



HAMILTON COUNTY DATA PORTRAIT

Schools and their Neighborhoods

OCTOBER 2007

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1. Purpose

This data portrait of Hamilton County's schools and their neighborhoods expands on a finding from Community COMPASS (Hamilton County's comprehensive plan) that low-income and minority students in Hamilton County are concentrated in poorly-performing schools. These schools often are located in neighborhoods most in need of quality of life improvements. The research findings below identify public schools in Hamilton County with low overall student achievement along with neighborhood risk factors. The results present an opportunity for Hamilton County (and the Board of Commissioners specifically) to collaborate with communities and schools in supporting neighborhood improvement in the vicinity of low performing schools.

This data portrait is not a comprehensive look at public education in Hamilton County. It was initiated by Commissioner Portune to provide a geographic focus for the Board of Commissioners to consider in their policy discussions with Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) Board of Education and other public school districts. A much broader exploration of county-wide education issues is provided in the *State of the County* report series produced as part of Community COMPASS (report number 16-5 focuses on education). All Hamilton County public school districts were examined in this data portrait. However, because of data availability, recommendations focus on Cincinnati Public Schools and selected Cincinnati neighborhoods. Private, parochial, and charter schools were not examined.

2. Research Tasks

Data collection and mapping tasks were designed to provide advisory recommendations related to the following question:

Where should the Board of County Commissioners and others focus investments in quality of life improvements so as to enhance the living environment and potential for academic success of residents in those neighborhoods?

Data and mapping goals:

1. Identify geographic location of schools by performance ranking.
2. Identify public safety issues near CPS school buildings using Cincinnati Police Department crime data
3. Identify areas of concentrated unemployment, where assistance to parents is most needed.
4. Recommend priority investment areas – prepare data and map showing CPS composite rating of school performance, poverty, unemployment, and public safety by school and neighborhood.

A series of maps were produced using GIS analysis to describe various aspects of Hamilton County school performance and neighborhood health. Data sources used include Cincinnati Public Schools, Ohio Department of Education, US Census, and CAGIS. The maps describe geographic location of schools by performance ratings, public safety issues in school neighborhoods, schools and neighborhood enrollment, and concentrations of poverty (including unemployment, income data, persons below poverty levels, and economically disadvantaged student enrollment). From this data, four risk factors were selected to create a summary or composite map.

Because of the ongoing Cincinnati Public Schools Facilities Master Plan, many school buildings are being renovated or reconstructed. Some schools have closed permanently and others are in temporary locations for

the 2007 – 2008 school year. The most recent data available from the Ohio Department of Education is for the 2006 – 2007 school year and may show some inconsistencies with current building locations and operation.

3. School Risk Factors

Academic Risk Factor

- Academic emergency and academic watch
 The Ohio Department of Education designates school buildings as academic emergency or academic watch based on low student achievement on standardized tests.

Neighborhood Risk Factors

- Schools with 75% or more economically disadvantaged students:
 The Ohio Department of Education tracks student enrollment data and designates economic disadvantage if
 - a. A student is eligible for free or reduced-price lunches
 - b. A student is a resident of a household where a member is eligible for free or reduced price lunches
 - c. A student receives public assistance, or the family or guardian receives public assistance
 - d. A student’s parents or guardians have completed a Title I income form and meet the income requirements
- Schools in high crime areas
 Using geographic information system mapping, RPC staff counted the number of crime incidents reported within 1,000 feet of school properties. If more than 200 incidents occurred during 2007, the school is designated as being in a high crime area.
- Schools in high unemployment areas
 The current unemployment rate in Hamilton County is approximately 5% according to US Census data. If a school building is located in a Census Block Group where the unemployment rate is 10% or more (twice the County average), the school is designated as being in a high unemployment area.

4. Summary of Findings

Lowest Performing Schools with Highest Neighborhood Risk Factors

	School	Neighborhood
1.	Frederick Douglass	Walnut Hills
2.	Hays	West End
3.	Heberle	West End
4.	Rockdale	Avondale
5.	Rothenburg	Over-The-Rhine

Neighborhood Risk Factors by School

Cincinnati Public School District

Neighborhood	School	School Performance Rating 2006/2007	Neighborhood Risk Factors			Facilities Plan
			75% or More Economically Disadvantaged Students	High Crime Areas (1,000 foot buffer)	High Unemployment Areas	

Low-Performing Schools with Three Neighborhood Risk Factors

Walnut Hills	Frederick Douglass ¹	EMERGENCY	X	X	X	New building and location
West End	Hays ¹	Watch	X	X	X	New building
West End	Heberle	EMERGENCY	X	X	X	Close school
Avondale	Rockdale ¹	EMERGENCY	X	X	X	New building and location
Over-The-Rhine	Rothenberg ¹	EMERGENCY	X	X	X	Renovation

Low-Performing Schools with Two Neighborhood Risk Factors

North Avondale	Burton ¹	EMERGENCY	X	X		Close school
Millvale	Ethel Taylor ¹	EMERGENCY	X		X	New building and location
Westwood	Gamble	Watch	X	X		Close school
West End	Lafayette	EMERGENCY		X	X	Close school
Lower Price Hill	Oyler ^{1,4}	EMERGENCY	X		X	Renovation
East Price Hill	Roberts ²	Watch	X		X	New building
Avondale	South Avondale ¹	EMERGENCY	X		X	New building
Mt. Auburn	Taft Elementary ¹	EMERGENCY	X		X	Renovation
Over-The-Rhine	Washington Park	EMERGENCY	X		X	Close school
Winton Hills	Winton Hills ¹	Watch	X		X	New building

Low-Performing Schools with One Neighborhood Risk Factor

Bond Hill	Bond Hill ¹	Watch	X			New building
West Price Hill	Carson ¹	EMERGENCY	X			New building
South Fairmont	Central Fairmont	EMERGENCY	X			Close school
Northside	Chase ¹	EMERGENCY	X			Renovation
Mt. Airy	Mt Airy ¹	EMERGENCY	X			New building
Evanston	Parham ¹	Watch	X			Close school
Madisonville	Parker ³	EMERGENCY	X			New Building
College Hill	Pleasant Hill ³	Watch	X			New building
Pleasant Ridge	Pleasant Ridge ¹	Watch				New building
East End	Riverview ³	Watch	X			New building and location

Schools and their Neighborhoods

East Westwood	Roll Hill ¹	EMERGENCY	X			New building
Roselawn	Roselawn ³	Watch	X			Renovation
Sayler Park	Sayler ¹	Watch	X			Renovation
Madisonville	Shroder ⁴	Watch				New building and location
Silverton	Silverton ³	Watch				New building
Westwood	Westwood ¹	Watch	X			Renovation
Northside	Winton Mont.	Watch	X			Close School
Bond Hill	Woodward ⁴	Watch			X	New building
Evanston	World Languages ²	Watch	X			New building

Other Schools (rated Continuous Improvement, Effective, or Excellent)

Carthage	Carthage ²	Improvement	X			Close school
College Hill	College Hill ²	Improvement	X			Renovation
West Price Hill	Dater High ⁴	Effective		X		Renovation
CUF	Fairview ²	Excellent		X		New building and location
Evanston	Hoffman ¹	Improvement	X		X	Close school
Clifton Heights	Hughes ⁴	Effective		X		Renovation
Roselawn	Multilingual ²	Improvement	X			Renovation
North Avondale	North Avondale ²	Effective			X	Renovation
West Price Hill	Quebec ¹	Improvement	X			Close school
Over-The-Rhine	Schiel ²	Improvement		X		Close School
Northside	Schwab ¹	Improvement	X			New building and location
Pendleton	SCPA ⁴	Effective		X	X	New building and location
West End	Taft H.S. ⁴	Effective		X		Renovation
Evanston	Walnut Hills ⁴	Excellent			X	Renovation
West Price Hill	Western Hills ⁴	Improvement		X		Renovation
East Price Hill	Whittier	Improvement	X	X	X	Close school
Kennedy Heights	Woodford ²	Improvement			X	Renovation

1: Neighborhood School

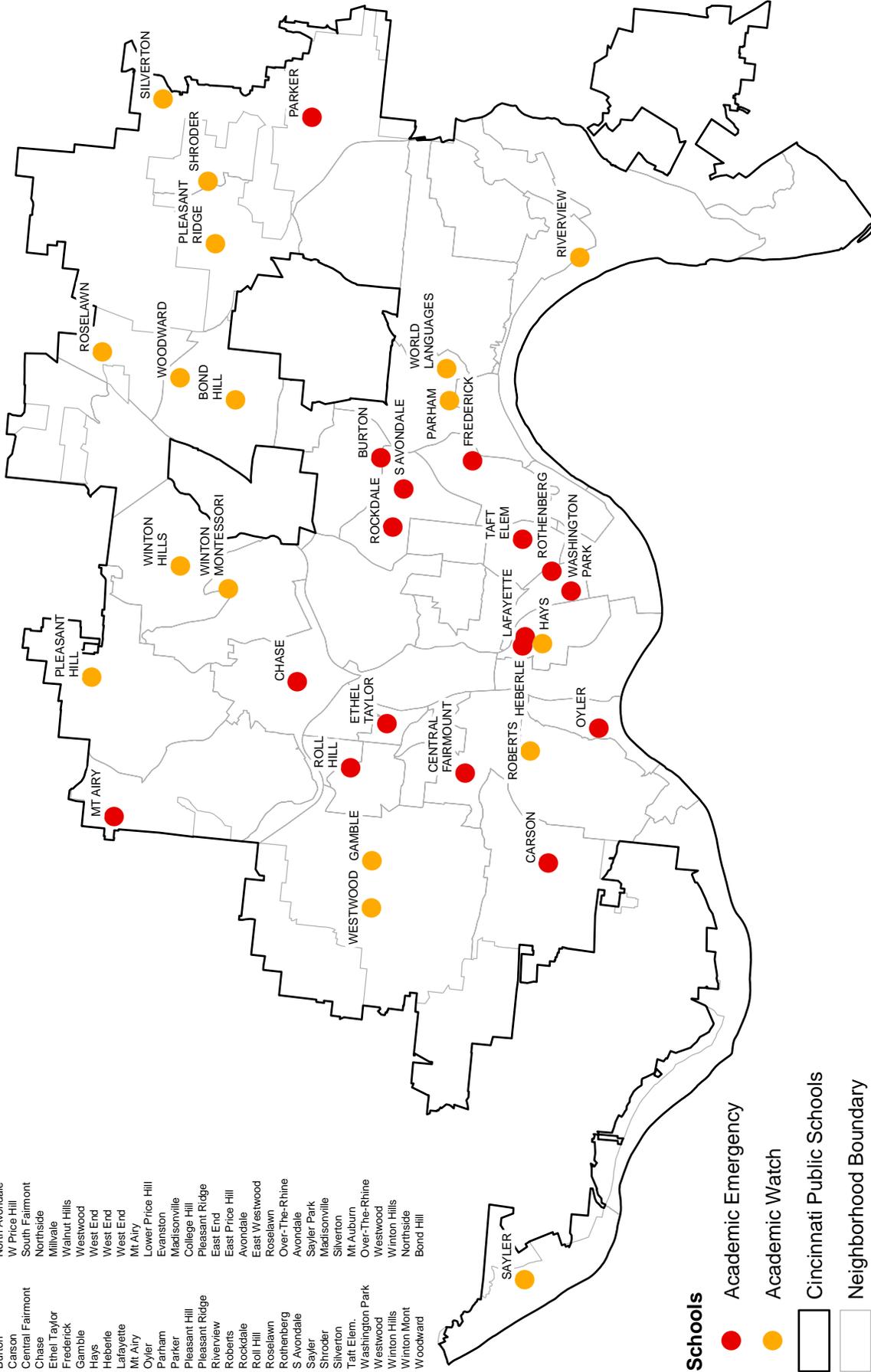
2: Magnet School

3: Neighborhood and Magnet School

4: High School

Cincinnati Public schools not included in table: Aiken, Bramble, Cheviot, Clark, Covedale, Dater Montessori, Hartwell, Hyde Park, Jacobs, Kilgour, Midway, Mt. Washington, R.E. Price, Sands, Withrow H.S.

School	Neighborhood
AWL	Evanson
Bond Hill	Bond Hill
Burton	North Avondale
Carson	W Price Hill
Central Fairmont	South Fairmont
Chase	Northside
Ethel Taylor	Milvale
Frederick	Walnut Hills
Gamble	Westwood
Hays	West End
Heberle	West End
Lafayette	West End
Mt Airy	Mt Airy
Oyler	Lower Price Hill
Parham	Evanson
Parker	Madisonville
Pleasant Hill	College Hill
Pleasant Ridge	Pleasant Ridge
Riverview	East End
Roberts	East Price Hill
Rockdale	Avondale
Roll Hill	East Westwood
Roselawn	Roselawn
Rothenberg	Over-The-Rhine
S Avondale	Avondale
Saylor	Saylor Park
Shroder	Madisonville
Silverton	Silverton
Taft Elem.	Mt Auburn
Washington Park	Over-The-Rhine
Westwood	Westwood
Winton Hills	Winton Hills
Winton Mont	Northside
Woodward	Bond Hill



- Schools**
- Academic Emergency
 - Academic Watch
 - ▭ Cincinnati Public Schools
 - ▭ Neighborhood Boundary

Map 1 Schools in Academic Emergency or Academic Watch

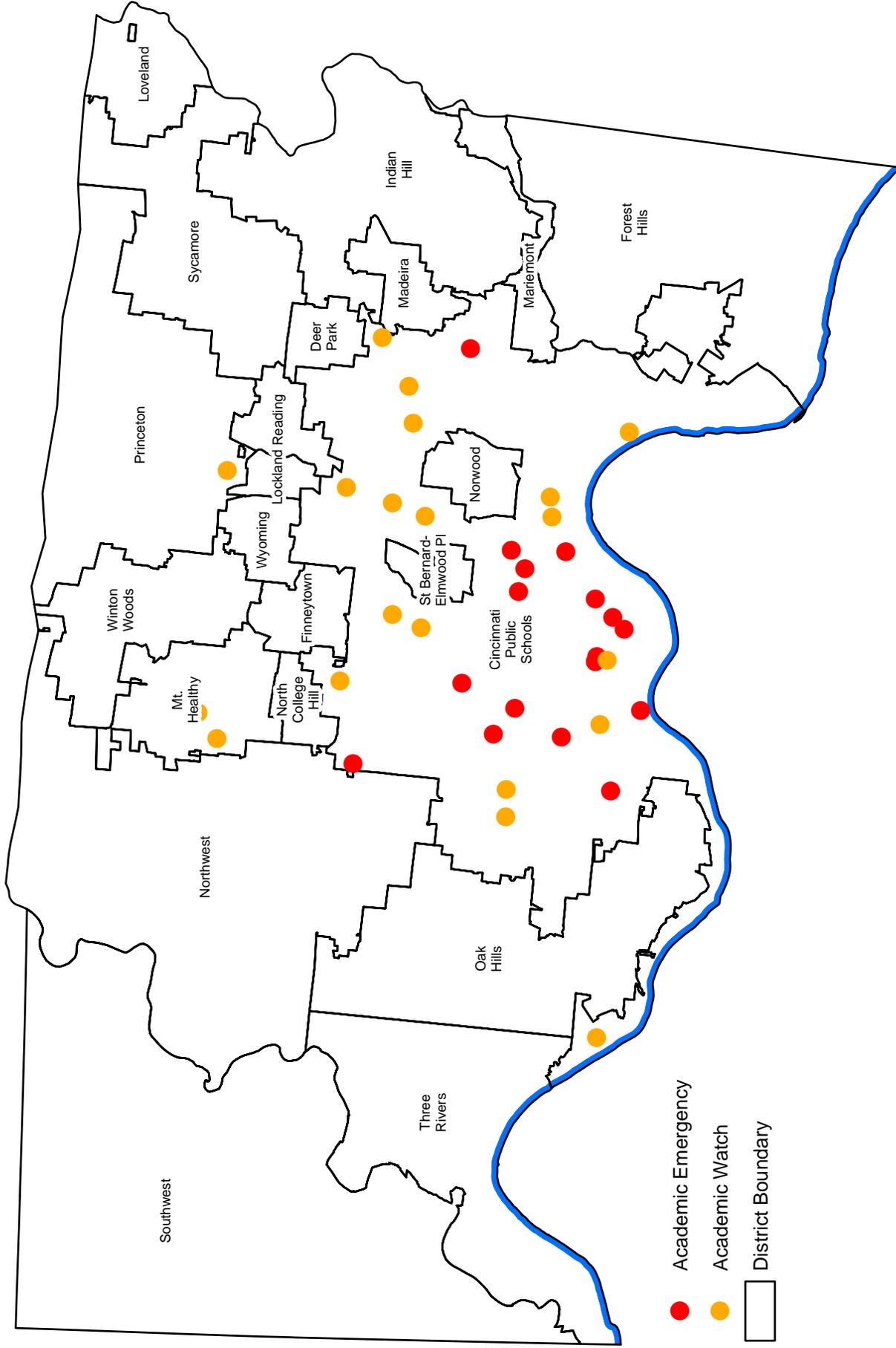
Cincinnati Public School District 2006 - 2007

Source: Ohio Department of Education



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HAMILTON COUNTY DATA PORTRAIT
SCHOOLS AND THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS



Map 2 Schools in Academic Emergency or Academic Watch

Hamilton County Schools 2006 - 2007

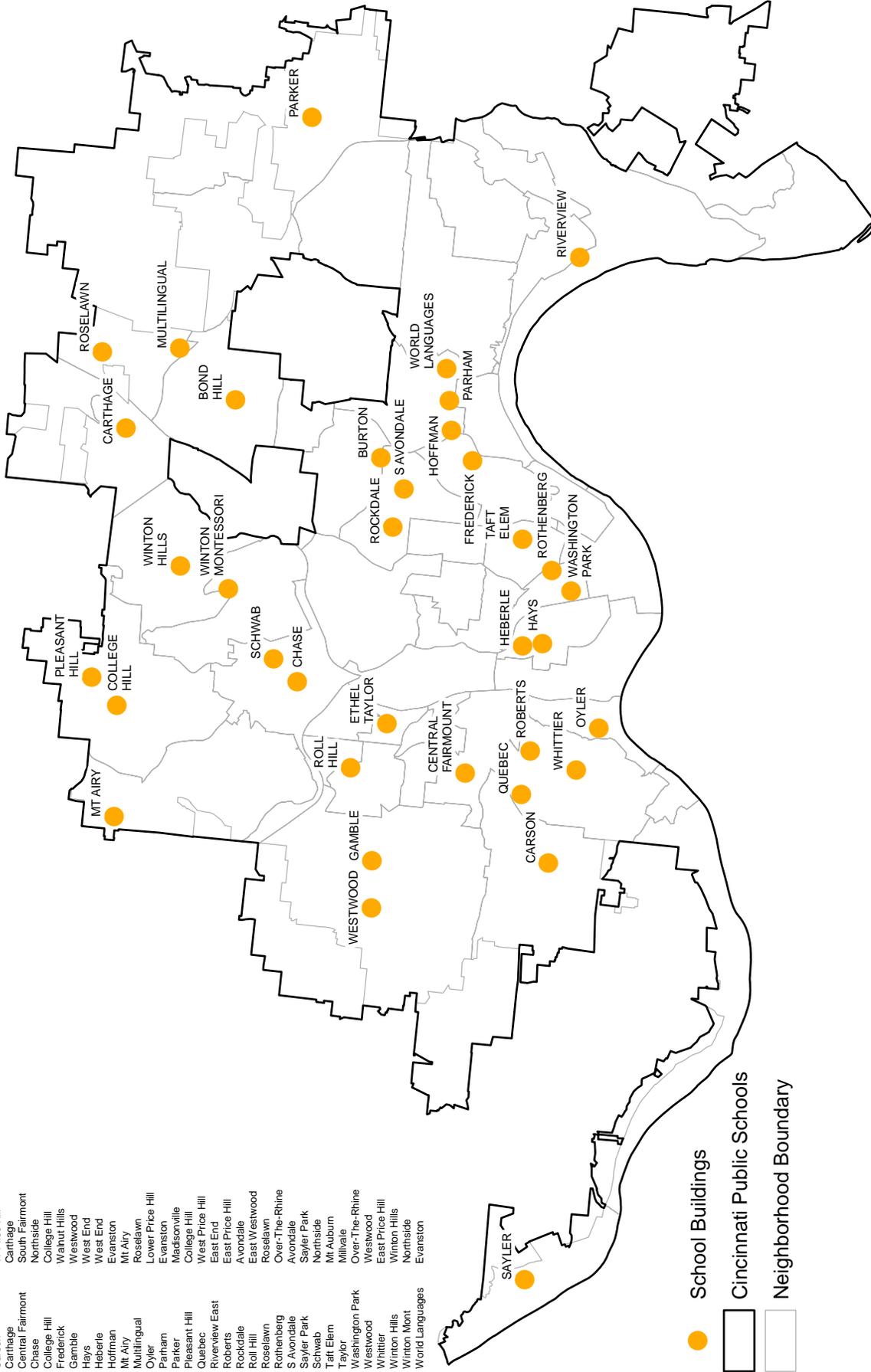
Source: Ohio Department of Education



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HAMILTON COUNTY DATA PORTRAIT
SCHOOLS AND THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS

School	Neighborhood
Bond Hill	Bond Hill
Burton	North Avondale
Carson	W Price Hill
Carthage	Carthage
Central Fairmont	South Fairmont
Chase	Northside
College Hill	College Hill
Frederick	Walnut Hills
Gamble	Westwood
Hays	West End
Heberle	West End
Hoffman	Evanson
Mt Airy	Mt Airy
Multilingual	Roselawn
Oyler	Lower Price Hill
Parham	Evanson
Pleasant Hill	Masonville
Quebec	College Hill
Riverview East	West Price Hill
Rockdale	East Price Hill
Roll Hill	Avondale
Roselawn	East Westwood
Rothenberg	Roselawn
S Avondale	Over-The-Rhine
Sayer Park	Sayer Park
Schwab	Northside
Taft Elem	Mt Auburn
Taylor	Milvale
Washington Park	Over-The-Rhine
Westwood	Westwood
Whittier	East Price Hill
Winton Hills	Winton Hills
Winton Mont	Northside
World Languages	Evanson



- School Buildings
- Cincinnati Public Schools
- Neighborhood Boundary

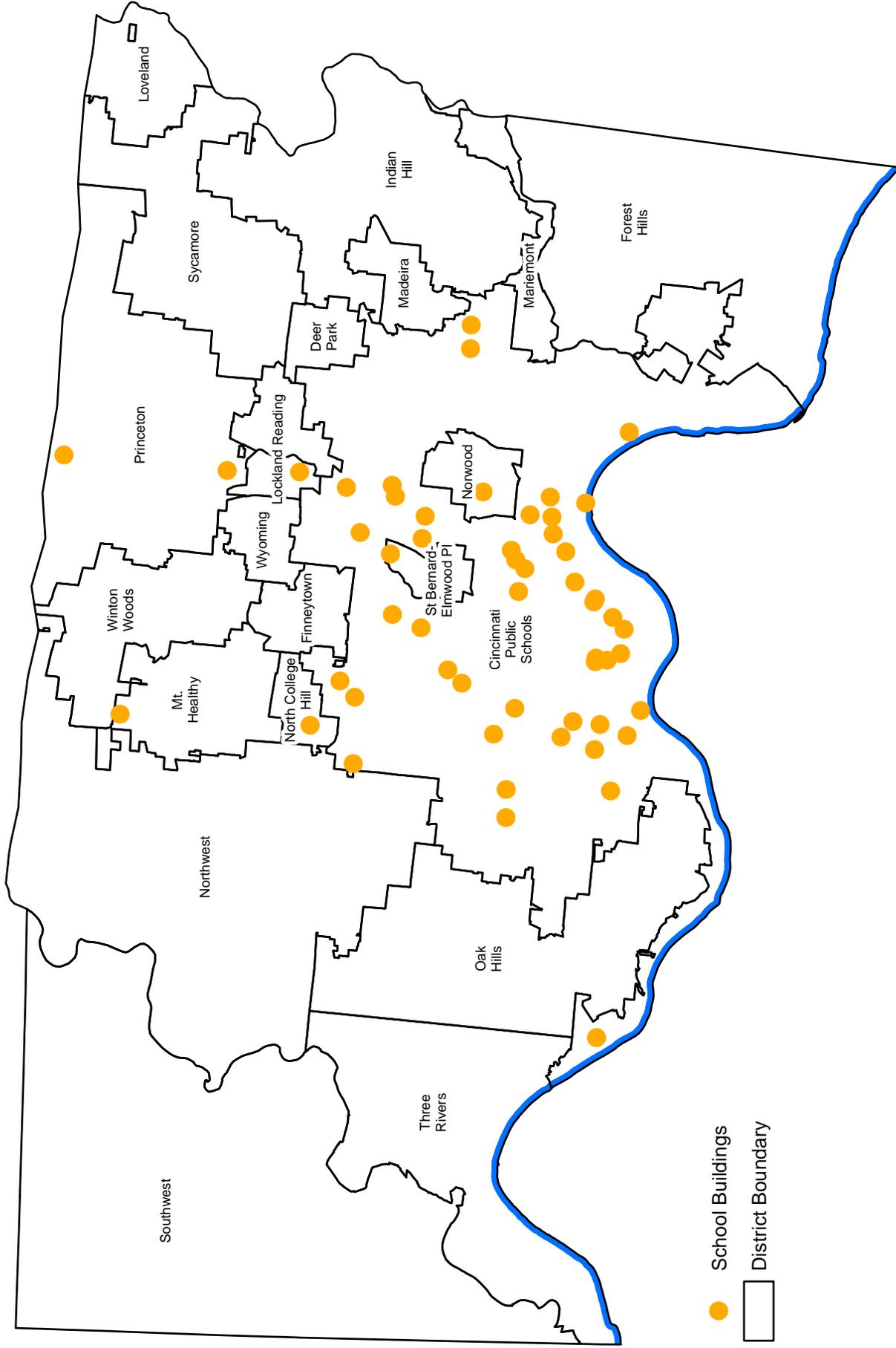
Map 3 Schools with 75% or More Economically Disadvantaged Students

Cincinnati Public School District 2006 - 2007

Source: Ohio Department of Education

HAMILTON COUNTY DATA PORTRAIT
SCHOOLS AND THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS





Map 4 Schools with 75% or More Economically Disadvantaged Students

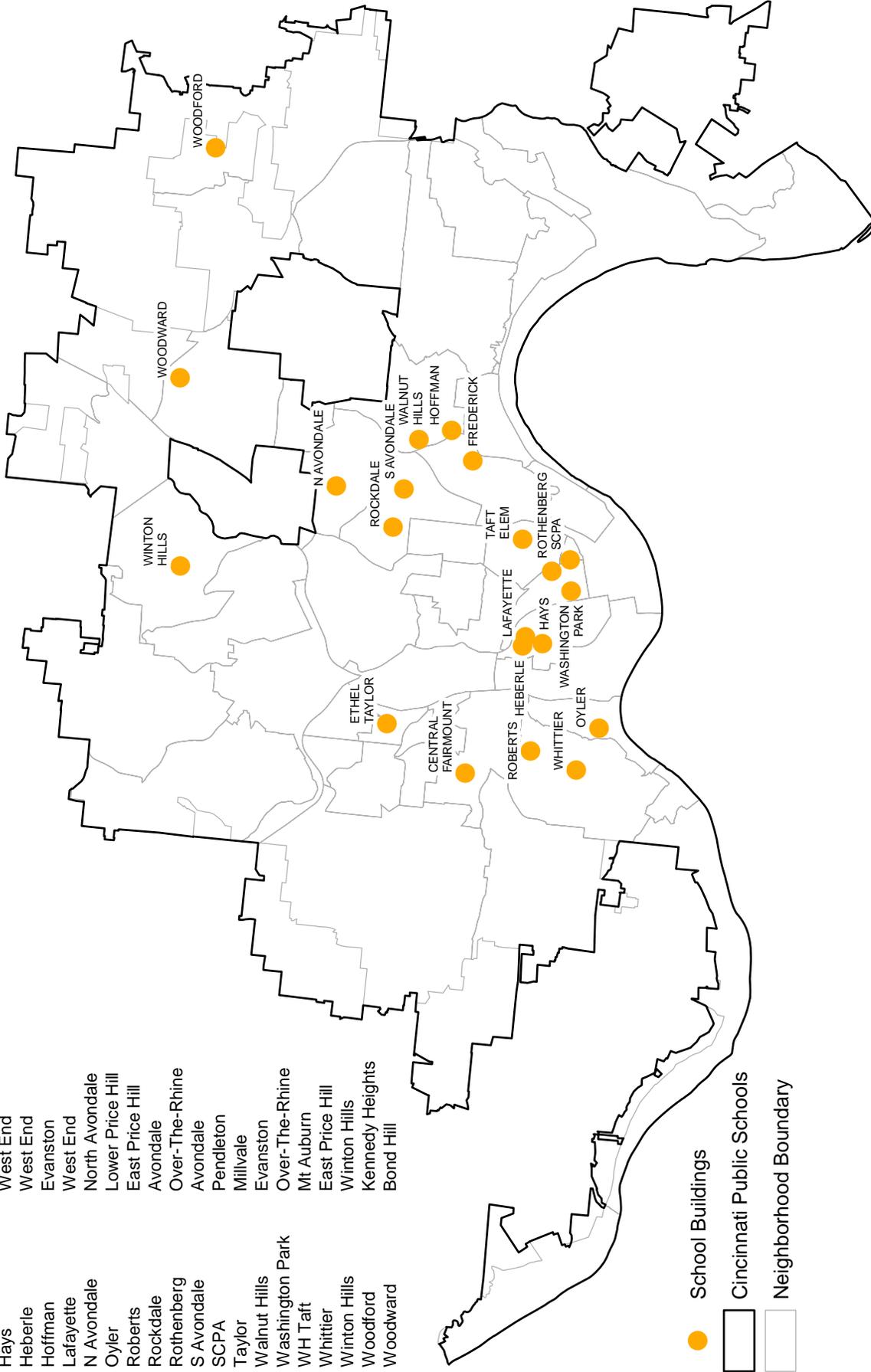
Hamilton County Schools 2006 - 2007

Source: Ohio Department of Education

HAMILTON COUNTY DATA PORTRAIT
SCHOOLS AND THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS



School	Neighborhood
Douglass	Walnut Hills
Hays	West End
Heberle	West End
Hofman	Evanston
Lafayette	West End
N Avondale	North Avondale
Oyler	Lower Price Hill
Roberts	East Price Hill
Rockdale	Avondale
Rothenberg	Over-The-Rhine
S Avondale	Avondale
SCPA	Pendleton
Taylor	Millvale
Walnut Hills	Evanston
Washington Park	Over-The-Rhine
WH Taft	Mt Auburn
Whittier	East Price Hill
Winton Hills	Winton Hills
Woodford	Kennedy Heights
Woodward	Bond Hill



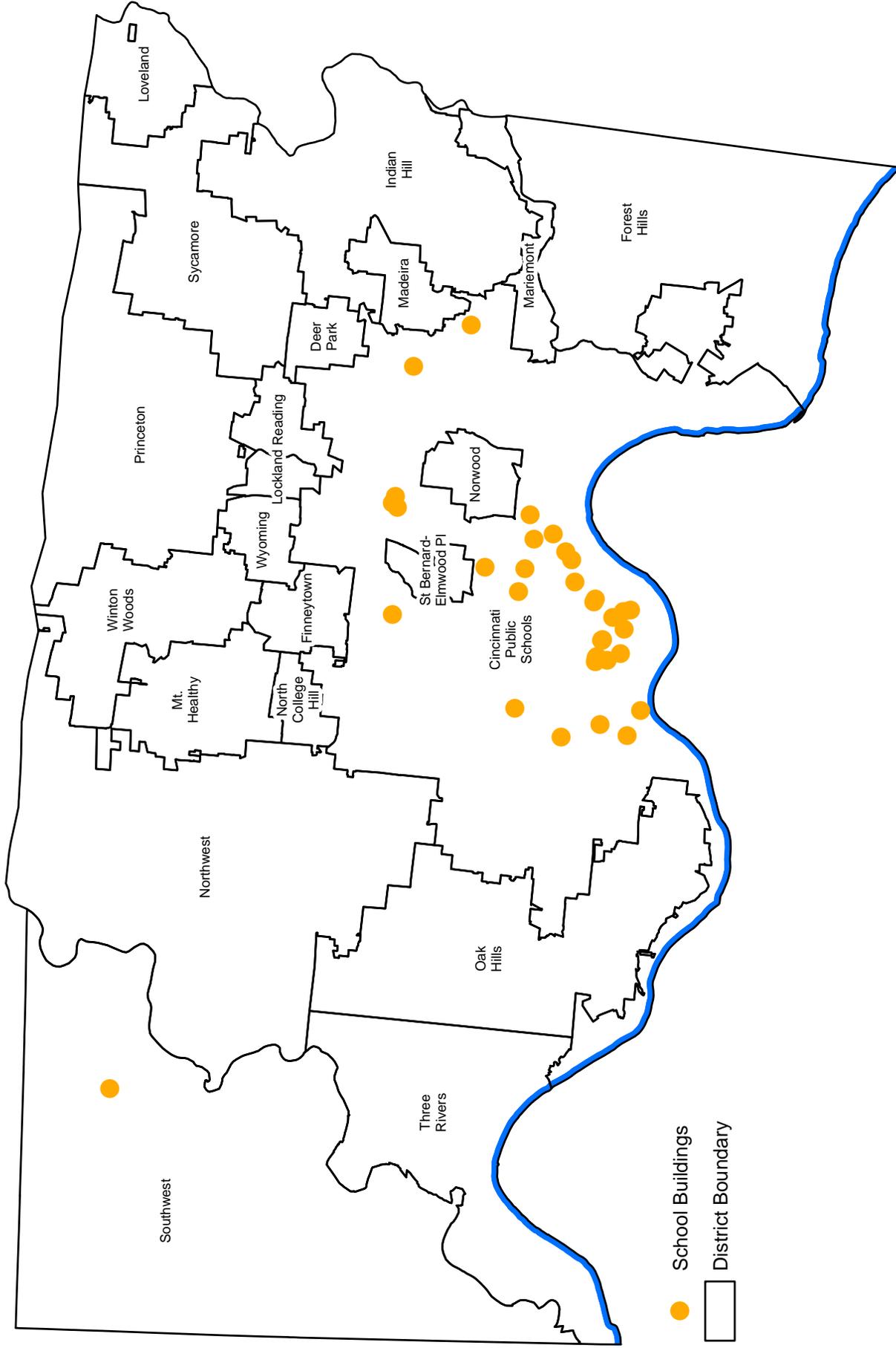
- School Buildings
- Cincinnati Public Schools
- Neighborhood Boundary

Map 5 Schools Located in Areas with 10% or more Unemployment

Cincinnati Public School District 2006 - 2007

Source: US Census Bureau Block Group Data



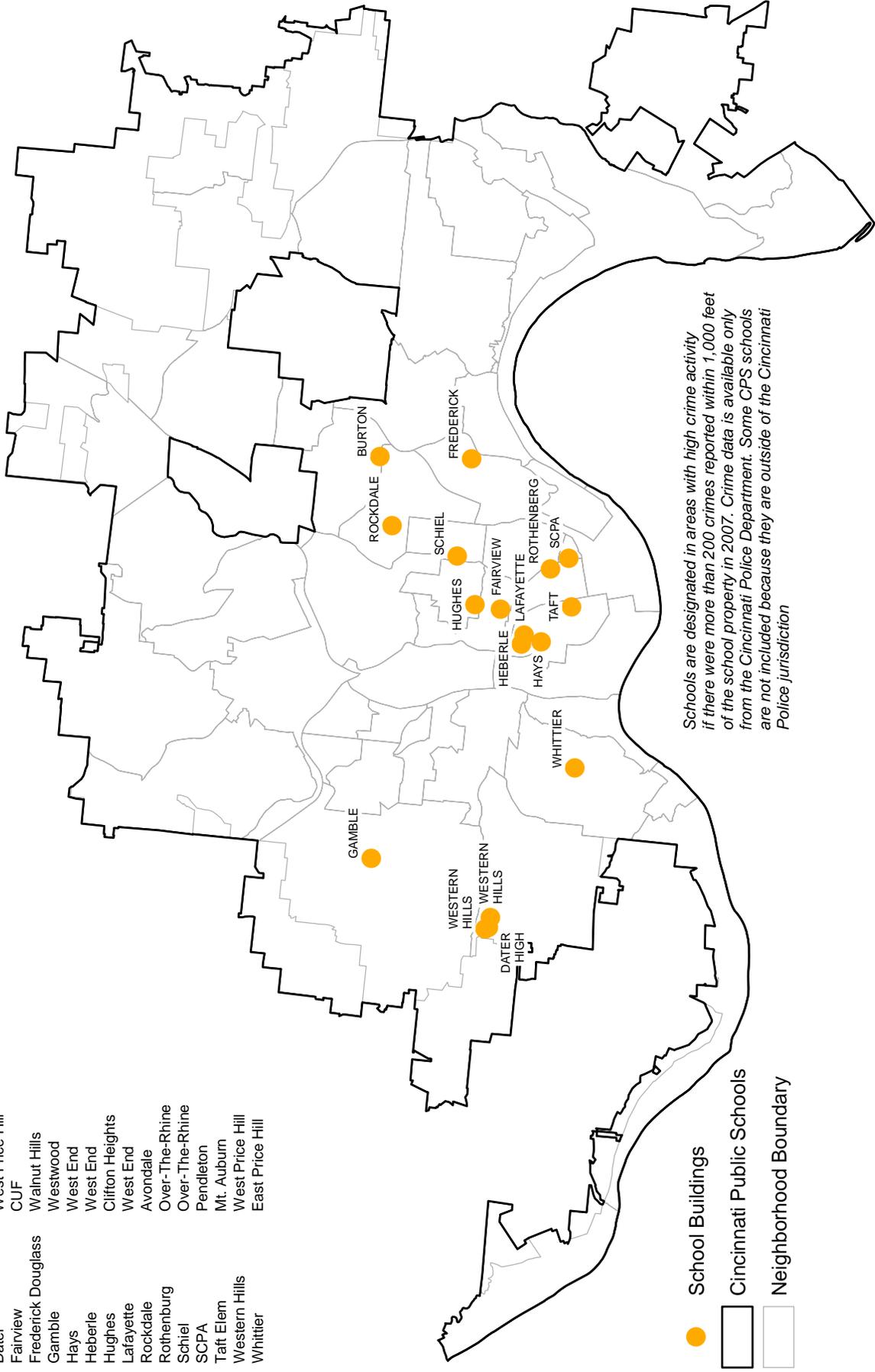


Map 6 Schools Located in Areas with 10% or more Unemployment

Hamilton County Schools 2006 - 2007

Source: US Census Bureau Block Group Data

School	Neighborhood
Burton	North Avondale
Dater	West Price Hill
Fairview	CUF
Frederick Douglass	Walnut Hills
Gamble	Westwood
Hays	West End
Heberle	West End
Hughes	Clifton Heights
Lafayette	West End
Rockdale	Avondale
Rothenburg	Over-The-Rhine
Schiel	Over-The-Rhine
SCPA	Pendleton
Taft Elem	Mt. Auburn
Western Hills	West Price Hill
Whittier	East Price Hill

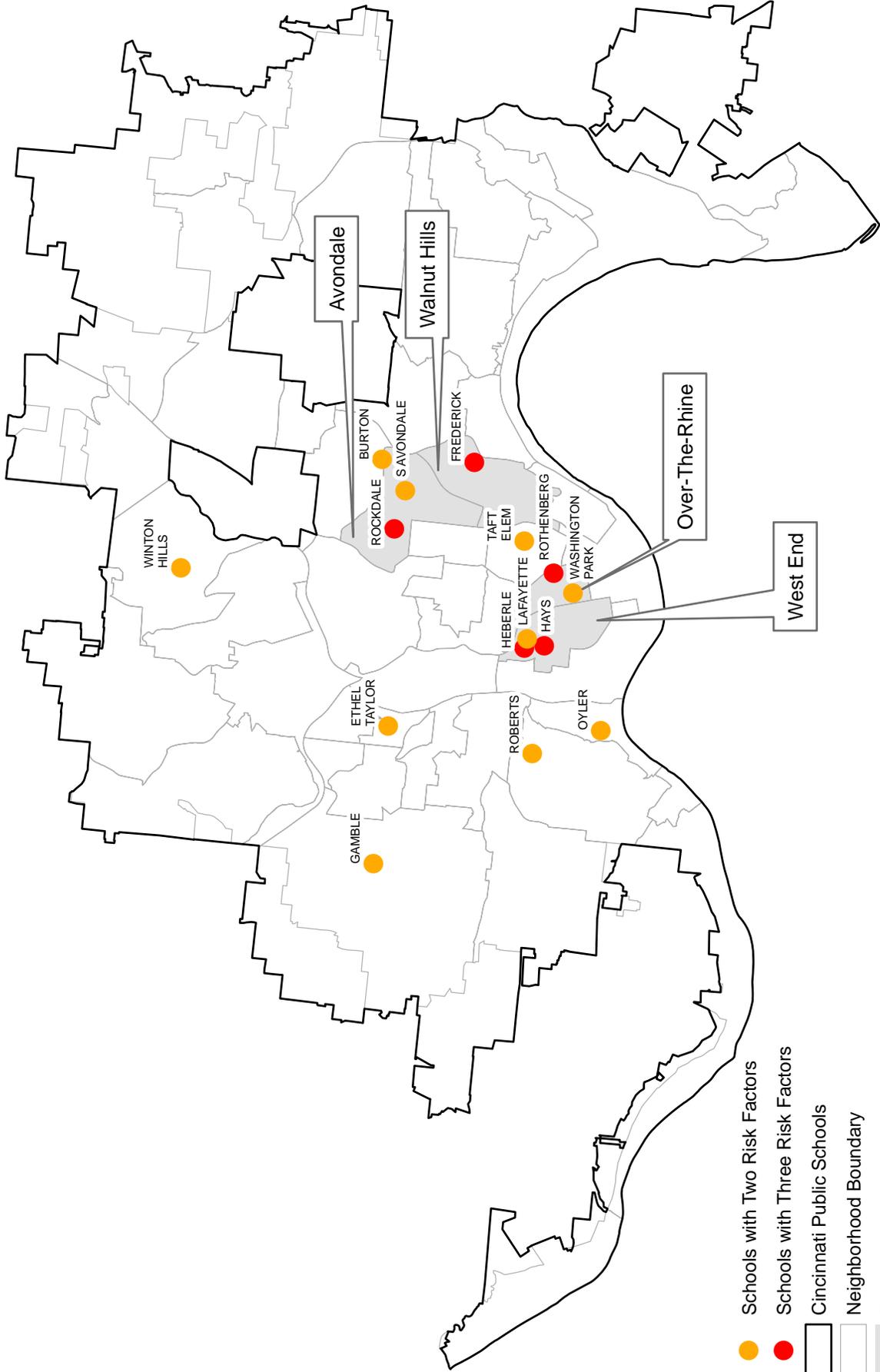


Schools are designated in areas with high crime activity if there were more than 200 crimes reported within 1,000 feet of the school property in 2007. Crime data is available only from the Cincinnati Police Department. Some CPS schools are not included because they are outside of the Cincinnati Police jurisdiction

- School Buildings
- ▭ Cincinnati Public Schools
- ▭ Neighborhood Boundary

Map 7 Schools in Areas with High Crime Activity Cincinnati Public School District 2007

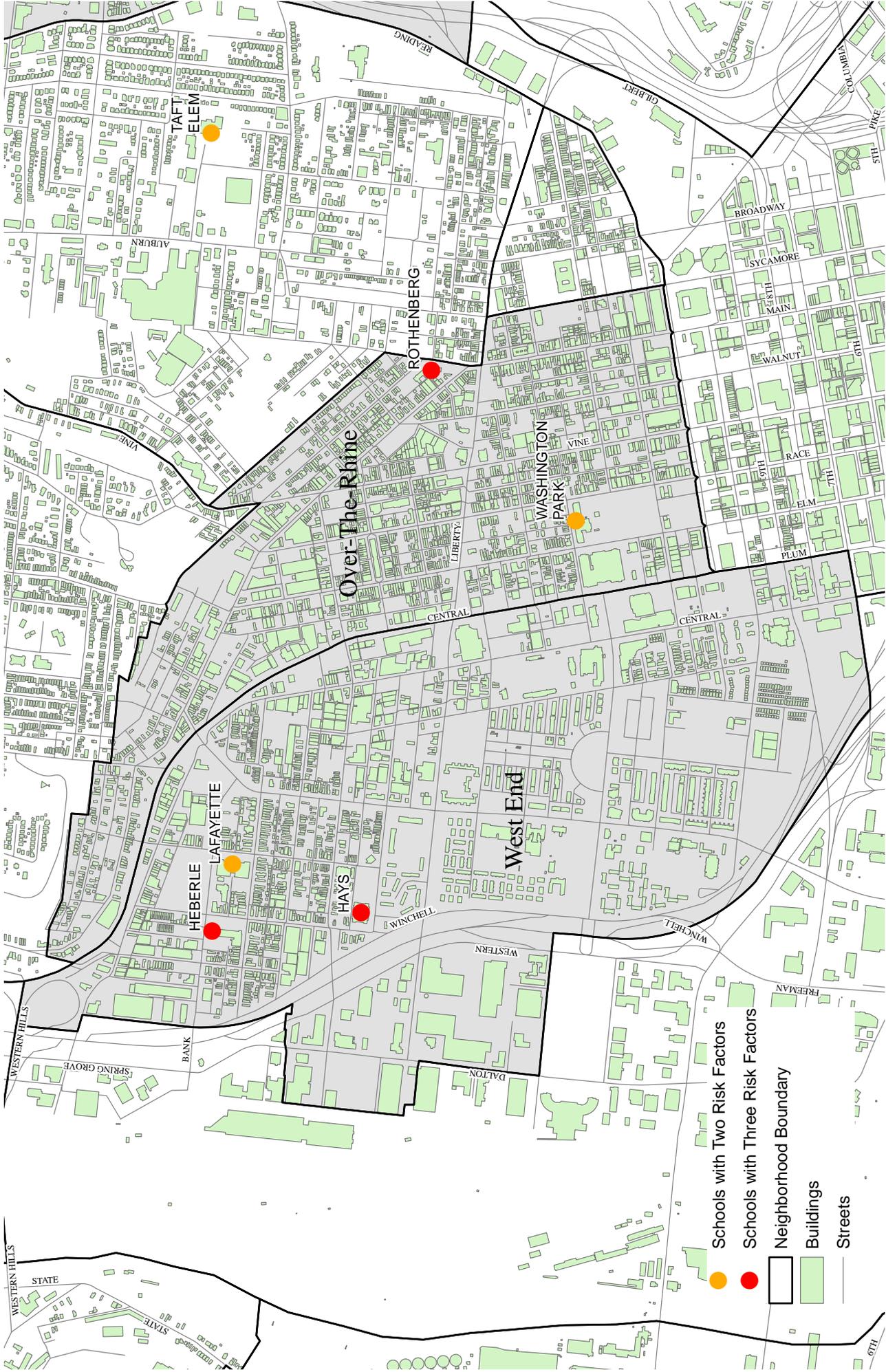
Source: City of Cincinnati Police Department



Map 8 Schools With Two or Three Neighborhood Risk Factors

Cincinnati Public School District 2006 - 2007

Source: Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission



- Schools with Two Risk Factors
- Schools with Three Risk Factors
- Neighborhood Boundary
- Buildings
- Streets

Map 9 West End and Over-The-Rhine Neighborhoods

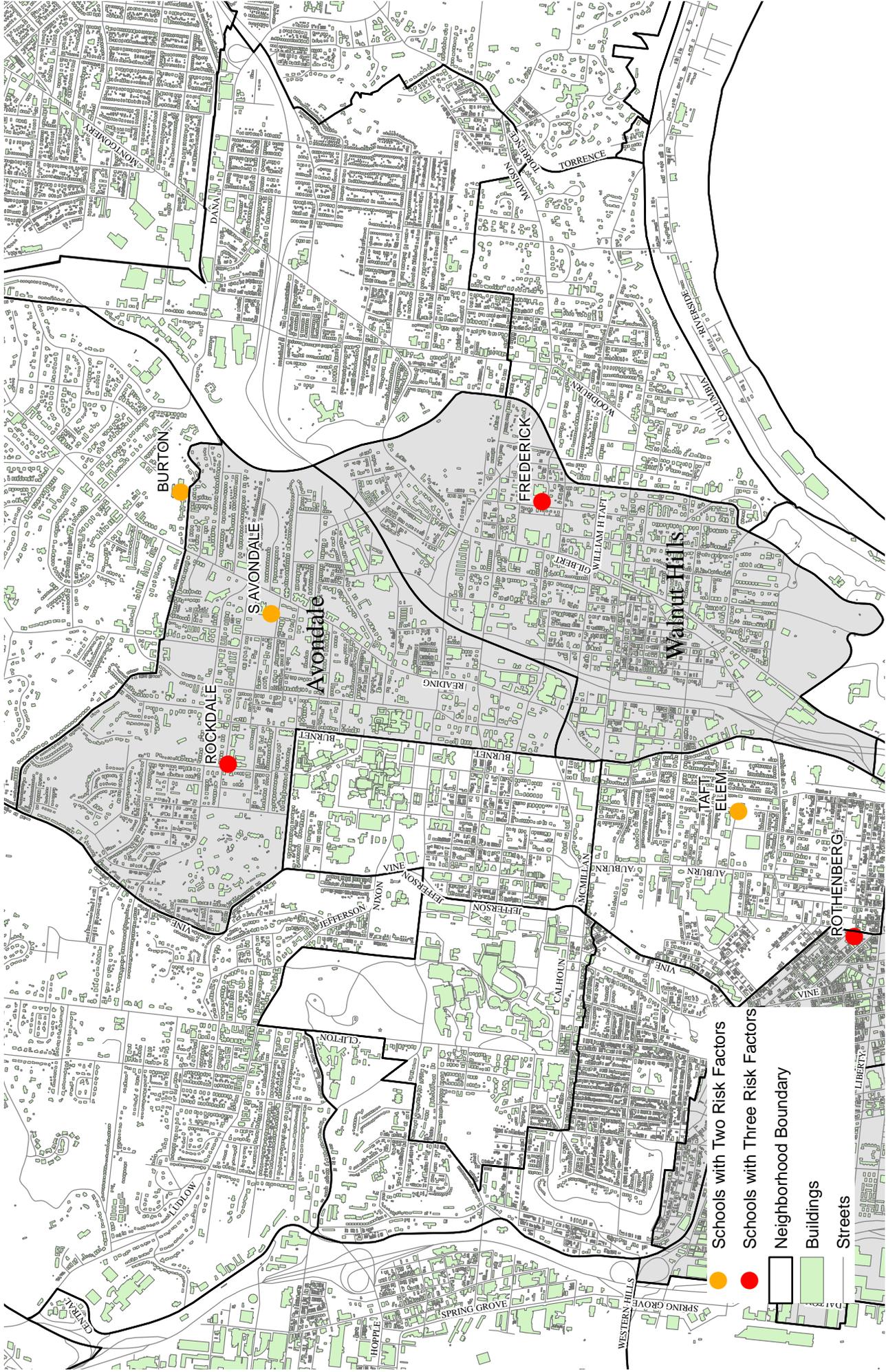
Cincinnati Public School District 2006 - 2007

Source: Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission



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HAMILTON COUNTY DATA PORTRAIT
SCHOOLS AND THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS



Map 10
Avondale and Walnut Hills Neighborhoods
 Cincinnati Public School District 2006 - 2007

Source: Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission



HAMILTON COUNTY DATA PORTRAIT

Schools and their Neighborhoods

Appendix

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This Appendix illustrates an alternative approach to selecting the lowest performing schools with the most neighborhood risk factors. Instead of measuring crime incidents within 1,000 feet of a school property, a one-quarter mile buffer is used. By increasing the area around a school property within which crime incidents are counted, a larger number of schools fall into the category of “high crime area.”

The following tables and maps illustrate the changes using one-quarter mile as the buffer distance instead of 1,000 feet.

Lowest Performing Schools with Highest Neighborhood Risk Factors

	School	Neighborhood
1.	Ethel Taylor	Millvale
2.	Frederick Douglass	Walnut Hills
3.	Gamble	Westwood
4.	Hays	West End
5.	Heberle	West End
6.	Lafayette	West End
7.	Oyler	Lower Price Hill
8.	Roberts	East Price Hill
9.	Rockdale	Avondale
10.	Rothenberg	Over-The-Rhine
11.	South Avondale	Avondale
12.	Taft Elementary	Mt. Auburn
13.	Washington Park	Over-The-Rhine
14.	Winton Hills	Winton Hills

Neighborhood Risk Factors by School

Cincinnati Public School District

Neighborhood	School	School Performance Rating 2006/2007	Neighborhood Risk Factors			Facilities Plan
			75% or More Economically Disadvantaged Students	High Crime Areas (1/4 mile buffer)	High Unemployment Areas	

Low-Performing Schools with Three Neighborhood Risk Factors

Millvale	Ethel Taylor ¹	EMERGENCY	X	X	X	New building and location
Walnut Hills	Frederick Douglass ¹	EMERGENCY	X	X	X	New building and location
West End	Heberle	EMERGENCY	X	X	X	Close school
West End	Lafayette	EMERGENCY		X	X	Close school
Lower Price Hill	Oyler ^{1,4}	EMERGENCY	X		X	Renovation
Avondale	Rockdale ¹	EMERGENCY	X	X	X	New building and location
Over-The-Rhine	Rothenberg ¹	EMERGENCY	X	X	X	Renovation
Avondale	South Avondale ¹	EMERGENCY	X	X	X	New building
Mt. Auburn	Taft Elementary ¹	EMERGENCY	X	X	X	Renovation
Over-The-Rhine	Washington Park	EMERGENCY	X	X	X	Close school
Westwood	Gamble	Watch	X	X		Close school
West End	Hays ¹	Watch	X	X	X	New building
East Price Hill	Roberts ²	Watch	X	X	X	New building
Winton Hills	Winton Hills ¹	Watch	X	X	X	New building

Low-Performing Schools with Two Neighborhood Risk Factors

North Avondale	Burton ¹	EMERGENCY	X	X		Close school
West Price Hill	Carson ¹	EMERGENCY	X	X		New building
Northside	Chase ¹	EMERGENCY	X	X		Renovation
East Westwood	Roll Hill ¹	EMERGENCY	X	X		New building
Westwood	Westwood ¹	Watch	X	X		Renovation
Evanston	World Languages ²	Watch	X	X		New building

Low-Performing Schools with One Neighborhood Risk Factor

Bond Hill	Bond Hill ¹	Watch	X			New building
South Fairmont	Central Fairmont	EMERGENCY	X			Close school
Mt. Airy	Mt Airy ¹	EMERGENCY	X			New building
Evanston	Parham ¹	Watch	X			Close school
Madisonville	Parker ³	EMERGENCY	X			New Building
College Hill	Pleasant Hill ³	Watch	X			New building

Pleasant Ridge	Pleasant Ridge ¹	Watch				New building
East End	Riverview ³	Watch	X			New building and location
Roselawn	Roselawn ³	Watch	X			Renovation
Sayler Park	Sayler ¹	Watch	X			Renovation
Madisonville	Shroder ⁴	Watch				New building and location
Silverton	Silverton ³	Watch				New building
Northside	Winton Mont.	Watch	X			Close School
Bond Hill	Woodward ⁴	Watch			X	New building

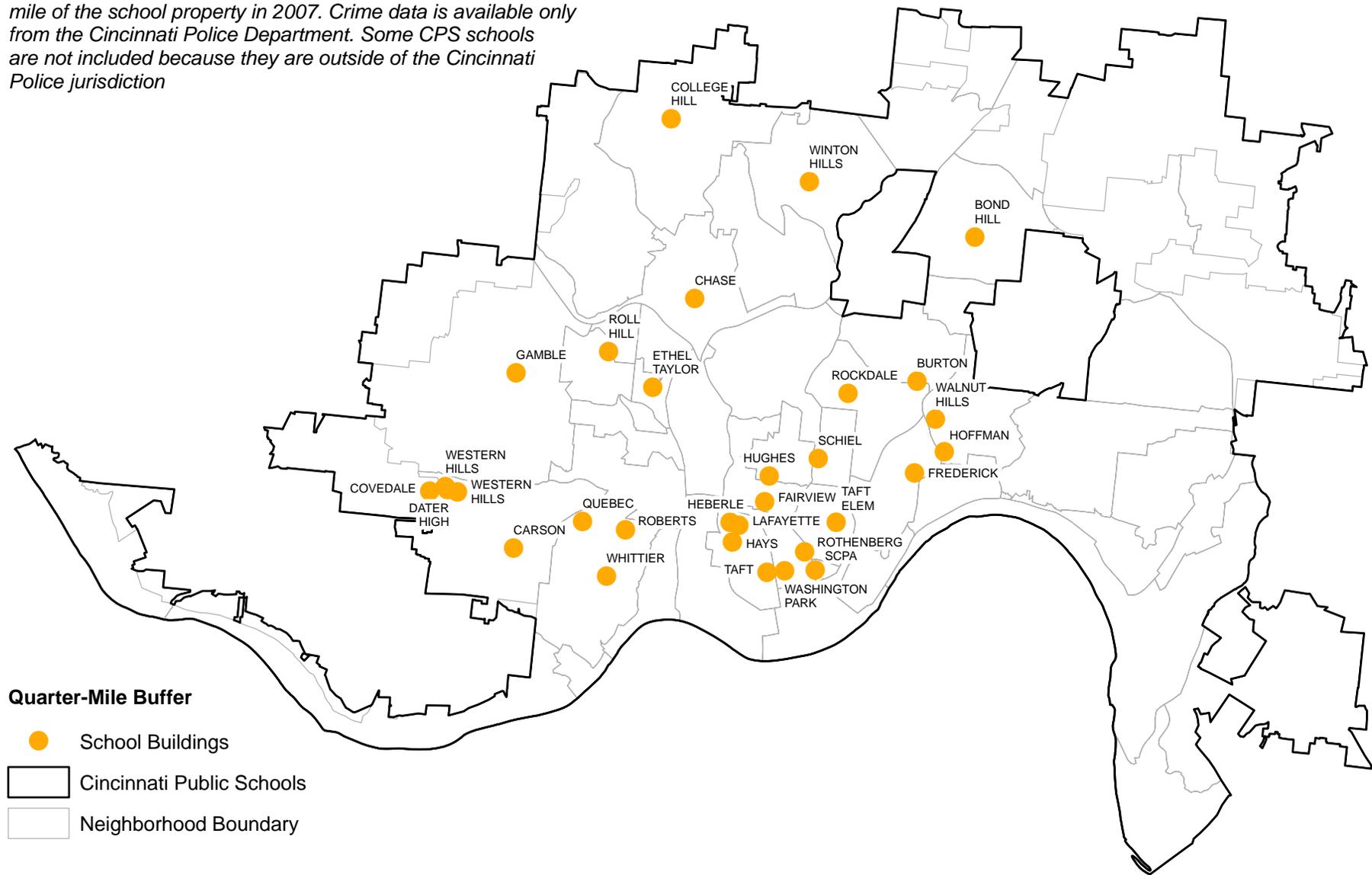
Other Schools (rated Continuous Improvement, Effective, or Excellent)

Carthage	Carthage ²	Improvement	X			Close school
College Hill	College Hill ²	Improvement	X	X		Renovation
West Price Hill	Dater High ⁴	Effective		X		Renovation
CUF	Fairview ²	Excellent		X		New building and location
Evanston	Hoffman ¹	Improvement	X		X	Close school
Clifton Heights	Hughes ⁴	Effective		X		Renovation
Roselawn	Multilingual ²	Improvement	X			Renovation
North Avondale	North Avondale ²	Effective			X	Renovation
West Price Hill	Quebec ¹	Improvement	X	X		Close school
Over-The-Rhine	Schiel ²	Improvement		X		Close School
Northside	Schwab ¹	Improvement	X			New building and location
Pendleton	SCPA ⁴	Effective		X	X	New building and location
West End	Taft H.S. ⁴	Effective		X		Renovation
Evanston	Walnut Hills ⁴	Excellent		X	X	Renovation
West Price Hill	Western Hills ⁴	Improvement		X		Renovation
East Price Hill	Whittier	Improvement	X	X	X	Close school
Kennedy Heights	Woodford ²	Improvement			X	Renovation

- 1: Neighborhood School
- 2: Magnet School
- 3: Neighborhood and Magnet School
- 4: High School

Cincinnati Public schools not included in table: Aiken, Bramble, Cheviot, Clark, Covedale, Dater Montessori, Hartwell, Hyde Park, Jacobs, Kilgour, Midway, Mt. Washington, R.E. Price, Sands, Withrow H.S.

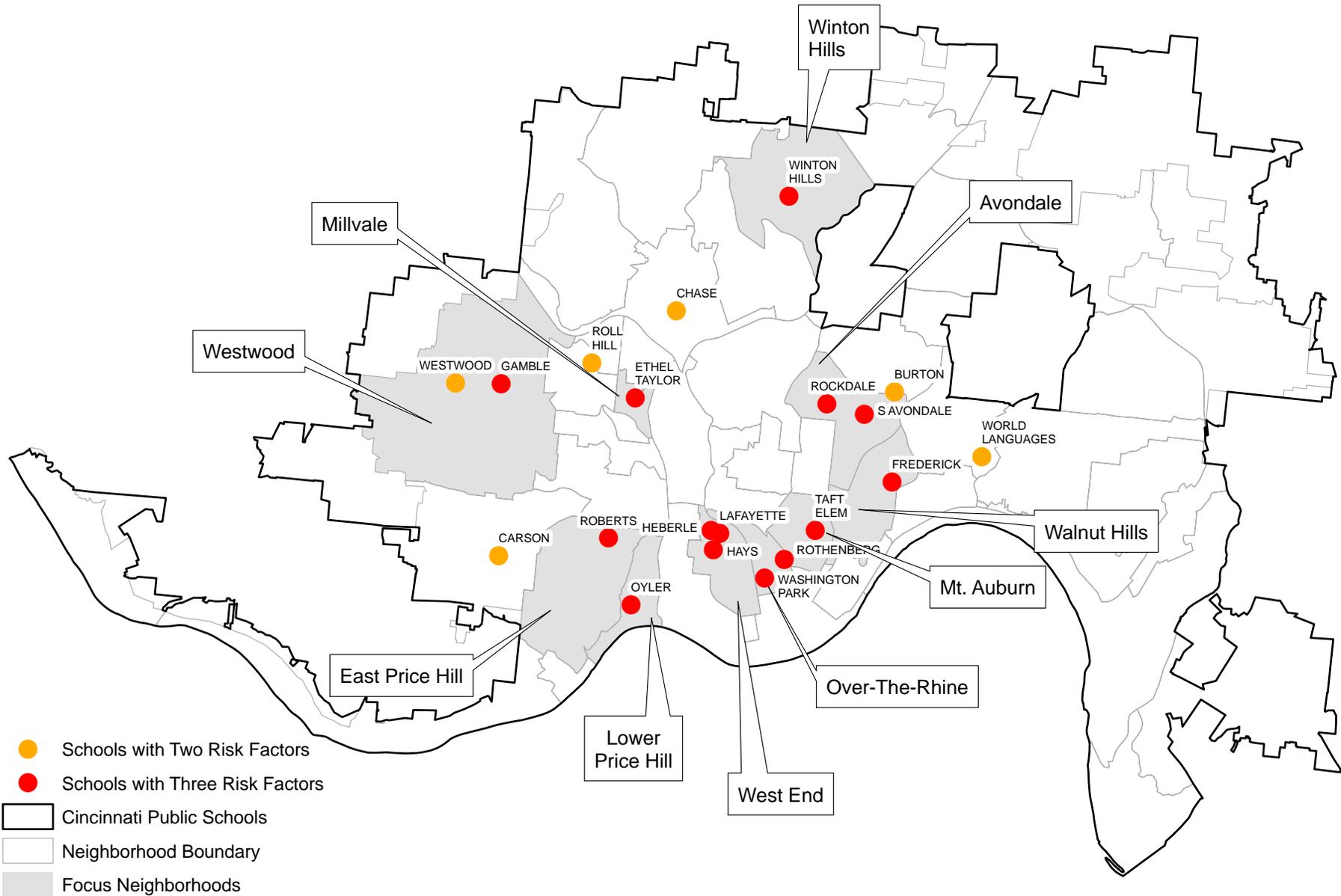
Schools are designated in areas with high crime activity if there were more than 200 crimes reported within one-quarter mile of the school property in 2007. Crime data is available only from the Cincinnati Police Department. Some CPS schools are not included because they are outside of the Cincinnati Police jurisdiction



Map 7.2 Schools in Areas with High Crime Activity

Cincinnati Public School District 2007

Source: City of Cincinnati Police Department



Map 8.2 Schools With Two or Three Neighborhood Risk Factors

Cincinnati Public School District 2006 - 2007

Source: Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission