



March 6, 2020

Dear Horton Middle School Stakeholders:

As you may be aware, Chatham Grove Elementary School is opening for students and staff in August 2020. The school will serve students in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade and will feature Chatham County's first joint-use recreation facility. The school is located across from Margaret B. Pollard Middle School on the corner of Andrews Store and Parker Herndon roads.

During the past two years, the Chatham County Board of Education has worked with the Operations Research Education Laboratory (OREd) from N.C. State University to create an attendance zone for Chatham Grove that will address both current and future logistics related to school capacity and transportation. This has been a complex and lengthy process that included identifying priorities, conducting three sessions for community input, deploying a survey to gather additional information, and defining criteria for grandfathering. All of that resulted in a Chatham Grove attendance zone that reassigns students from the existing attendance zones for Perry Harrison Elementary and Pittsboro Elementary schools.

Attached to this letter is the revised attendance zone map for your area that includes Chatham Grove Elementary School. You will also find the Board of Education's grandfathering rules/related topics for 2020-2021 academic year. The following link www.chatham.k12.nc.us.us/newschools/ will take you to the *New Schools* website, where you can click on Chatham Grove Elementary. This page includes an address listing of students who are going to be reassigned beginning in the fall of 2020 as part of this process. **It is important to note that the Mount Gilead Church Road area will attend Perry Harrison Elementary for grades K-5 and then Margaret Pollard Middle for grades 6-8 (Note- this area used to attend Pittsboro Elementary and Horton Middle).** You are receiving this letter because you live in this area and will be attending a different school beginning in the fall of 2020.

Every effort has been made to establish new attendance zones and modify existing attendance zones with longevity in mind. However, it is important to understand that the nature of student assignments combined with the growth that is already occurring and the potential for additional growth in the northeast part of the county could necessitate changes in the near or distant future. To that end, we will continue to work with OREd and our local permitting departments to stay abreast of new construction. If and when additional attendance zone modifications become necessary, we will again follow the process outlined in the second paragraph above and will include stakeholder input when practical.

Please contact your school's principal or Mr. Chris Blice, Chief Operations Officer, at 919-542-3626 with questions regarding school assignments for the 2020-2021 academic year. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Gary L. Leonard, Chair
Board of Education