

## FISD finalizes 2012-2013 zoning changes as Nichols Elementary opens

At the regular meeting of the FISD Board of Trustees on Monday, January 9, members approved the attendance zone for Gene and Ruby Nichols Elementary, scheduled to open in the 2012-2013 school year to relieve Sparks, Bledsoe and Allen Elementary Schools.

In October each year, FISD receives the updated fall projections and those numbers are used to draw the preliminary zones for review at the November board meeting. Those proposals are communicated and input is taken from parents. An opportunity for citizen input is extended at the December regular board meeting as the Board moves toward making a final decision on the new boundaries at the January board meeting.

As staff develops the proposed plans, they take into consideration issues of effective utilization of space and programming, student stability, proximity to the school, diversity of the student body and unity in the community. No one factor is more important than another in this process of formulating zones, although in these economic times effective utilization of space is a priority consideration. When making boundary decisions, the district looks at what zones will hold for the longest period of time.

**Nichols Elementary**, located at 2111 Nichols Trail, Frisco, Texas 75034, is projected to enroll 564 students in the fall under this zone. The neighborhoods that will attend Nichols Elementary are

- Frisco Lakes
- Park Place Estates
- Pearson Farms 1 & 2
- Village Lakes
- Waterstone
- Wynngate

*In this rezoning adjustment, Lebanon Ridge will also move from Bledsoe to Allen Elementary to balance enrollments.*

Nichols Elementary will feed Pioneer Heritage Middle School and Frisco High School, as will Sparks and Bledsoe. Allen Elementary will continue to feed Hunt Middle School and Frisco High.

*Note: Elementary school capacity is 760. FISD caps enrollment at about 860 while a new elementary school is being built to relieve the over capacity school. Transfer applications are accepted if a school is under 90 percent capacity, which is 684 at an elementary school. These are annual applications.*

*Middle school capacity is 950-1,000 students. FISD caps enrollment at about 1,125-1,175 while a new middle school is being built to relieve the over capacity school. Transfer applications are accepted if a school is under 90 percent capacity. Pioneer Heritage will only be able to accept transfer applications under these guidelines for one year.*

