



Frequently Asked Questions Enrollment capping at Reagan High School 2007-08

What is enrollment capping?

Enrollment capping occurs when a school can no longer accept any new students due to the physical constraints of the facilities. Students who are “capped” are enrolled in another district school and transported to that campus. (This should not be confused with capping for School Choice, which limits intra-district transfers.)

Why is the district capping the enrollment at Reagan High School to new residents?

The student population at Reagan has experienced significant growth that exceeds both the common core area (library, cafeteria, etc.) and permanent classroom capacity of the schools. This is a fast growing area of the city, and new students are continuously being enrolled. Reagan is no longer able to absorb the increasing student population, even with the existing portable classrooms.

To prevent the student population at Reagan from increasing beyond current enrollment numbers, the district has limited the enrollment of students who are **new residents in the Reagan attendance area**. Additionally, Reagan is restricted from School Choice, which allows a North East student to transfer to another NEISD school outside of where he/she lives.

Who is affected by the capping?

The enrollment capping will apply to new residents in the Reagan attendance area. The enrollment capping will **not affect any current resident** of the Reagan attendance area who remains enrolled in the school and maintains the same residence. Should a Reagan resident move within the Reagan attendance area to another address within the Reagan boundary, the student may continue at Reagan. Should a Reagan resident move to a non-Reagan address, the student will attend the school for the new residence.

When will this capping go into effect?

Capping went into effect on May 1, 2006 for Reagan.

Where will capped students go to school?

New students in the Reagan attendance area will be capped to MacArthur High School, located at 2923 Bitters Road.

Will transportation be provided for the capped students?

Yes, the district will bus students to MacArthur.

What if my child is already enrolled in a North East school? Does capping apply to us?

If your family is a new resident in the Reagan attendance area and your child is not yet enrolled in Reagan, then your student will be capped to MacArthur High School. Students already enrolled in Reagan and their younger siblings are exempt from the capping. All residents of the attendance area whose children reside there and are not currently enrolled in Reagan are also not affected by the capping.

Has the district done all it can before putting enrollment capping into place?

The district has tried to create additional classroom space and relief for these crowded campuses. For example, Reagan has added portable buildings and converted the faculty dining room to create additional classroom space. But the core facilities, like the cafeteria and library, are at capacity. Reagan has already implemented four lunch periods to accommodate the large student population and cannot add any additional lunch periods. Additionally, the district made temporary boundary changes affecting some new neighborhoods east of Bulverde Road/north of Evans Road and east of Highway 281/north of Evans Road that were zoned for Reagan to attend MacArthur. Please visit the map at www.neisd.net/maps/campus/boundaries/maps06-07/MacArthur_Temp.pdf for more specific information.

Is there an alternative to the district’s plan for enrollment capping?

The district has added additional classroom capacity at Reagan. Due to site constraints, such as parking, trees, impervious cover limitations, and lack of available space, it has become increasingly difficult to add additional portable buildings to this campus. Additionally, as enrollment has exceeded the capacity of the core facilities, like the cafeteria and library, adding more portable buildings becomes less of an option.

In the past, the district has also explored multi-track year-round calendars (staggering terms) and split-shift days (more than one start and end time) as methods to increase the capacity of existing facilities. Both of these alternatives would affect current residents and adversely impact extra-curricular activities. Previous bond committees have rejected these proposals.

Did the district know that these schools would not have enough space before the new schools opened?

The district anticipated the growth in this area and addressed it with plans to build new schools using money from the 2002 bond referendum, which did not pass. However, the passage of the 2003 bond included plans to build and open Claudia Taylor (Lady Bird) Johnson High School to relieve Reagan.

Does the district have experience with enrollment capping?

In the past, it has been necessary for North East to cap schools because of overcrowding. NEISD has had one or more campuses capped over the last several years.

Where can I go for more information?

For general information:

Community Relations, 210-804-7090

www.neisd.net/boundaries.htm

For enrollment questions:

Pupil Personnel, 210-804-7070

To enroll students in school:

Reagan High School, 210-482-2200

MacArthur High School, 210-650-1100