**Questions and Answers**

# 2021-2022 School Year Boundary Changes

**Starkey Ranch K-8**

1. **Why are the boundaries being changed?** The new Starkey Ranch K-8 school is under construction and will be open for the 2021-2022 school year. Starkey Ranch K-8 will be a magnet school. The new school is located within the Starkey Ranch development; therefore, it is being proposed that an attendance boundary be drawn around the Starkey Ranch development and that students living within the development be zoned to attend this new school. Students outside the boundary zone wishing to attend the Starkey Ranch K-8 magnet school would request attendance through the school choice process. Families can apply during the School Choice Controlled Open Enrollment Window. Click [here](https://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/news/page/pasco-pathways-schedule-of-events-2020) for more information about Pasco Pathways.
2. **When will the boundaries change?** If approved by the School Board, these changes will go into effect at the start of the 2021-2022 school year.
3. **Which students will be affected?** Students currently zoned for Longleaf Elementary, Odessa Elementary and River Ridge Middle Schools may potentially be affected.
4. **How will I know which school my child will be attending next year?** The maps posted on the rezoning page of the Pasco County Schools’ website, detail the impacted areas: [www.pasco.k12.fl.us/planning/page/rezoning](http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/planning/page/rezoning)
5. **Will rising eighth graders be allowed to remain at their current school?** Yes, students who will be eighth graders during the 2021-2022 school year will remain at River Ridge Middle School. Bus transportation will be provided for those rising eighth graders who are currently eligible for bus transportation. Starkey Ranch K-8 School will open as a K-7 for the 2021-2022 school year.
6. **If my child was previously approved for school choice to attend an out-of-boundary school that is now impacted by boundary changes, do I need to complete a School Choice-Open Enrollment Application for the 2021-2022 school year?** No, for this rezoning, the Superintendent has determined that students currently on school choice, who are at a school that is being rezoned, will not have to reapply for school choice to remain at their current school.
7. **Can my child attend an out-of-boundary school?** School Choice applications are accepted during the School Choice Controlled Open Enrollment Window. Click [here](https://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/news/page/pasco-pathways-schedule-of-events-2020) for more information about school choice and Pasco Pathways.
8. **How do these boundary changes affect bus transportation for my child?** Transportation is provided to zoned schools for students who live further than 2 miles from the school. Transportation to magnet schools is provided via a hub system. These hubs and routes will be determined once the populations of students, who will be attending Starkey Ranch K-8 outside of the Starkey Ranch development, are determined. However, transportation to a non-magnet school, that is outside the student’s zoned school of attendance, is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.
9. **How will decisions about school choice applications be made?** The district has a Board approved Controlled Open Enrollment Plan. This plan, reviewed and revised annually as needed, complies with state and federal laws. It established preferences for school choice requests and guides all decisions for parental requests to attend a school of choice. The plan may be viewed at:

[Controlled Open Enrollment School Choice Plan](https://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/library/ssps/schoolchoice/coe%20final%206.16.20.pdf)

1. **My child is in an Exceptional Student Education (ESE) program. Will there be any change due to the new boundaries?** If the program your child is in is unique to the school you currently attend then no, the boundary changes should not impact his/her educational services at the newly zoned school. If the same services are offered at the newly zoned school then yes, the boundary changes may impact the school your child attends.
2. **What if I have additional questions or want to make comments regarding the upcoming rezoning?** There are multiple ways to provide comment and ask questions. Additional information can be found at our rezoning page: [www.pasco.k12.fl.us/planning/page/rezoning](http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/planning/page/rezoning)

Click on the “Rezoning Comments or Questions” Button at the bottom of the above page. All questions and comments will be shared with the Superintendent and School Board prior to the public hearing and the final vote.

If you have additional questions or concerns,

please feel free to contact us:

* For the boundary map, please contact

Planning Services at 813-794-7970

[www.pasco.k12.fl.us/planning/page/rezoning](http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/planning/page/rezoning)

* For questions about school choice,

Please email us at:

pascopathways@pasco.k12.fl.us