GOOSE CREEK CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Pumphrey students to be rezoned to other schools

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The students and staff of Pumphrey Elementary School will be attending other Goose Creek CISD schools next year. The Goose Creek Board of Trustees voted on Thursday, April 23 to form a committee to revise the attendance zones of Pumphrey Elementary School so those students could be sent to other schools. Pumphrey staff members will also be reassigned to other Goose Creek schools.

"I assure you that much deliberation has gone into this decision, and it was not an easy one. However, our first priority is our Pumphrey students, and we believe that this is the best solution for their continued success," said Carl Burg, Goose Creek Board president.

The decision comes three weeks after the Board voted to close Pumphrey Elementary School at the end of the school year. The closing of the 39-year-old elementary school and West Town complex follows a risk-analysis study of the two sites situated between two aging pipeline corridors.

. The risk-analysis study commissioned by the district concluded that should an incident — such as a leak or rupture — occur to a pipeline near the school or complex, there is a potential that students and/or staff could be injured or worse.

After reviewing data and looking at possible sites in the district, the administration realized that it could not relocate Pumphrey Elementary students and staff in one location because of classroom space requirements and support services needs such as a gymnasium, cafeteria and narking

cafeteria, and parking. Thus, to resolve this issue, the district administration recommended to the Board of Trustees the formation of a committee to revise the Pumphrey attendance zones to other elementary campuses.

Representation on the committee will include the Pumphrey principal Rachel DeLeon, and other Goose Creek elementary principals whose campuses may be affected, Interim Superintendent Dr. Toby York, Executive Director of Elementary Education Diana Cox, Director of Student Services Dr. Patty Bing, Transportation Router, and parent members of the 2006 elementary rezoning committee.

Every effort will be made to rezone students based on keeping neighborhoods and families together. The district will provide transportation for all Pumphrey students to their new campuses.

Burg said the revised rezoning plan for Pumphrey's students will be in place until there is a new elementary school built.

Again, the Goose Creek Board aims to have a plan in place for all Pumphrey students and staff in place before the end of the school year.

Pumphrey Elementary School opened in 1971 on Fairway Drive. Today, the school is home to some 474 students and 67 staff members.

The school is named for a longtime teacher and school administrator, Jessie Lee Pumphrey, who had been principal at Lorenzo De Zavala (known as the Mexican School) from 1928 to 1965. The original De Zavala at Cypress and Magnolia streets in old Baytown was closed in 1965.

Pumphrey Elementary School marked the first time that an elementary in Goose Creek CISD had been named for a local individual.

On Thursday, April 30, Goose Creek CISD will host a Parent and Staff Meeting at 6 p.m. at the Pumphrey Elementary School avmnasium to talk about this issue.

Anyone who wants to submit a question about the Pumphrey/West Town relocation may do so by calling Board secretary Noemi Garcia at 281-420-4816 or emailing her at ngarcia@gccisd.net. The answers will be sent to those inquiring and placed on the school district website, www.gccisd.net.





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