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FSSD to hold more meetings on zone changes

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FRANKLIN It looks like the Franklin Special School District Board of Education is no closer to making a decision about equalizing the socioeconomics at schools.

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Instead, during a work session Thursday at Moore Elementary School, the school board decided to postpone a public input session scheduled for Nov. 7 and hold another work session after its regularly scheduled meeting Nov. 15.

They also decided to reach out for help from Edulog, a company that works with special software to create transportation and attendance

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zones.

The FSSD already has Edulog software, but the hope is that the company can help the district optimize the plans they've already created manually. They have boundary planning components to their software that the district doesn't currently have, said Susannah Gentry, an FSSD spokeswoman.

Director of Schools David Snowden will oversee the project, which may cost up to \$15,000. He will supply the company with parameters, including a socioeconomic balance up to 60 percent paid lunch students to 40 percent free and reduced-price lunch students; assignment as close to the schools as possible; and zone changes to affect the least amount of students.

Snowden has already provided four zoning scenarios, or maps, to redistribute poorer students. There are also still proposed plans on the table developed by parents, educators and community members.

The school board hopes to make a decision by its December meeting and expect to have more meetings until then.

All maps and plans and minutes from the meetings can be found on the district's website: www.fssd.org.

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1

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2

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