

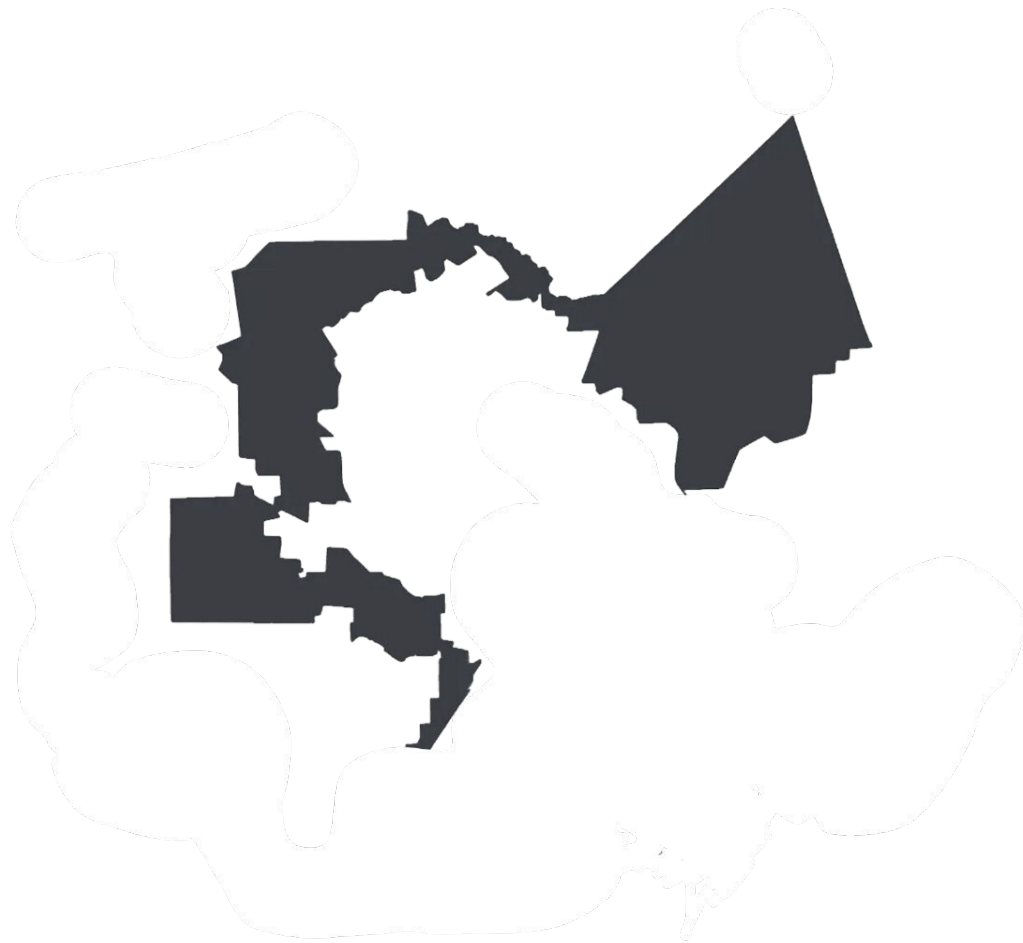
Brown's Promise>

Spring 2024

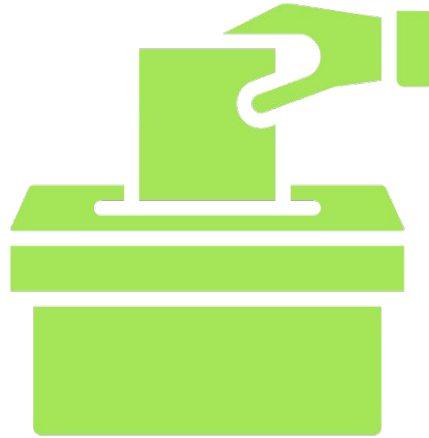
Which is which?

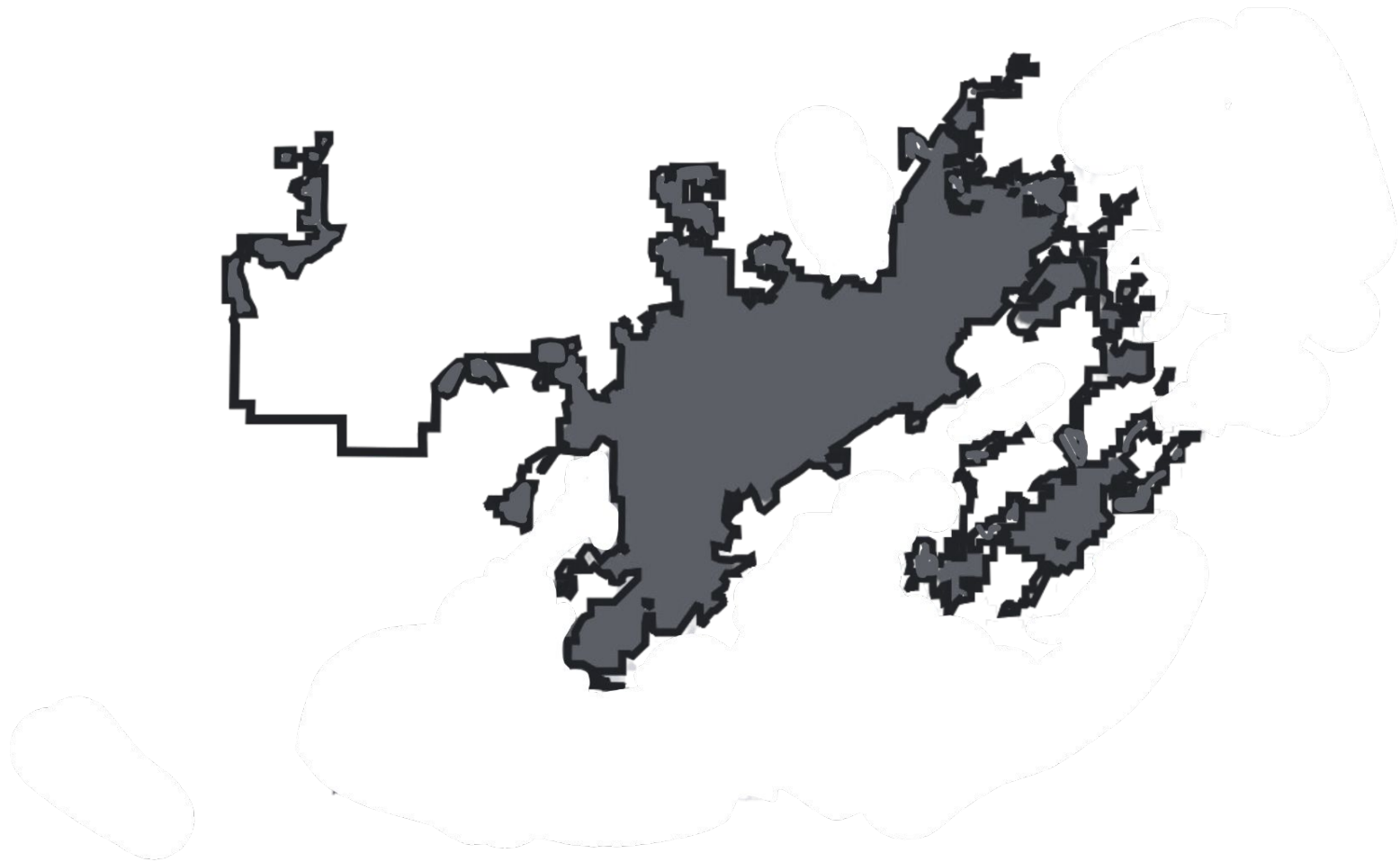
You're about to see a map.

Tell me, is it a gerrymandered congressional district or is it a segregated school district?



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

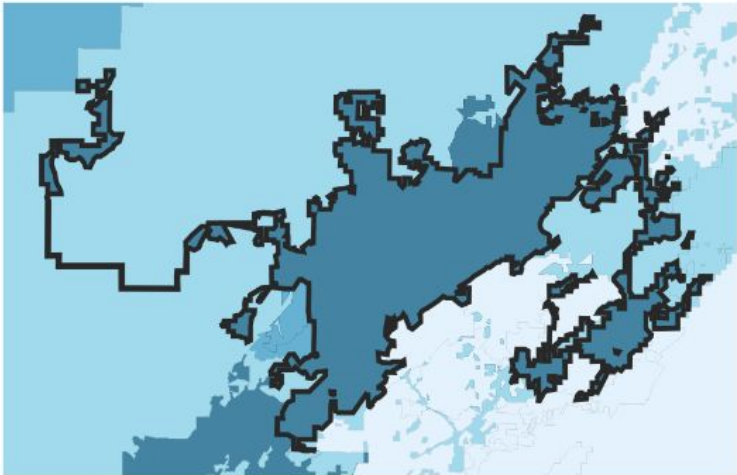
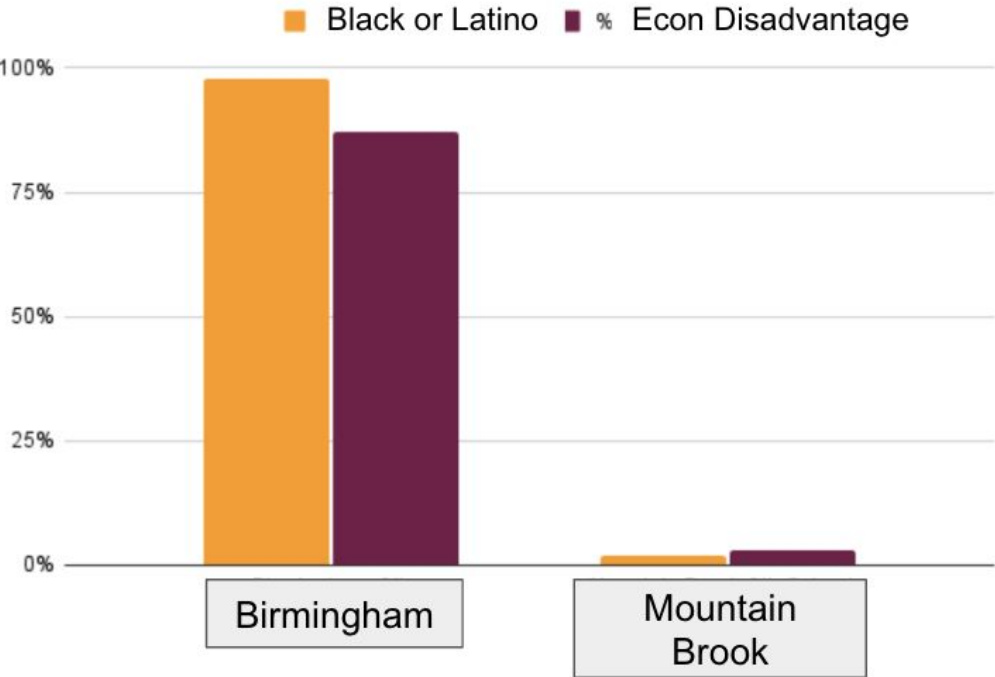




SCHOOL DISTRICT

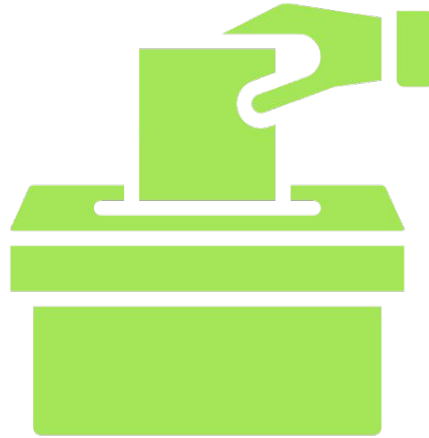


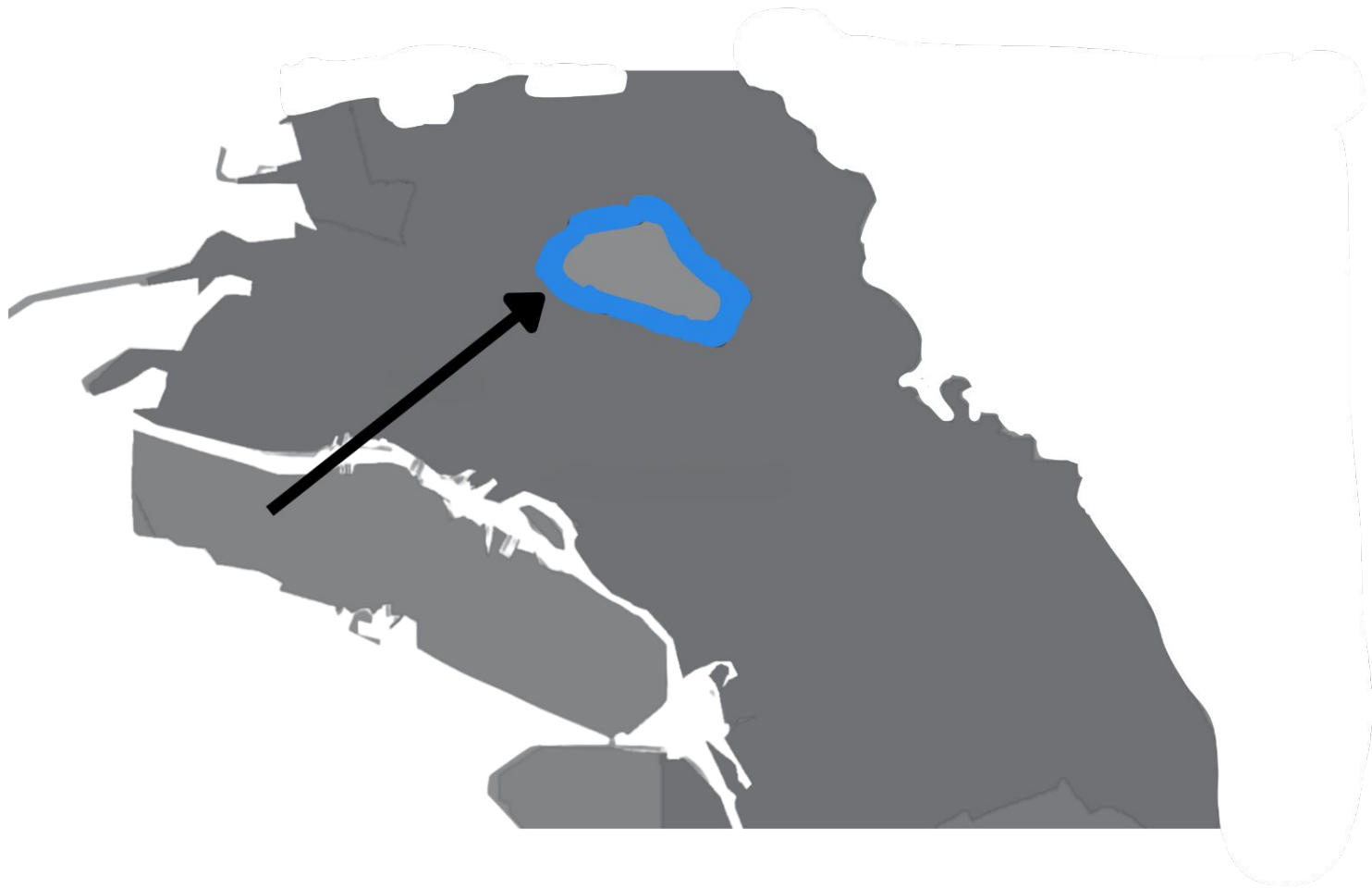
In Alabama, Birmingham school district borders at least 7 different districts



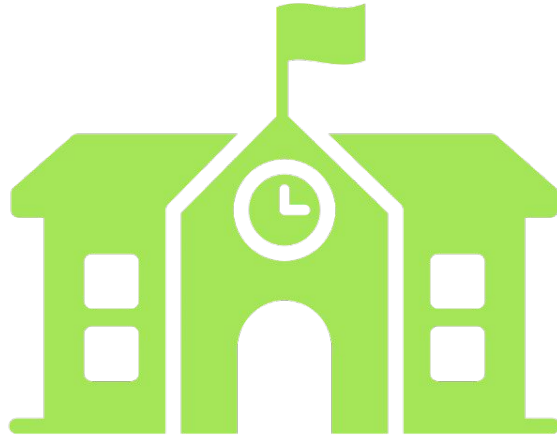


CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

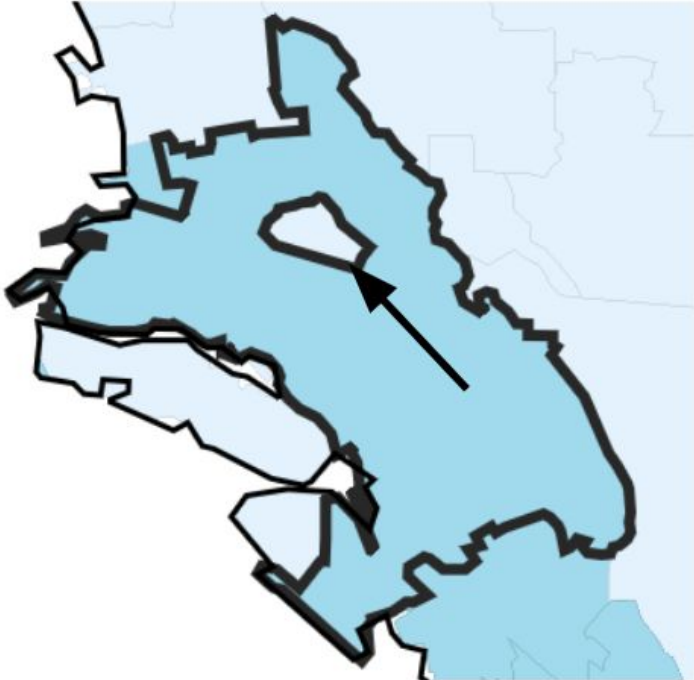
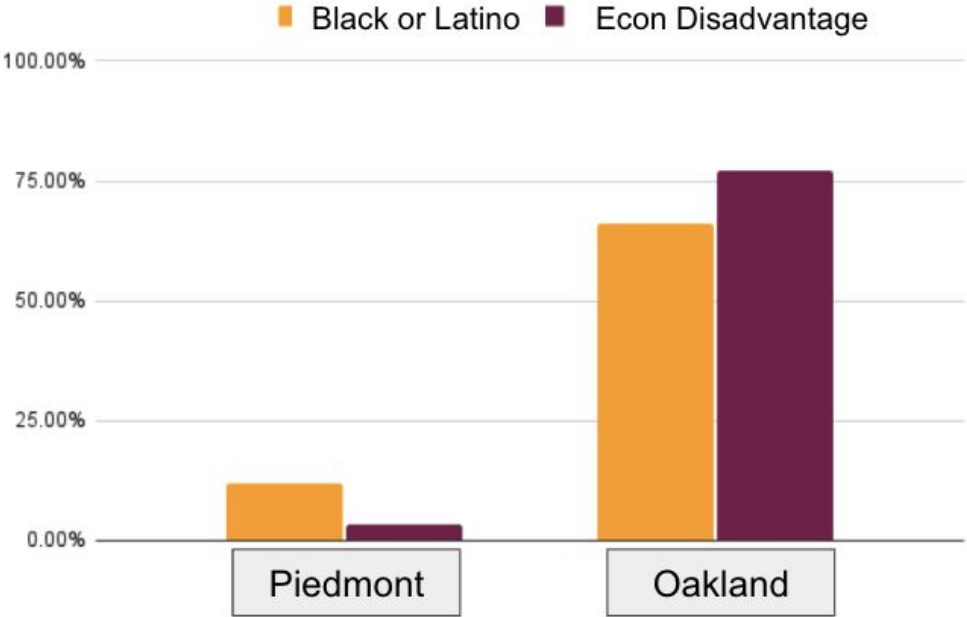




SCHOOL DISTRICT



In California, Piedmont is carved like a donut hole out of Oakland Public Schools





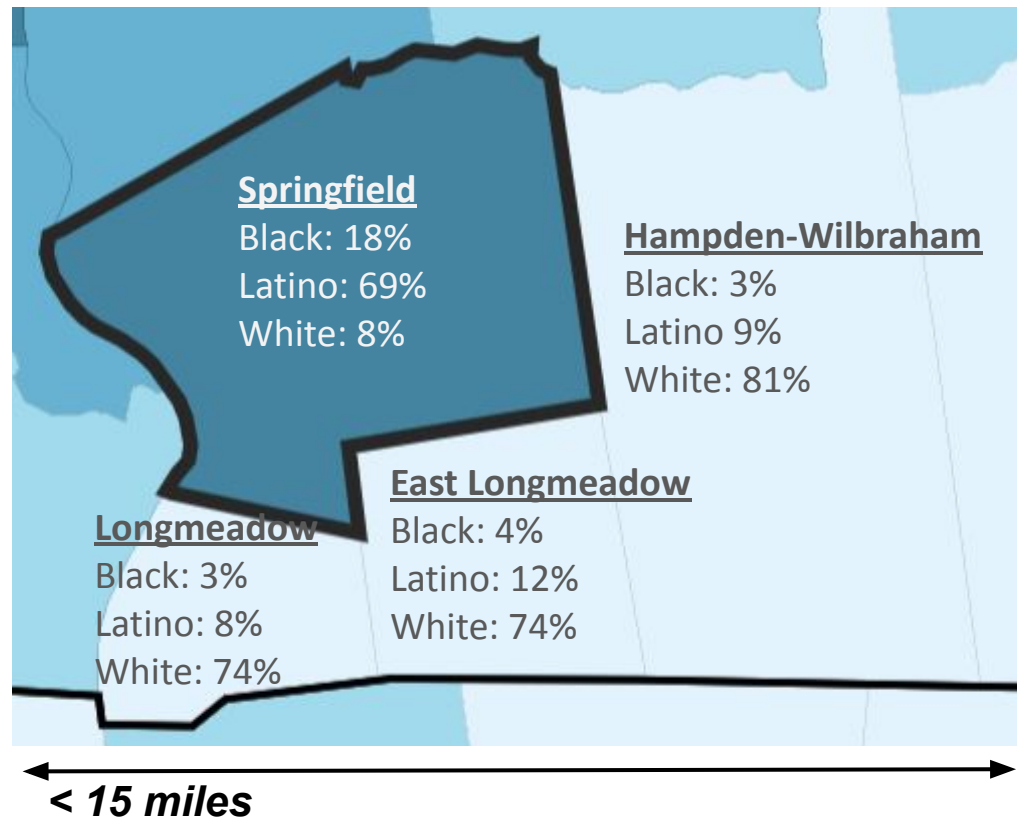
SO, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Unfair voting districts and
boundaries are human made.
Just like school districts.

Concentration of poverty ensures equal funding isn't good enough

Springfield, MA
spends 20% to 30% more
per student than its suburbs.

But in Springfield,
child poverty is
6 to 10 times higher
than surrounding districts.



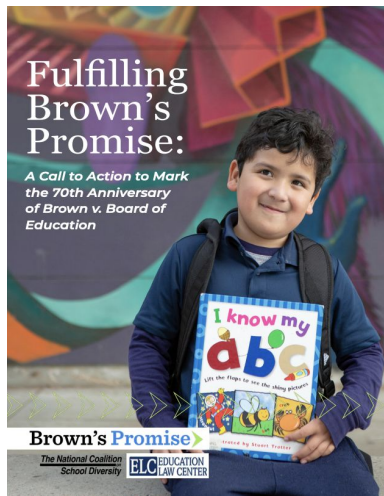
What Can We Do About It?

School Integration 2.0

Integration 2.0: What Can it Look Like Today?

States can:


- ☐ Change how district lines relate to revenue
- ☐ Change how district lines relate to students
- ☐ Change how districts lines relate to revenue AND students
- ☐ Change district lines altogether
- ☐ Change policy to address within district and within school segregation




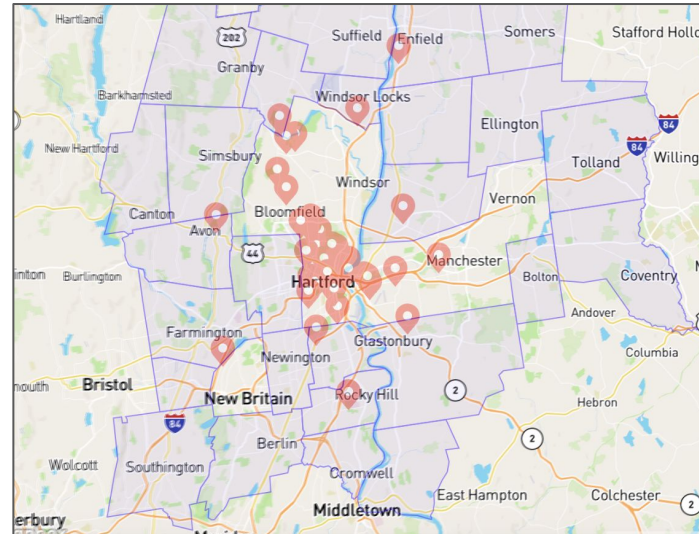
The State Can Change How District Lines Relate to Students (ex 1)

Interdistrict Mobility: Hartford, CT

Connecticut's interdistrict magnet schools improve student outcomes and promote diverse relationships by allowing urban and suburban students to attend specialized schools outside their home district.

Magnet school: 

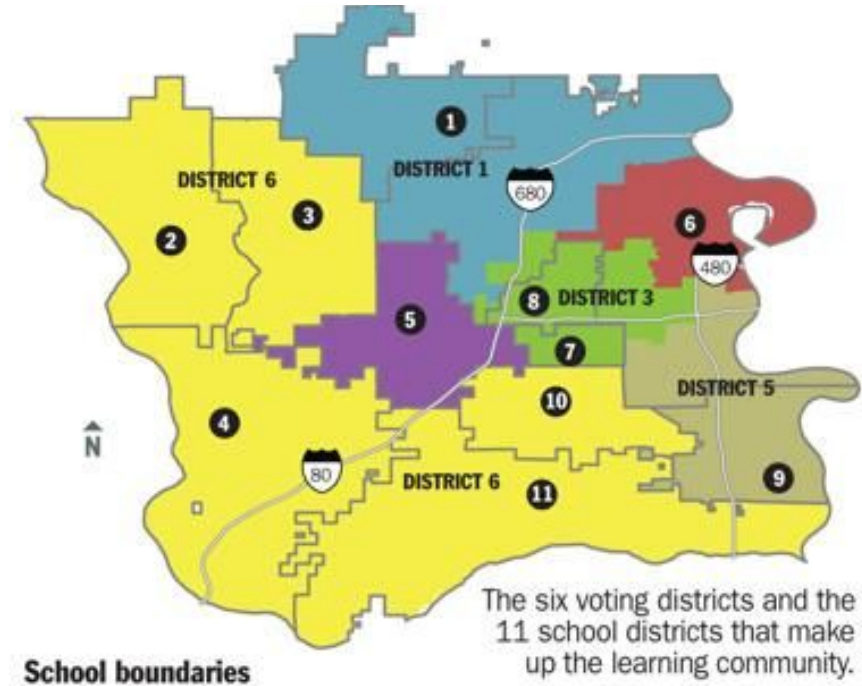
Open choice district: 



The State Can Change How District Lines Relate to Revenue & Students

Regional Responsibility: Omaha, NE

Omaha's state legislature created the "Learning Community" initiative, involving 11 districts, focused on shared funding and diversity programs to increase opportunities for low-income students.



The State Can Change District Lines Altogether

District Consolidation in Starkville, MS

Starkville, MS consolidated its school districts to reduce resource disparities and improve education quality, despite initial apprehensions within the community.

Oktibbeha County School District

(90% Black, 96% low income)

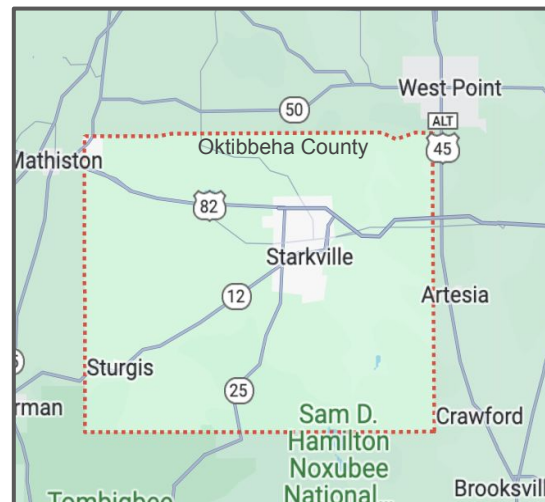
+

Starkville Public School District

(More diverse, lower-poverty)

=

Starkville-Oktibbeha Consolidated School District



State Court Litigation

ALL SECTIONS |  **LEGION OF LOONS**

 **StarTribune**

Minnesota school segregation lawsuit to get another day in court: 5 things to know about the case

The Minnesota Supreme Court will consider a portion of the case known as Cruz-Guzman this week.

By Eder Campuzano and Zoë Jackson Star Tribune | MAY 1, 2023 — 7:30AM



SHARI L. GROSS, STAR TRIBUNE

Jack Perry, attorney with Taft Stettinius & Hollister and counsel in the court case, explained to school children the process of the Cruz-Guzman case during a news conference at Friendship Academy of the Arts in Minneapolis last week.

A lawsuit that could overhaul the racial and socioeconomic makeup of Minnesota's schools will be up for discussion before the Minnesota Supreme Court this week, the latest twist in a case that has stretched nearly a decade.

LATINO ACTION NETWORK et al. v. STATE OF NEW JERSEY

An Open Letter to the People of New Jersey

Our country may be deeply divided, but in New Jersey civil and community leaders, faith leaders, and civil rights and education advocates are working to create opportunities in the public schools for students of all different backgrounds to learn to live and work together in harmony.

Over 250,000 Black and Latino children in New Jersey (66% of the state total) attend public schools that are segregated by race and by poverty. New Jersey's public schools are among the most racially segregated in the entire country, more so than many public schools in states of the former Confederacy that were integrated following the U.S. Supreme Court's groundbreaking 1954 decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*. Unfortunately, the promise of *Brown* has never been fully realized in New Jersey.

On May 17, 2023—Brown's 69th anniversary—a coalition of organizations and individuals filed a landmark case, *Latino Action Network et al. v. State of New Jersey et al.*

Segregation in New Jersey is not by choice. Much of it can be traced to government-sponsored policies that decades ago subsidized suburban housing for White people while at the same time refusing to insure mortgages in racially mixed neighborhoods. These practices spread throughout the real estate industry and were reinforced by exclusionary zoning policies that limited housing opportunities for Black people. This history helps to explain the severe residential segregation that exists in New Jersey today. State law that requires students to attend school based on where they live perpetuates this segregation in the state's public schools.

This segregation denies students from diverse racial and class backgrounds the chance to learn from each other and the first genuine ground across their differences. As the New Jersey Supreme Court has repeatedly held, school segregation also violates the state's constitution. Indeed, it is the only state constitution in the country that explicitly bans segregation in public schools.

The State is asking a court to dissolve the case—or to add \$85

Douglas Kahney, Board Chair, New Jersey Institute for Social Justice
Susan Kahan, Author, *The Other American Dream Story and The Children in Room 404: American Education on Trial*
Christina Evers, President, Latino Action Network
Walter L. Fields, Jr., Founder & Treasurer, Black Parents Workshop, Inc.
Laurie Kirby, Elder, Black NJ Steering Committee
Reva Frenck, Chair, NJBC, New Jersey Black Issues Consortium
Victor Cox Fraser, President, Urban League of Essex County
Frank Freyer, Director, Latino Coalition of New Jersey, Chair, Latino Action Network Foundation
Rachel D. Godsil, Professor of Law and Chancellor's Scholar, Rutgers Law School (continued affiliation for identification purposes only)
Greater Red Bank NAACP (until 2023)
V. Elaine Gross, President, ERASE Racism
James Harris, President, New Jersey Association of Black Educators
Jerome Harris, Chairman Emeritus, New Jersey Black Issues Convention
Rash P. Haggard, President and CEO, The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice
Imperial Valley East and Diversity Discussion Group
Hudson County Progressive Alliance
Sherrilyn Hill, President and Director-Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc.
IntegrativeNYC
Rucker C. Johnson, Chancellor's Professor of Public Policy, University of California Berkeley (continued affiliation for identification purposes only)
Sandra King, President/Chair, "One Process"
R.A. Lombard, Board Member, New Jersey Institute for Social Justice
Larry Lovett, Managing Director, New Jersey Network of Superintendents

State Court Litigation

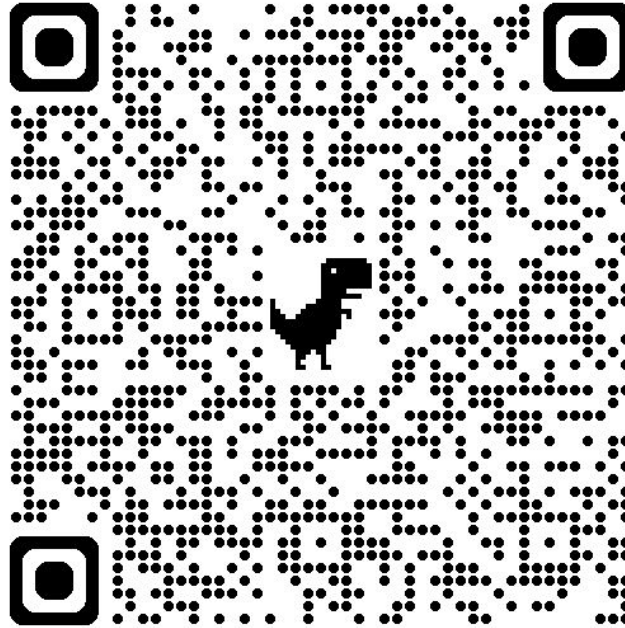
Minnesota Constitution (common language):

“Section 1. **UNIFORM SYSTEM OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.** The stability of a republican form of government depending mainly upon the intelligence of the people, it is the duty of the legislature to establish a general and uniform system of public schools. The legislature shall make such provisions by taxation or otherwise as will secure a thorough and efficient system of public schools throughout the state.” (Minnesota Constitution, Art. XIII, ¶1)



Integration 2.0: What Can it Look Like Today?

*Scan the QR code for more detail on solutions
(and the whole deck)*



Brown's Promise>

Spring 2024