

## Media Release

100 Tarrar Springs Road • P.O. Box 1869 • Lexington, SC 29071-1869 • [www.Lexington1.net](http://www.Lexington1.net)  
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## MEDIA CONTACT

Mary Beth Hill, Chief Communications Officer  
Telephone (803) 821-1152; Mobile (803) 609-1955

## NEWS RELEASE — FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

### **Lexington District One continues Beechwood Middle zoning process Beechwood Middle opens August 2019**

LEXINGTON, S.C. — At the February 19, 2019 regular monthly meeting of the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees, the board heard the second reading of recommended and revised attendance lines for Beechwood Middle School.

Beechwood Middle, located on 1340 Highway 378 on a 34.57-acre site, will open in August of 2019 for the 2019–2020 school year. The finished 196,000-square-foot school designed for 1,200 students has the capacity to serve 1,500 students.

The revised attendance zone for Beechwood Middle School alters the attendance lines of Lexington Middle and Pleasant Hill Middle schools.

After receiving feedback from parents and community members after its three public meetings, district administrators recommended postponing redrawing the Meadow Glen Middle attendance zone until 2021, when a new Lexington Middle School will open in a different location. As a result, the revised attendance zone for Beechwood Middle does not change the attendance zone of Meadow Glen Middle as presented in the first reading.

Lexington Middle currently houses 1,000 students and Pleasant Hill Middle houses 1,201 students.

(MORE)

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In the proposal, the district will allow rising eighth-graders, designated to change middle schools next year due to rezoning, the opportunity to stay at their current school for their final year at the school as long as their parents provide transportation. If no eighth-graders elect to stay at their current schools by grandfathering, the district projects that Beechwood Middle will house 900 students, Lexington Middle 623 and Pleasant Hill Middle 717.

The proposed lines help alleviate overcrowding at Lexington Middle and Pleasant Hill Middle schools and efficiently use facilities, minimize the division of subdivisions, consider balance for student diversity, allow future student growth in permanent facilities, consider transportation patterns for safe and efficient student transportation, and utilize natural and major road boundaries where possible.

In addition, the proposed lines create true high school feeder patterns. Beechwood Middle and Pleasant Hill Middle feed students to Lexington High School, while Lexington Middle and Meadow Glen Middle feed students to River Bluff High School.

The Lexington District One Board of Trustees will hold a third reading of the zoning plan at the March 19, 2019 Board Meeting.

Parents can also keep up with information about the [rezoning process online](#).

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