



Reimagining Education Reinvigorating Schools

DES MOINES PUBLIC SCHOOLS | DES MOINES, IOWA

Boundary Analysis Public Input

Monday, August 10, 2026

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

**East High School Auditorium
815 E. 13th Street, Des Moines**

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Lincoln High School Commons
2600 SW 9th Street, Des Moines**

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

**Roosevelt High School Auditorium
4419 Center Street, Des Moines**

Des Moines Public Schools | *Process facilitated by RSP*

Executive Summary

IMPORTANT: These are draft concepts. No final boundary recommendation has been made.

Tonight, you will review:



Regions:

How schools are organized within the district's planning regions



Comprehensive School Boundaries:

Draft boundaries for neighborhood schools that are not Signature Schools



Signature School Transitions:

When Signature Schools begin and how grades are phased in



Opt-In Opportunities:

How families may choose Signature Schools and how enrollment priority may work



Phasing:

How changes may occur over time to reduce disruption for current students

All of this to improve: Equity, Access, and Student Opportunity

Why This Work Is Happening

In November 2025, voters **approved the Reimagining Education Plan** and the bond investments needed to begin implementation.

The district is now working through important details, including attendance boundaries, school transitions, transportation, student supports, and implementation timelines.

Feedback gathered during this phase will help inform the next stage of planning.



How We'll Support Students & Families



Students Come First



Early Communication



Support Through the Transition



Support Beyond the Classroom



Open, Ongoing Communication



Students and families will be supported throughout any future transitions.

Current planning concepts include:

- ✓ Allowing current students to **remain at their school during transition periods**. In general, students already attending a school would continue at that school, while **boundary changes would primarily affect incoming students**.
- ✓ Phasing changes in gradually **between 2028 and 2032 to reduce disruption for students and families**.

Regional Alignment

CREATING THE REGIONS

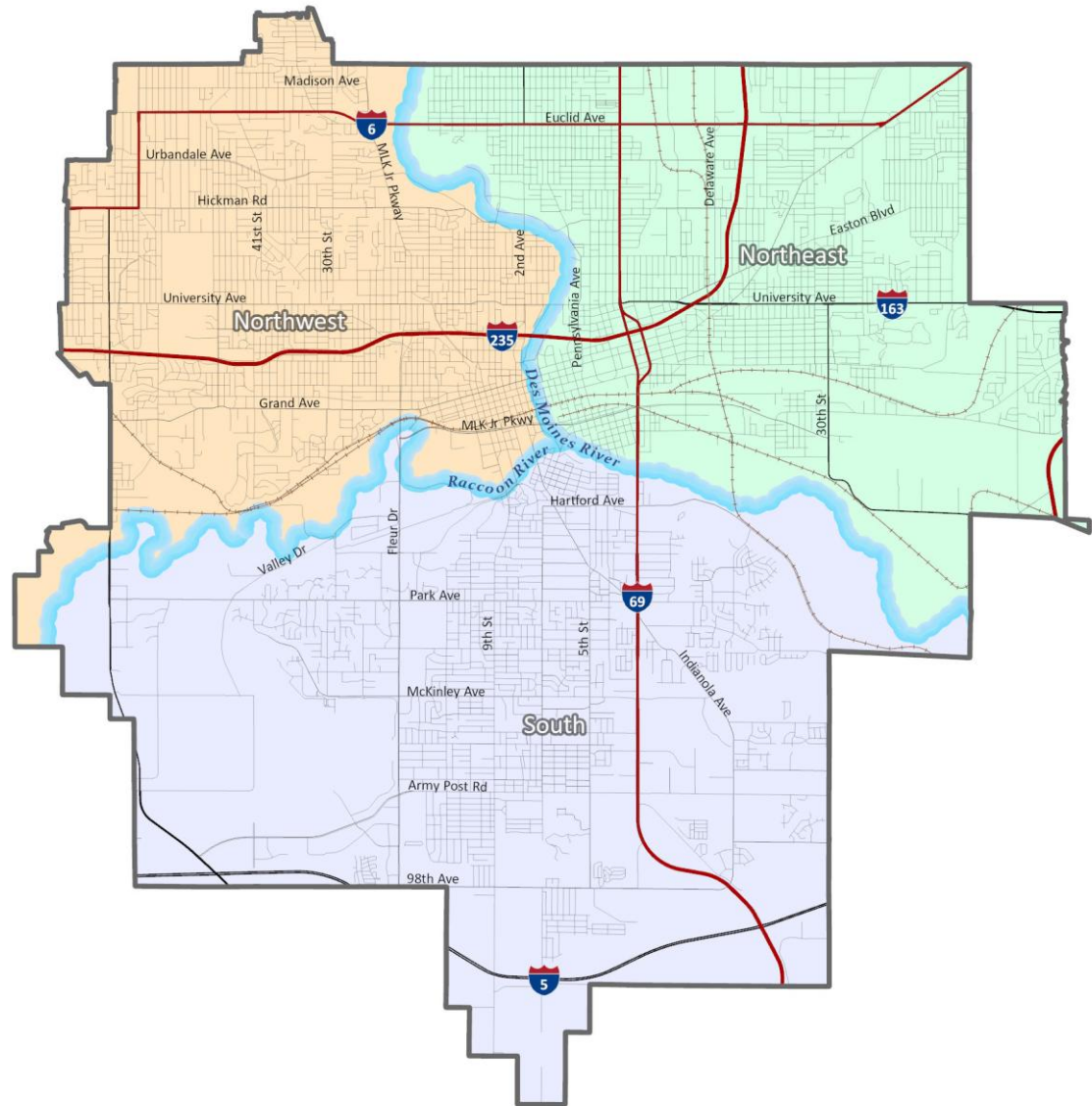
- Divided by the rivers
- Align feeder patterns to three comprehensive high schools

CHANGING GRADE CONFIGURATIONS

- Adjust to a 6th grade model at the elementary level
- Open signature programs (PK-8, 7-12)

SIGNATURE SCHOOLS PROGRAMMING

- Dual Language
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)
- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math)
- CTE (Career & Technical Education)
- Arts Academy
- Montessori

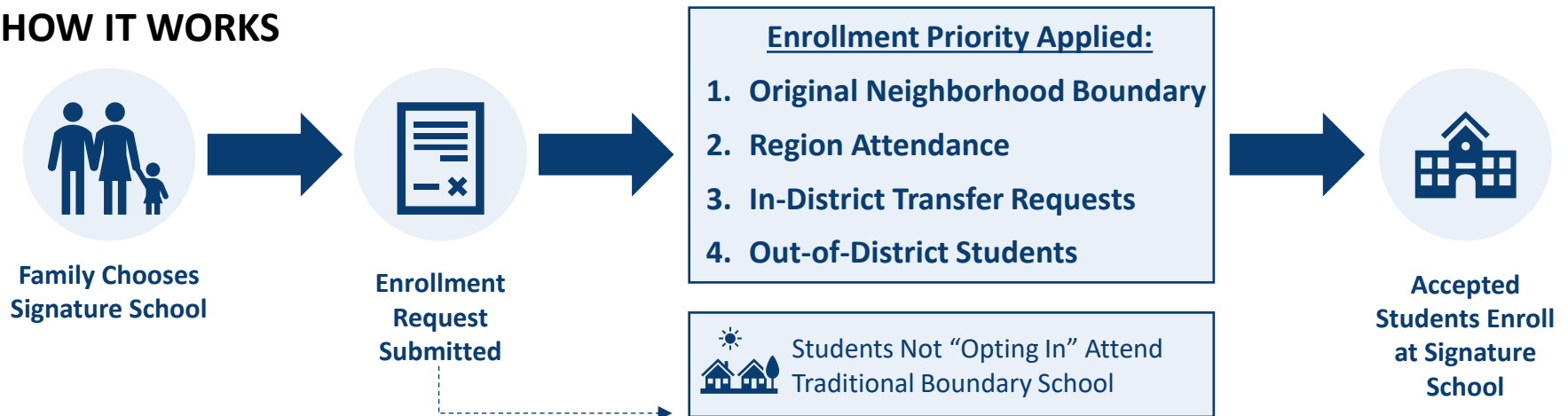


Opt-In Signature Schools

Boundary Committee is proposing an Opt-In Model for Signature School Enrollment.

- Signature Schools would **NOT** retain a neighborhood boundary
- Families actively choose to **“Opt-In”** to the **signature school learning experience**.
- Original boundaries would be preserved for **priority enrollment purposes**
- Families would have a **new neighborhood school**, while students living in the current attendance area would continue to receive **first priority for enrollment at the Signature School**

HOW IT WORKS



Boundary Concepts

Draft boundary maps are available at each small-group station.

- Each poster shows how boundaries are proposed to change from 2026/27 through 2031/32.
- Staff materials summarize the proposed changes for each school.

2026/27-
2027/28 2028/29 2029/30 2030/31 2031/32

No Boundary Changes	Elementary ★ Signature Schools Regional and feeder adjustments	Elementary No additional changes	Elementary Howe Elementary retires	Elementary No additional changes
	Middle School Regional and feeder adjustments	Middle School ★ Signature Schools	Middle School No additional changes	Middle School Harding Middle School retires
	High School No changes	High School ★ Signature Schools	High School Regional and feeder adjustments	High School No additional changes

Comprehensive Elementary Schools:

6th Grade Transition Potential by 3030/31

Comprehensive elementary schools with the greatest potential to phase in 6th grade over the next five years.

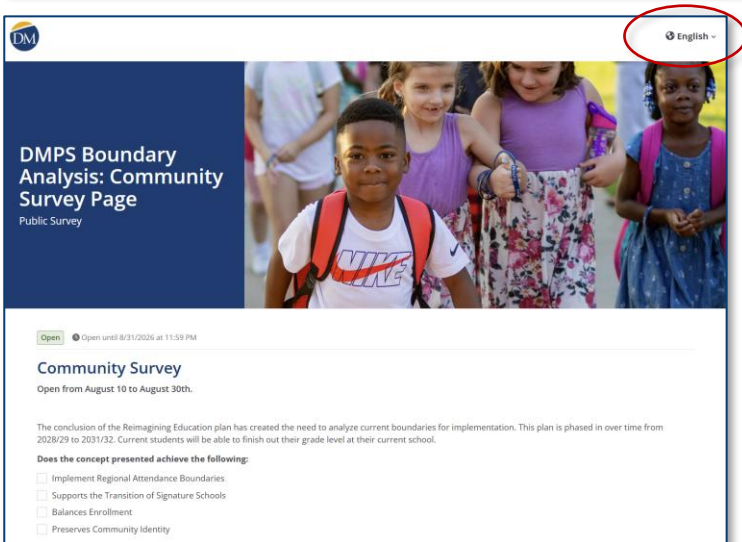
Northwest Region	Northeast Region	South Region
• Already has 6th Grade ✓ Edmunds ✓ Greenwood ✓ Hillis	• Already has 6th Grade	• Already has 6th Grade ✓ South Union
• Potential to add 6th Grade ☐ Hanawalt ☐ Hubbell ☐ King ☐ Monroe ☐ Moore ☐ Perkins ☐ Samuelson ☐ Windsor	• Potential to add 6th Grade ☐ Capitol View ☐ Garton ☐ Madison ☐ Phillips ☐ Willard	• Potential to add 6th Grade ☐ Howe ☐ Lovejoy ☐ McKinley ☐ Morris ☐ River Woods ☐ Wright
• Limited Potential ☐ Downtown	• Limited Potential ☐ Carver ☐ Cattell ☐ Oak Park ☐ Stowe	• Limited Potential ☐ Jefferson ☐ Park Avenue ☐ Studebaker

Note: All PK-8 Signature Schools will include grade 6 (Brubaker, Cowles, Findley, Jackson, Moulton, and Pleasant Hill)

Open House Directions

Stations are set up throughout the room. Each station is the same and provides the opportunity to...

1. Read about the boundary concepts and view large maps
2. Have small group discussion with others and get questions answered
3. Visit the Laptop stations to use an Address Locator Tool
4. When ready, **take the survey!**



Scan Me to access the survey →



About the Survey:

- ☐ Open via Social Pinpoint from **Aug. 10 to Aug. 30**; Click the top right corner “English” to change languages
- ☐ Includes fewer than 10 questions with an opportunity to provide open-ended feedback

Appendix

Northwest Region Schools:

○ Pre-K Centers:

- JF Taylor (PK)
- Smouse (PK)

○ Elementary Schools:

- Downtown (K-5)
- Edmunds (K-6)
- Greenwood (PK-6)
- Hanawalt (K-5)
- Hillis (K-6)
- Hubbell (K-5)
- King (K-5)
- Monroe (K-5)
- Moore (K-5)
- Perkins (K-5)
- Samuelson (K-5)
- Windsor (K-5)

○ Middle Schools:

- Callanan (6-8)
- Merrill (6-8)

○ Comprehensive High School

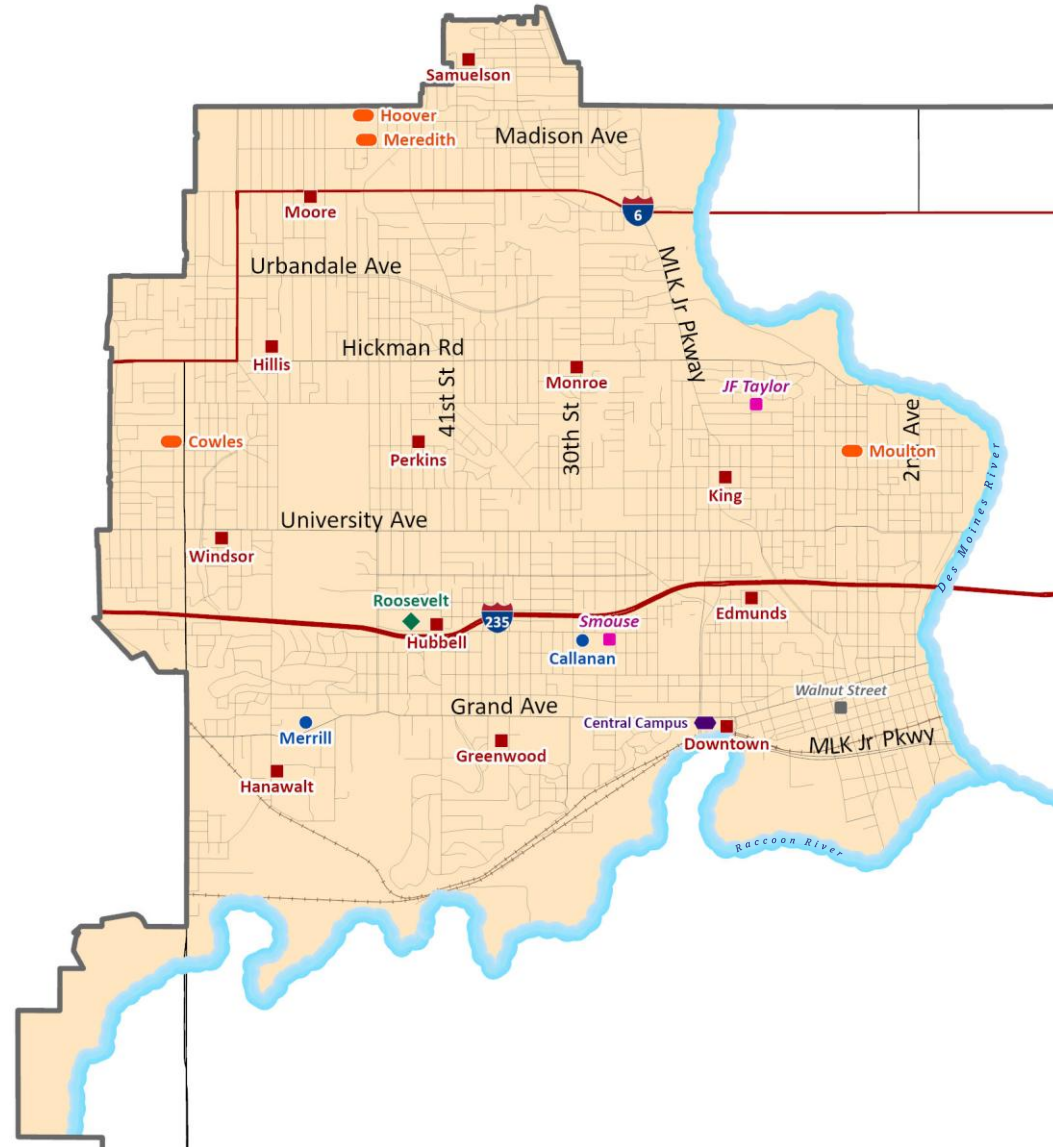
- Roosevelt (9-12)

○ Proposed Signature Schools:

- Cowles Montessori (PK-8)
- Moulton (PK-8)
- Meredith/Hoover (7-12)

○ Retired Buildings:

- Walnut Street (FY27)



Northwest Region: Signature Schools

Cowles

- **Grades: PK-8**
- **Program: Montessori**

Context: Community-supported early learning pathway

Moulton

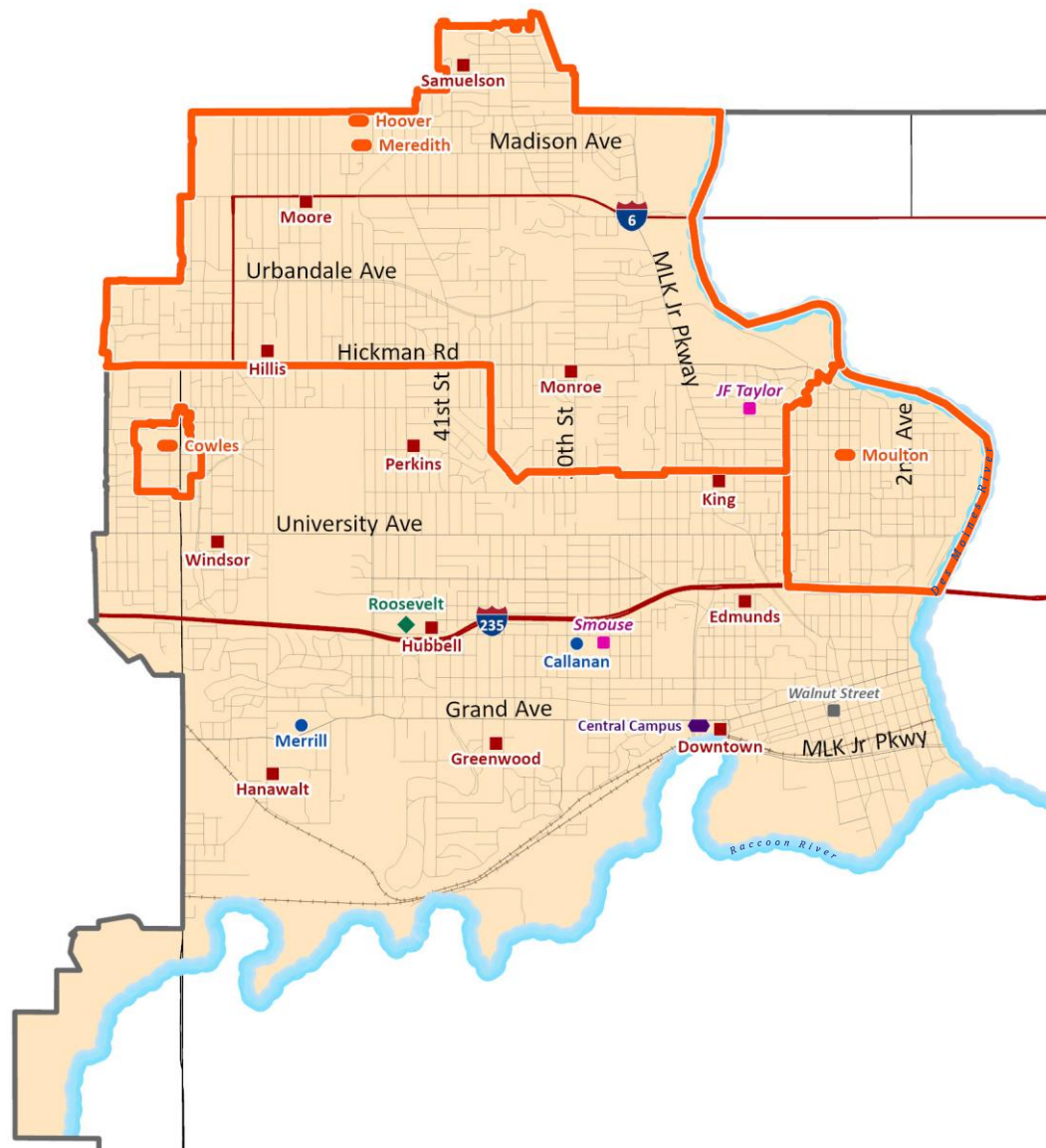
- **Grades: PK-8**
- **Program: Arts Academy**

Context: Performing and visual arts program

Hoover/Meredith

- **Grades: 7-12**
- **Program: STEAM (Data Science, Artificial Intelligence Systems, Digital Design, Multimedia and Communications)**

Context: High student interest in hands-on pathways



Northeast Region Schools:

○ Pre-K Centers:

- McKee (PK)

○ Elementary Schools:

- Capitol View (PK-5)
- Carver (PK-5)
- Cattell (K-5)
- Garton (PK-5)
- Madison (PK-5)
- Oak Park (K-5)
- Phillips (K-5)
- Stowe (K-5)
- Willard (K-5)

○ Middle Schools:

- Goodrell (6-8)
- Hiatt (6-8)

○ Comprehensive High School

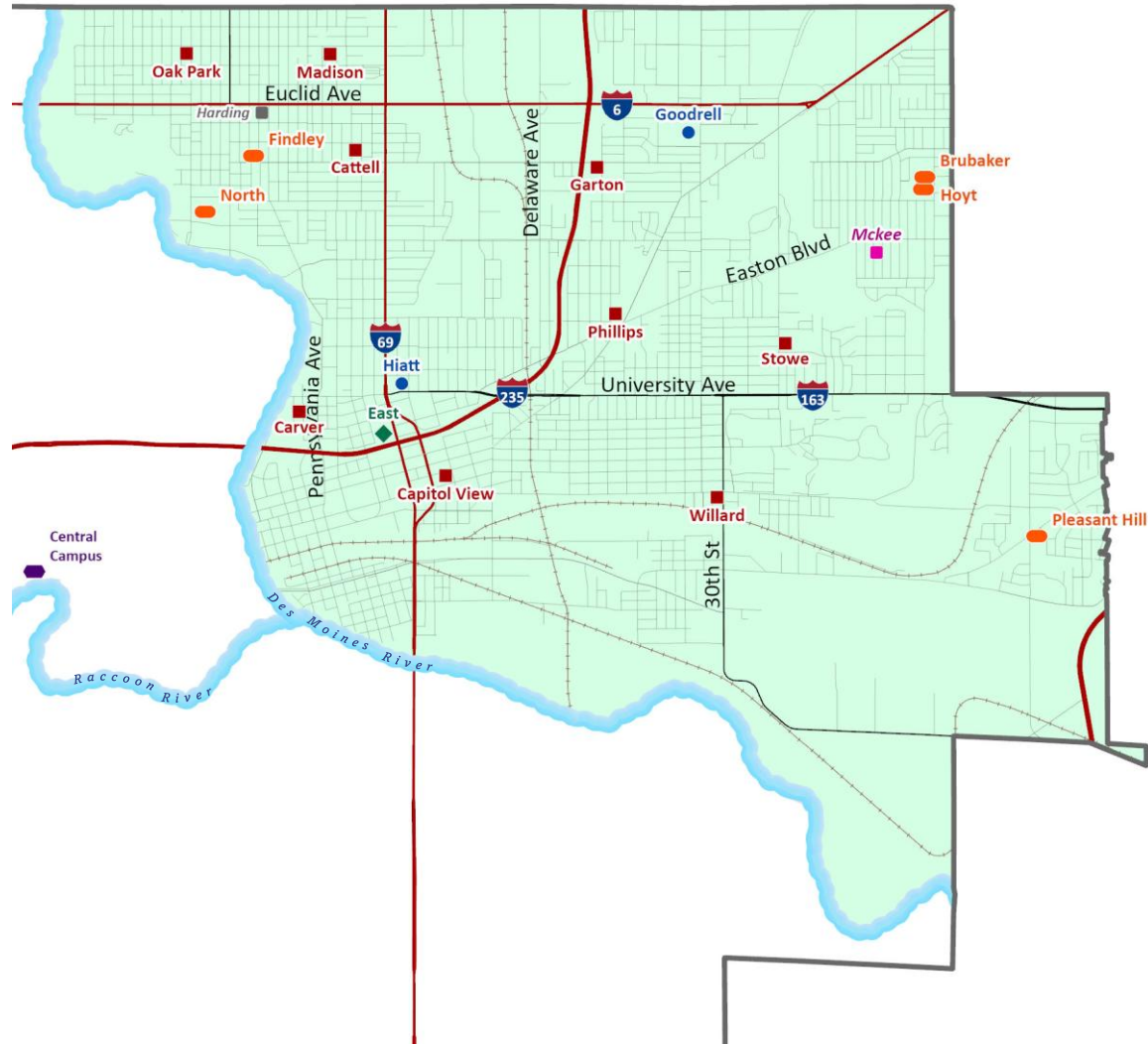
- East (9-12)

○ Proposed Signature Schools:

- Brubaker/Hoyt (PK-8)
- Findley (K-6) * see note
- Pleasant Hill (PK-8)
- North (7-12)

○ Retired Buildings:

- Harding (FY32)



Northeast Region: Signature Schools

Findley

- **Grades: K-6** * see note
- **Program: Montessori**

Context: Community-supported early learning pathway

Pleasant Hill

- **Grades: PK-8**
- **Program: Montessori**

Context: Community-supported early learning pathway

Brubaker/Hoyt

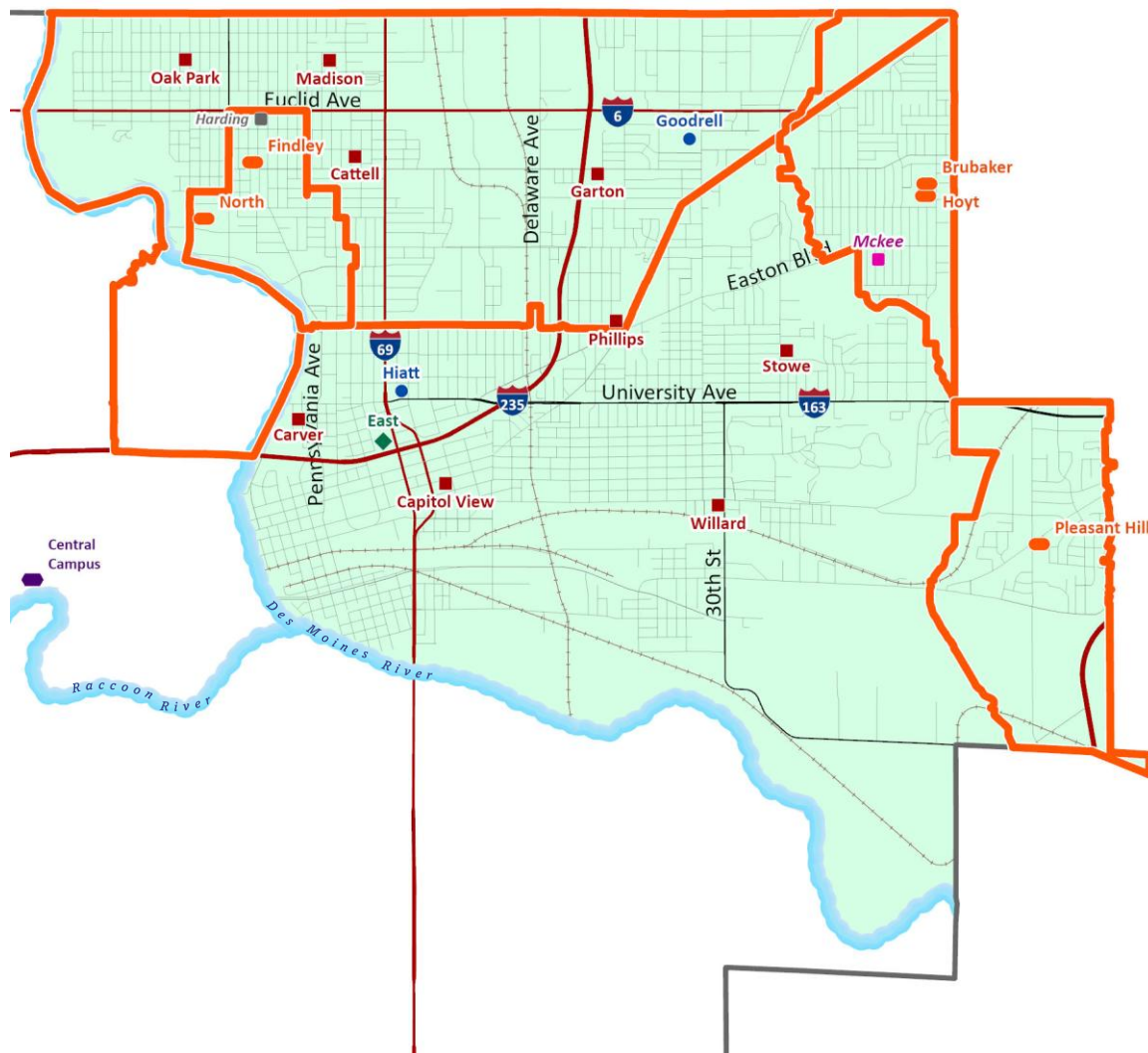
- **Grades: PK-8**
- **Program: Dual-Language Immersion**

Context: Supports bilingual and bicultural identity development; aligns with family demand and multilingual workforce preparation.

North

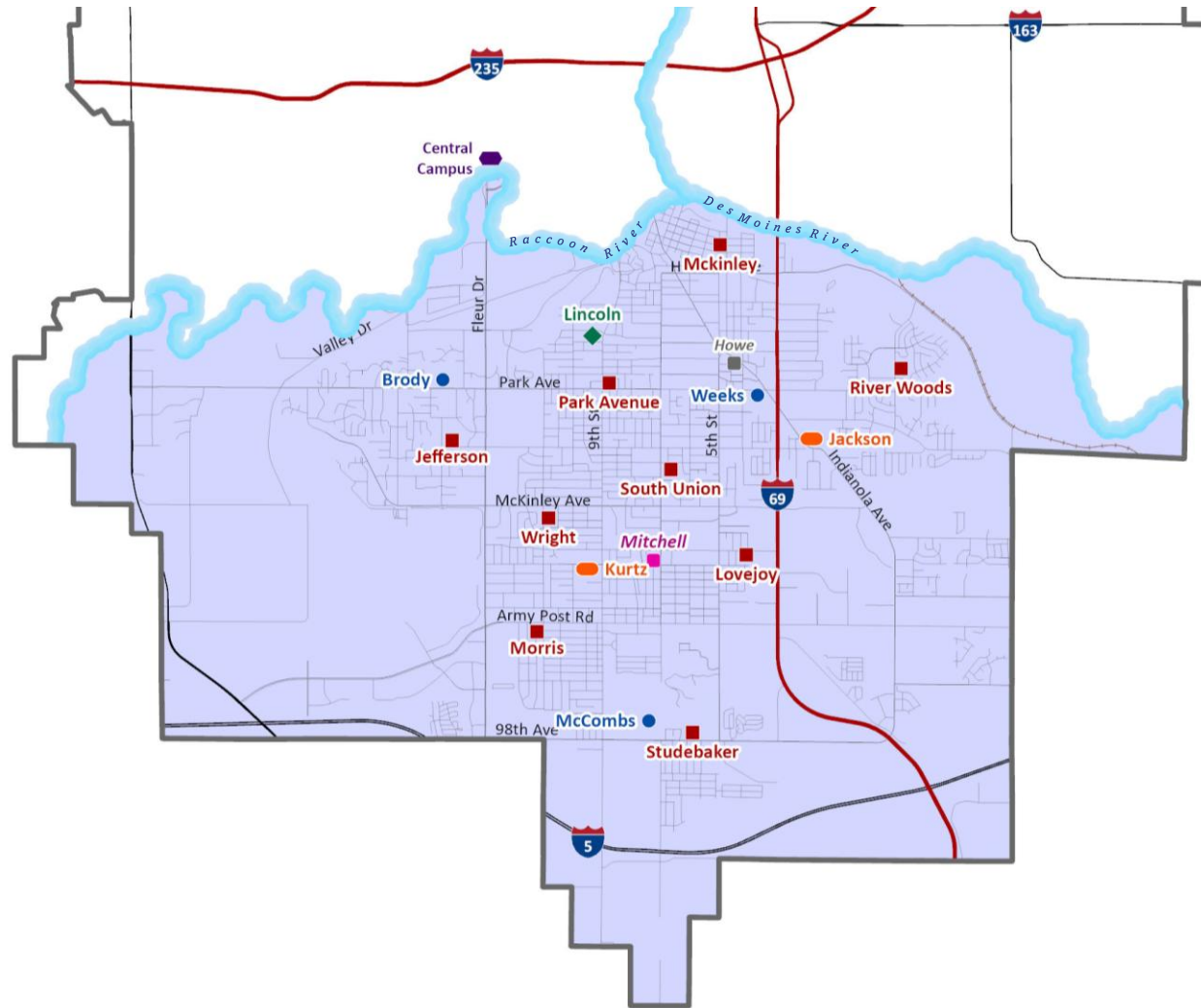
- **Grades: 7-12**
- **Program: STEM (Advanced Manufacturing, Automation & Robotics, Biomedical Design)**

Context: High student interest in hands-on pathways



South Region Schools:

- **Pre-K Centers:**
 - Mitchell (PK)
- **Elementary Schools:**
 - Jefferson (PK-5)
 - McKinley (K-5)
 - Park Avenue (K-5)
 - River Woods (K-5)
 - Lovejoy (K-5)
 - Morris (K-5)
 - South Union (K-6)
 - Studebaker (K-5)
 - Wright (K-5)
- **Middle Schools:**
 - Brody (6-8)
 - McCombs (6-8)
 - Weeks (6-8)
- **Comprehensive High School**
 - Lincoln (9-12)
- **Proposed Signature Schools:**
 - Jackson (PK-8)
 - Kurtz (7-12)
- **Retired Buildings:**
 - Howe (FY31)



South Region: Signature Schools

Jackson

- **Grades: PK-8**
- **Program: Montessori**

Context: Community-supported early learning pathway

Kurtz

- **Grades: 7-12**
- **Program: CTE (Aerospace Engineering, Business Academy, Agribusiness, Environmental Science)**

Context: High student interest in hands-on pathways

