Middle School Rezoning
Due to New Gibbs Middle School
Fall, 2016
Excellence for Every Child
Introduction

- Construction of new middle schools in the Hardin Valley and Gibbs communities is currently underway.
- The schools will open in August 2018. Gibbs will have a capacity of 600 students and Hardin Valley will have a capacity of 1200 students.
- The schools are intended to accommodate recent and future population growth in west Knox County and provide the Gibbs community with a school in close proximity to the center of that community.
- The Hardin Valley school will help relieve crowding at a number of other schools in west Knox County.
- The Board of Education must create a zone for each of the new schools which will require some re-zoning from a number of existing schools.
Zone Planning and Development

- **Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission:**
  - Collects data on births, building permits
  - Provides population forecast for Knox County

- **The Knox County Schools:**
  - Develops enrollment forecasts using current enrollment trends and computer models
  - Designs and recommends school attendance zones to the Board of Education
  - Will develop and recommend a middle school zones to the Board of Education by May 2017

- **Zoning Considerations:**
  - School Capacity
  - Transportation
  - Parent Responsibility Zones
  - Geographic vs. man-made boundaries
  - Congruent middle and high school boundaries
Zone Planning and Development (cont’d)

- **Timeline:**
  - November 2016/ January 2017: Gather input from community
  - December 2016/ February 2017: Formulate a tentative zoning plan
  - March/April 2017: Invite community feedback on plan
  - May 2017: Rezoning recommendation and vote by the Board of Education
Most middle school students in the Gibbs community are zoned to Holston Middle School.

The Holston MS zone is very large with the school and the Gibbs community located at opposite ends of the zone.

The new zoning plan should address the geographic challenge and balance the attendance zones of other north and central middle schools while avoiding the creation of racial and demographic disparities.

School zones potentially affected include Holston, Halls, Carter, Whittle Springs, Gresham, Vine and South-Doyle Middle Schools.
# Enrollment

**August 2016 Actual**
(As of 9/07/16)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HALLS</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>1095</td>
<td>+95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOLSTON</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>876</td>
<td>-324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHITTLE SPRINGS</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRESHAM</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>841</td>
<td>+41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VINE</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>349</td>
<td>-251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARTER</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>823</td>
<td>+173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH-DOYLE</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>-240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIBBS</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>-600</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>6550</strong></td>
<td><strong>5430</strong></td>
<td><strong>1120</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Likely Dynamics

- Area immediately surrounding the new Gibbs Middle School would likely be zoned to the new school.
- Enrollment in other north and central Knox County Middle schools would likely shift south and west, as the new school creates additional capacity.
Other Considerations

- **Timing**: New middle school scheduled to open fall 2018

- **Structure**: should the new school open with all grades, or grow into all grades?

- **Assignment**: Should some students (rising 8th graders, for example) be “grandfathered” to their current school?

- **Community**: how to quickly develop a cohesive, constructive school community that will support student academic success?
Next steps

Parent and Community Input is Important
Questions, feedback, concerns?

Email us rezoning@knoxschools.org

Additional resources:
Updates posted at knoxschoolso.org