

Hon. Paul D. Lopez
Clerk and Recorder
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City and County of Denver

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Board of Education
Denver Public Schools
1860 Lincoln Street
Denver, CO 80203

April 7, 2023

Re: Director district boundary adjustments

Dear Board Members:

During your March 9, 2023, board meeting, members discussed the status of the redistricting process with DPS staff. Although the Board did not take formal action, it appears from the discussion that the Board intends to postpone full redistricting of its director districts until after the November 2023 biennial election, and instead consider minor changes to match existing district boundaries with recently established precinct boundaries.¹

As the Chief Designated Election Official for the November 7, 2023, coordinated election, which includes the election of your school district directors, I encourage the Board to immediately adopt the precinct-aligning boundary adjustments required by law.² This will allow my office to import the district boundaries into the statewide voter registration database. This step is critical to our administration of your school district's election and must be completed before we qualify candidates for the ballot.

I also want to express my concern about the possible impacts to the election that may result if the Board postpones full redistricting. As you know, Sec. 22-31-109 (2) (c), C.R.S., requires that director districts be as equal in population as possible. It is my understanding that the current district map is in violation of this requirement by a significant margin.³

My office operates under a strict election timeline, and noncompliance of this magnitude could jeopardize our ability to meet the many deadlines required by law, which in turn could delay both the district's election and any city or statewide ballot measures certified for the coordinated election.

I ask that you prioritize these issues and take appropriate action as soon as possible. Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I also want to thank the members of DPS staff for their work on redistricting and for keeping my office informed during the process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul Lopez".

Hon. Paul D. Lopez,
Clerk and Recorder of the City and County of Denver

¹ DPS special board meeting, March 9, 2023 (04:59 – 05:56).

² Sec. 22-31-109 (2) (b), C.R.S., requires that district boundaries be “composed of whole precincts.”

³ Board of Education Redistricting Presentation, <https://board.dpsk12.org/balancing-board-districts/>.