

# School Planning Workgroup Meeting Summary

## December 8, 2010, at 10:30 am

### **I. Welcome and Introductions:**

Gordon Beardslee, with the Pinellas County Planning Department facilitated the meeting and welcomed all to the third meeting of 2010. Introductions from those in attendance followed.

### **II. Review of the School District's 2010-11 Annual Level of Service School Capacity Report**

Marshall Touchton, the School District's Demographer, handed out a draft of the Annual 2010-11 School Capacity and Level of Service (LOS) Report. Mr. Touchton indicated that, per the requirements in the Public Schools Interlocal Agreement, each year following the fall student enrollment count, the District prepares the LOS Report to calculate the existing level of service within the school district countywide. The Report determines the utilization rates by comparing the aggregate school capacity and anticipated facilities construction to enrollment and anticipated student population growth in eight Concurrency Service Areas (CSAs). Mr. Touchton further explained that the anticipated growth that is captured by the Vested Students column (found on page 4, under the table "Utilization of Capacity by CSA on Official Count Date"), summarizes the total students anticipated based on approved site plans entered into the Residential Development Tracking System, as of November 5, 2010.

Mr. Touchton proceeded to review the Report's content and the definitions associated with each of the column headings. He then identified that the FISH Capacity 2010/11 column includes unsatisfactory portables only from Palm Harbor University and East Lake High Schools and noted that the reason the portables were labeled as unsatisfactory was due to them not having covered walkways connecting to the campus. He further noted that other unsatisfactory portables exist in other facilities (Elementary, Middle, and High), however, these were not included in the FISH Capacity column because they are not used as classroom space for students. Another point of interest Mr. Touchton commented on dealt with the negative capacity value under the School Construction (2010/11 to 2012-13) column, found on page 4. This negative value (-285) was due to the upcoming removal of portables after the completion of the construction project occurring at Boca Ciega High School

A group discussion followed regarding the Vested Students column, noting that while there have been a few residential site plans entered into the Residential Development Tracking System for School Concurrency, there are site plans that were approved prior to the initiation of the tracking system, which have not moved forward as planned and have been given repeated extensions. It was reiterated that it had been agreed earlier that these prior site plans would not be

entered into the tracking system. Mr. Beardslee commented that the responsibility for implementation of school concurrency is left up to each local government; however, if approval of a prior site plan expires, it would be subject to school concurrency and have to be entered into the Residential Development Tracking System if a developer resubmits the expired site plan through the local government's site plan approval process.

Mr. Touchton then compared the Report with last year's enrollment figures, noting that an overall slight enrollment decrease was experienced between 2009/10 and 2010/11. Specifically, there were Elementary school decreases in CSAs A and C (-442 students) while CSAs B and D increased slightly (+191 students). Middle school enrollment decreased slightly in CSA A (-198 students) while increasing slightly in CSAs B and C (+176). High school enrollment showed the largest decrease with a loss of 1,093 students from last year. At the close of this 2011 school year, it is anticipated that High school enrollment will drop again considerably by approximately 1,200+ students. Mr. Touchton then mentioned that even with the Student Class Size Reduction mandates that occurred at the beginning of the school year, all CSAs remain below the 95% utilization rate threshold for the second consecutive year.

Mr. Beardslee concluded the item by asking what the next steps are in finalizing the draft Report. Mr. Touchton responded that he intends to take the Report to the School Board's next Public Hearing on January 11, 2011 as part of their consent agenda, and once approved, he will distribute the report electronically to the Work Group members.

### **III. Discuss updates to the Projected Student Impact Assessment Worksheet (Version 1) relating to the 2010-11 Annual Level of Service School Capacity Report**

Mr. Beardslee handled this item by providing a brief background summary on the creation of the Projected Student Impact Assessment Worksheet, which was developed by School District staff early this year. Mr. Beardslee further noted that, during their review of the Worksheet, the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) and the Department of Education (DOE) noted that they would prefer to see the Worksheet's capacity and population data updated annually. Mr. Touchton responded that he has reassured both DCA and DOE that it is District's intent to annually update the Worksheet using the most recent data associated with the adoption of the Annual LOS Report. After the LOS report is approved by the School Board next month, Marshall will update the data in the Worksheet and distribute a second version of the CD for all to use this coming year. Although due to Mr. Touchton's workload, he may not be able to get to it right away.

All Work Group members were reminded and encouraged to continue to use the current Worksheet until it an updated version is completed, since it provides for a consistent countywide approach to the assessment of student impacts resulting from Future Land Use Map (FLUM) amendments.

#### **IV. Discuss the School District's pending school attendance rezoning activity for the 2011-12 school year**

Mr. Touchton introduced this item by mentioning that the District is in the process of reevaluating the existing 2009-10 student zone assignment plan for elementary, middle and high schools, mainly focusing on the relationship between the students in each school zone and their close proximity to a facility versus the school's available capacity. This year the District would like local government feed-back since they are faced with less flexibility when it comes to redrawing zone boundaries due to the State's Class Size Reduction mandates and additional Application Programs that the District has made available in recent years (such as: Magnet, Charter, and Fundamental). Mr. Touchton further noted that, the area surrounding Sawgrass Lake Elementary is a good example of that challenge, since there are currently over 180 kindergarten students zoned for that school, which is unsustainable. At present, District policy states that all students shall be given a seat in the school that they are zoned for. In the Sawgrass Lake Elementary School Zone example, the School District must reduce the size of this school zone (and therefore reduce the number of students within that zone) and compensate by expanding one or more other school zones. Developing recommended changes to school zone boundaries requires consideration of numerous factors and Mr. Touchton wants to give local governments an opportunity to provide any preferences they may have on how the new zones are configured. Any noted preferences would be considered when decisions are made on redrawing the lines; however, Mr. Touchton noted that he cannot guarantee a requested change will be made.

Mr. Touchton concluded the item, indicating that as an immediate follow-up to the meeting he will provide County staff with an email to distribute to members of the current 2009-10 student attendance zones for Elementary, Middle, and High schools. Mr. Touchton has asked each local government to email him directly with any specific requests in the proposed boundaries for the next 2011-12 school year. Mr. Touchton will evaluate all requests and see if he can accommodate them, but here are no guarantees. The deadline for all Middle and High school comments is December 14, 2010, for Elementary school the deadline is January 11, 2011.

Elizabeth Freeman, with the Pinellas County Planning Department, asked Mr. Touchton how he would handle multiple comments/suggestions that cross over jurisdictional boundaries. Mr. Touchton responded that in such cases, it's likely that neither jurisdiction would receive a preference. He reminded all that the development of the zone assignment plan is a work in progress and to make sure that each local government follows closely the School Board's future agenda items.

On a final note, Mr. Bessette said there will not be any school closings for 2011.

#### **V. Other Items from Members**

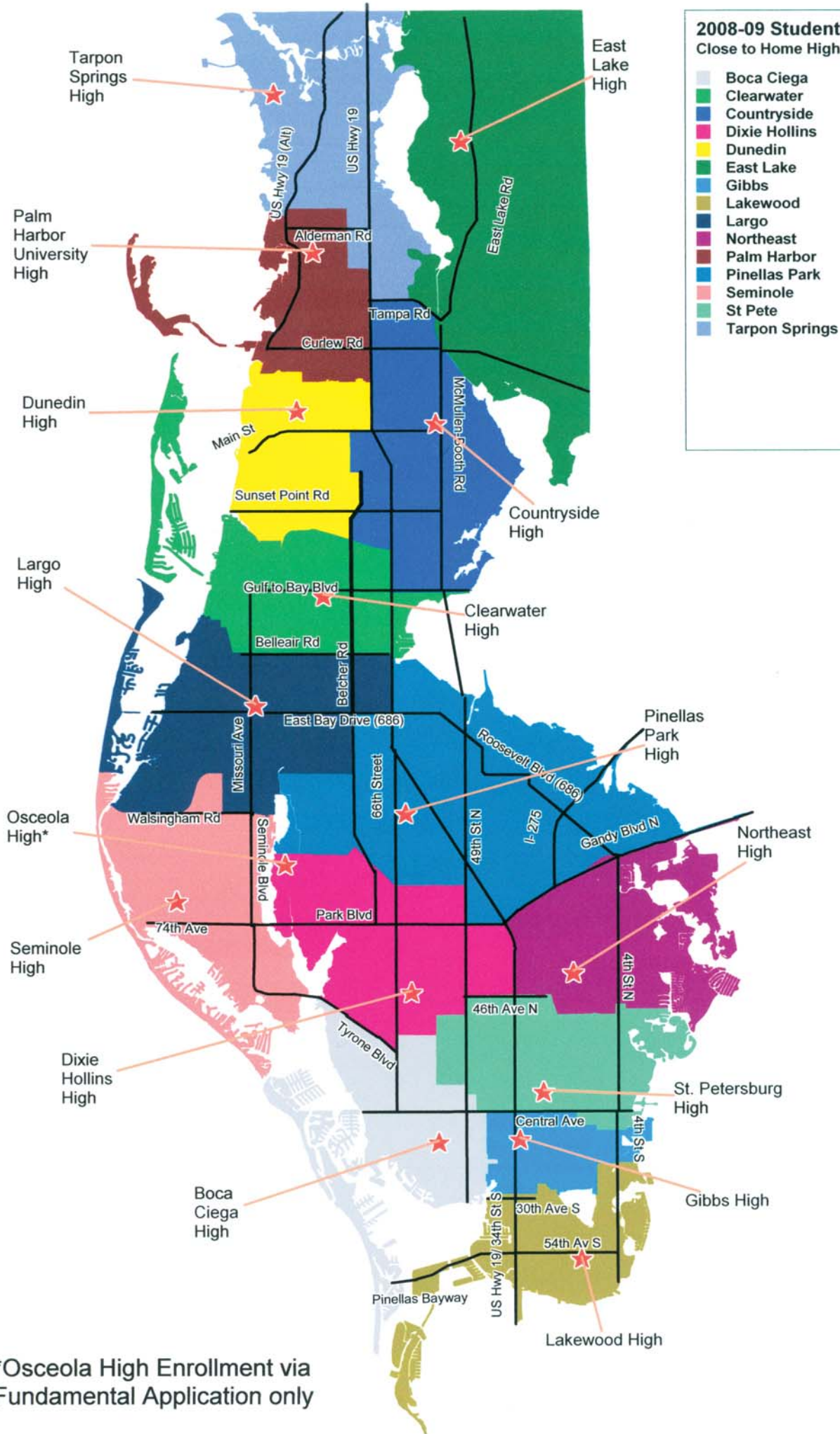
Mr. Beardslee concluded the meeting by asking Work Group members to share experiences or comments that they have had concerning their recent usage of the Residential Development Tracking System. All agreed that everything is running smoothly and no problems exist. Mr. Beardslee further noted that to date; only 4 jurisdictions have entered site plans into the system for concurrency tracking and compliance.

Mr. Beardslee asked if anyone had any further questions, or if there were any other items to consider. There were no comments and the meeting was concluded.

**Member in Attendance:**

Bob Bray	City of Pinellas Park
Paul Geisz	City of St. Petersburg
Marshall Touchton	Pinellas County School District
Michael Bessette	Pinellas County School District
Fred Metcalf	City of Gulfport
David Sadowsky	Pinellas County
Al Navaroli	Pinellas County
Lauren Matzke	City of Clearwater
Tom Moore	City of Largo
Ron Rinzivillo	City of Safety Harbor
Gordon Beardslee	Pinellas County
Liz Freeman	Pinellas County
Ryan A. Brinson	Pinellas County

# **2008-09 Student Assignment Plan** Close to Home High Schools



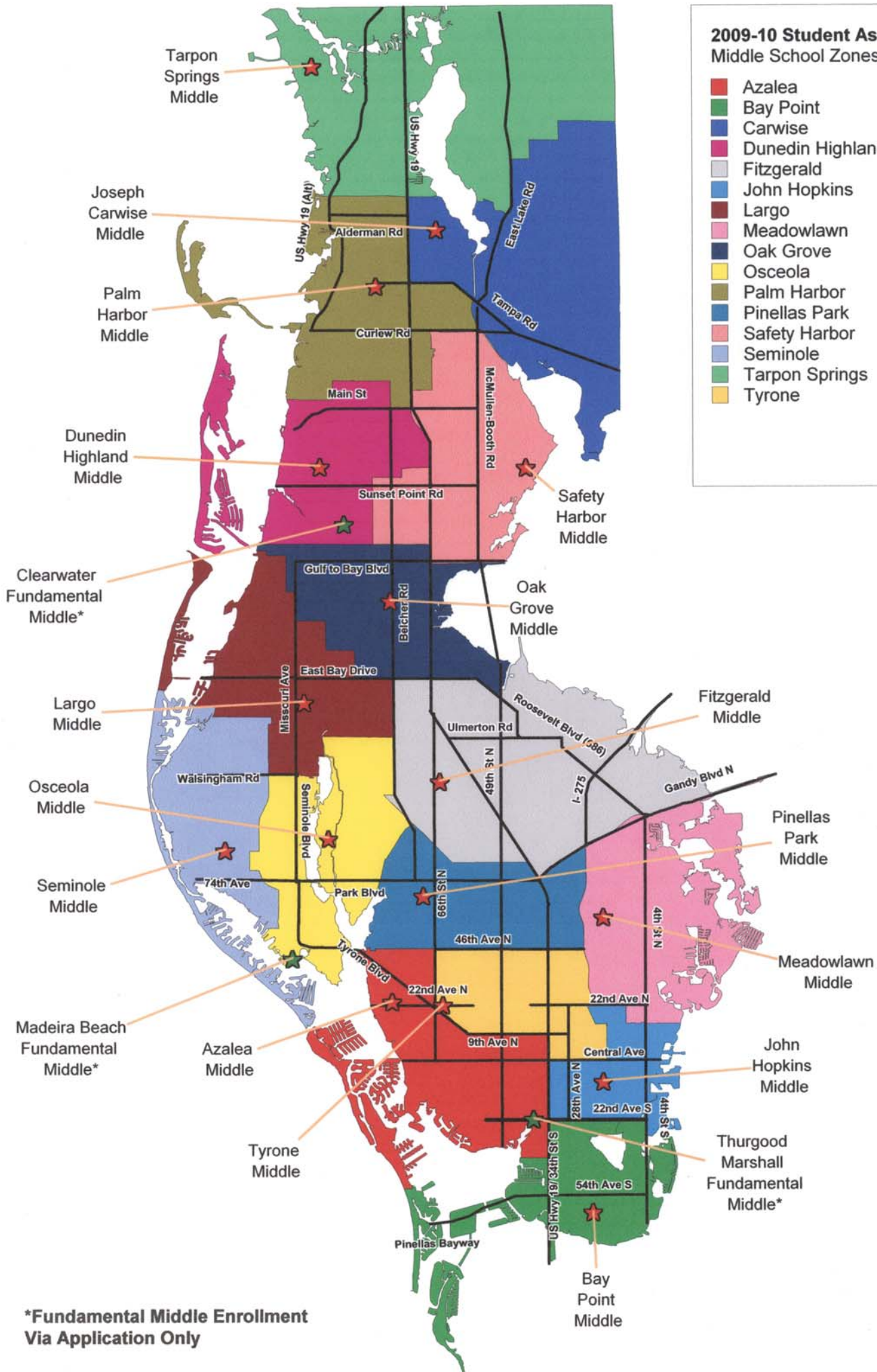
\*Osceola High Enrollment via Fundamental Application only

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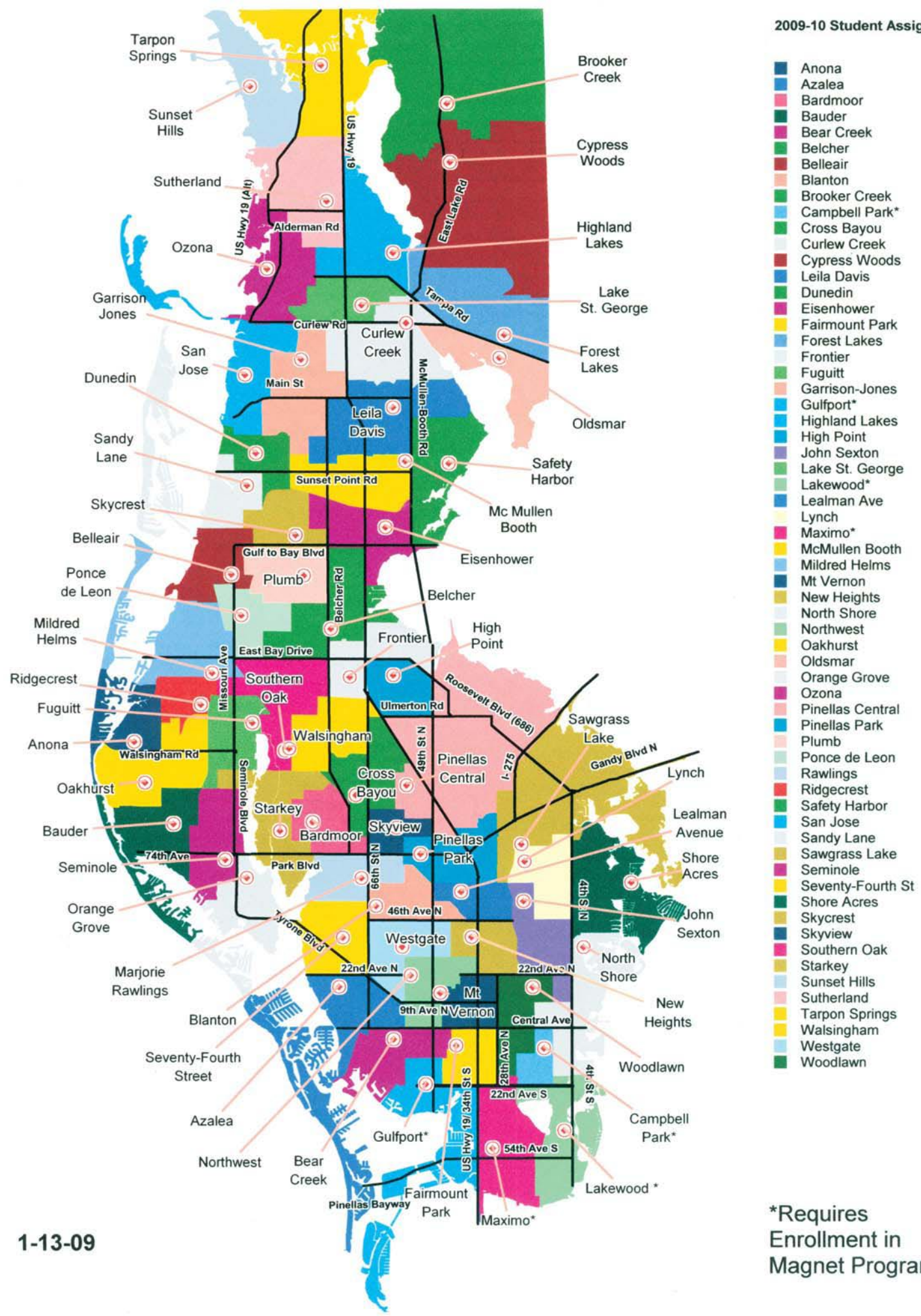
## 2009-10 Student Assignment Plan Middle School Zones

- Azalea
- Bay Point
- Carwise
- Dunedin Highland
- Fitzgerald
- John Hopkins
- Largo
- Meadowlawn
- Oak Grove
- Osceola
- Palm Harbor
- Pinellas Park
- Safety Harbor
- Seminole
- Tarpon Springs
- Tyrone



**\*Fundamental Middle Enrollment  
Via Application Only**





- Anona
- Azalea
- Bardmoor
- Bauder
- Bear Creek
- Belcher
- Belleair
- Blanton
- Brooker Creek
- Campbell Park\*
- Cross Bayou
- Curlew Creek
- Cypress Woods
- Leila Davis
- Dunedin
- Eisenhower
- Fairmount Park
- Forest Lakes
- Frontier
- Fuguitt
- Garrison-Jones
- Gulfport\*
- Highland Lakes
- High Point
- John Sexton
- Lake St. George
- Lakewood\*
- Lealman Ave
- Lynch
- Maximo\*
- McMullen Booth
- Mildred Helms
- Mt Vernon
- New Heights
- North Shore
- Northwest
- Oakhurst
- Oldsmar
- Orange Grove
- Ozona
- Pinellas Central
- Pinellas Park
- Plumb
- Ponce de Leon
- Rawlings
- Ridgecrest
- Safety Harbor
- San Jose
- Sandy Lane
- Sawgrass Lake
- Seminole
- Seventy-Fourth St
- Shore Acres
- Skycrest
- Skyview
- Southern Oak
- Starkey
- Sunset Hills
- Sutherland
- Tarpon Springs
- Walsingham
- Westgate
- Woodlawn

\*Requires Enrollment in Magnet Program