high and low)	Good (All schools within 10% utilization of each other)	Good (All schools within 10% utilization of each other)	Good (All schools within 10% utilization of each other)
Direct Feeder Pattern to MS	Maintain Existing Indirect Feeder	Feasible with balanced middle school enrollment	Not feasible	Feasible, but imbalanced enrollment	Feasible, but imbalanced enrollment
Geographic Proximity	Fair (Satellite zones remain)	Good	Good	Good	Good
Redistricting Impacts	None	7.5% of elementary students	21.3% of elementary students	19.1% of elementary students	25.2% of elementary students



Takeaways

- Maintaining existing 8-school alignment results in systemwide utilization **below** 85%-90% target
 - May provide flexibility for future program expansion (such as Pre-K expansion)
- Switching to a 7-school alignment with existing school capacities results in systemwide utilization **above** 85%-90% target
 - Building a larger Kelley brings overall utilization within optimal range
 - Smaller Derynoski could be supported if South End is expanded.
- Direct feeder pattern is feasible under an 8-school alignment
- Not feasible to balance enrollment at the middle schools and implement a direct feeder pattern under a 7-school alignment.
 - If a direct feeder pattern is implemented, JFK Middle School would be larger than DePaolo.
 - If SPS wants balanced enrollment at both Middle Schools, a split feeder pattern is necessary.