

"I seek to provide equal educational opportunities for all the children regardless of race, creed or **location.**" (quote from the Code of Ethics of the St. Tammany Parish School Board Members)

All Residents of Forest Brook,

Please do not disregard this email as it is important to every person who owns a home in the portion of Mandeville that is affected by the boundaries of the map for the new High School that will open in the Fall of 2009.

As most of you know, there is much controversy as to what areas of Mandeville should attend this high school. To date there has been a boundary map approved by a committee that will include areas South of Highway 36 in Abita Springs, east of Highway 59 & west of Highway 434 in Lacombe, all the way to Lake Pontchartrain, with a loop that includes Hunters Glen Subdivision and the subdivisions that feed into Lonesome Road. This map has been submitted to the St. Tammany Parish School Board for approval. **The vote will take place on October 16th.**

The School Board has the authority to approve the map as it has been recommended by the 15 person committee or make changes by excluding any of these subdivisions. Without these subdivisions we may not have a "fair, balanced and equitable" school district. (St. Tammany Parish School Board code of ethics)

If the current version of the map is not approved, the original map proposed (with boundaries East of Hwy. 59, South of Hwy. 1088 all the way to Lake Pontchartrain, and portions of Lacombe & Abita Springs) would result in 40% or more of the school being on free and reduced lunches (considered "at risk"), leaving Fontainebleau High School with only 4-6% of "at risk" students (reduced from 20%). These numbers have nothing to do with affluent, middle class, or poor. The reason this number is so important is the need for a balanced socio-economic enrollment in a school. This means a better school for our children, a better education, and the chance of getting into a better college. This results in better jobs and a better and more stable economy. Additionally, this issue is very important because if the children off of Lonesome Road are not pulled into this new High School we fear the school's scores will not be what Fontainebleau's scores are. As you know, this is the first thing people look at when they consider purchasing a new home.

All residents of this area who own homes will be affected by the outcome of the School Board's decision, whether you have a vested interest in the Public School System or not. If you would like your concerns heard, you should email all School Board members and voice your opinion. Below you will find email addresses for the St. Tammany Parish School Board. YOUR OPINIONS MATTER.

Consider being a voice in our community for our community!

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Thank You,

Forest Brook HOA Board of Directors
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