

Citizen's Advisory Council
Enrollment & Facilities Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2015

Present: Co-Chairs Sue Kerr and Roger Wallace; Jeff King, Chief Operations Officer; Steve Burger, Asst. Superintendent for Elementary Schools; and members

7:04 pm: Meeting called to order.

Minutes from January 20, 2015 meeting: Dave motioned to approve, second by Renee.

Sue led a discussion of a comparison of Omega's and E&F's 5 year trend projections. Omega's attending data was used for this discussion since E&F uses only attending data. Questions and comments pertaining to specific schools:

- Century Oaks Elementary: E&F projects a decrease of 18; Omega projects a decrease of 62. Comment: E&F numbers make more sense. There is a big difference between 3rd and 4th grades – 3rd grade classes are big but 4th grade classes are small. Jeff said it is not Ignite causing this. Kindergarten is low this year compared to last year, primarily due to many being sent to full day kindergarten. Omega will be asked about the reason for their large decrease.
- Channing Elementary: E&F projects a decrease of 136; Omega predicts a decrease of 25. Jeff said this was a dual language site, which will impact survival rates. E&F survival rate is 1.17; Omega survival rate is 1.3. E&F uses less than 1 for grades 2-6; Omega uses more than 1. Jeff emailed Omega, who said they only use 3 years for survival rate calculations.
- Clinton Elementary: E&F projects a decrease of 36; Omega projects a decrease of 7. Omega is not including Ignite, so they will have additional 4th graders.
- Coleman Elementary: E&F projects an increase of 33; Omega projects a decrease of 38. Omega will be asked to explain the big difference.
- Fox Meadow Elementary: E&F projects a decrease of 9; Omega projects a decrease of 4. We need to put a note on our sheet about tuition-based kindergarten (EDK) at Fox Meadow. Omega will need to address EDK, because those kids will return to their home schools in 1st grade.
- Hawk Hollow Elementary: E&F projects a decrease of 27; Omega predicts a decrease of 53. Comment: There is new construction in the area, so projections to decrease need to be looked at. There also seems to be a big increase in 1st grade because of a lack of all day kindergarten.
- Hillcrest Elementary: E&F projects an increase of 28; Omega projects an increase of 62. They get some gen ed kindergarteners from Highland, so they will lose them in 1st grade.
- Hilltop Elementary: E&F projects a decrease of 104; Omega projects a decrease of 86. Comment: Kindergarten is low this year because some are sent to all day kindergarten, but will return in 1st grade.
- Laurel Hill Elementary: E&F projects an increase of 7; Omega projects an increase of 82. Omega shows a very large increase from kindergarten to 1st grade. Omega will be asked why their survival rate is so high.
- Liberty Elementary: E&F projects an increase of 88; Omega projects a decrease of 77. Steve's comments: ESL has grown; grades K-3rd have not changed much over the last several years; kids start dropping out in grades 4-6. There was a wave of new construction a couple years ago, and there still may be turnover in local townhouses. Question: Any plans to develop vacant land around Liberty? We have not been made aware of any current plans. Omega will be asked why they project such a large decrease when E&F projects an increase.

- Lincoln Elementary: E&F projects a decrease of 93; Omega predicts an increase of 29. Omega will be asked why they project an increase when E&F projects a decrease.
- Lords Park Elementary: E&F projects a decrease of 93; Omega projects an increase of 5. Omega will be asked why they project an increase when E&F projects a large decrease. Correction to the Supporting Data sheet: note on bottom right of page should be on Lowrie's sheet.
- Nature Ridge Elementary: Omega used district totals instead of data for Nature Ridge – they will be asked to correct this.
- Otter Creek Elementary: E&F projects an increase of 124; Omega predicts a decrease of 55. Jeff said they have a lot of kids in dual language. Omega will be asked why they have such a low survival rate.
- Prairieview Elementary: E&F projects an increase of 151; Omega projects an increase of 34. We need to put a note on our sheet about tuition-based kindergarten (EDK) at Prairieview. Omega will need to address EDK, because those kids will return to their home schools in 1st grade.
- Sunnydale Elementary: E&F projects an increase of 95; Omega predicts an increase of 203. Omega will be asked why they project such a large increase.
- Timber Trails Elementary: Omega uses district total instead of data for Timber Trails – they will be asked to correct this.
- Washington Elementary: E&F projects a decrease of 48; Omega projects a decrease of 111. Omega will be asked why they use such a low survival rate for grades K-1.
- Bartlett High: E&F projects a decrease of 1; Omega projects a decrease of 209. Omega will be asked why they project such a large decrease.
- Streamwood High: E&F projects an increase of 194; Omega projects a decrease of 31. Omega will be asked why they project a decrease when E&F projects such an increase.

General questions and comments on projections:

- Bev asked why E&F and Omega are not using the same numbers. Jeff said Omega is using the same September 30, 2014 enrollment numbers that we are, but we need to verify that to make sure we are both using the same numbers. Why is Omega only using 3 years of history data for projections when they have 4? We will ask Omega. Jeff also said that in 2004-05, the demographer's projections were significantly different from E&F's. Renee wondered if that was due to census data. We're not sure.
- Sue noted that some of Omega's starting numbers are off, and in a few cases by a lot. We will have to discuss this with Omega to make sure we are using the same numbers.
- E&F's survival rates are based on a 4 year average. We need to talk to Omega about why they only use 3 years, and what method they use for their calculations (is it a simple average, or something more complex).
- Question: Can we ask Omega to create a map with our projections that we can use to compare with theirs? Possibly, but we need to investigate the data differences first, and hopefully resolve all or most of the discrepancies.
- Jeff gave Omega information on kindergarteners going to/coming from other schools.
- Comment from Wayne Elementary reps: They know that many of Wayne's kindergarteners are sent to private, full day kindergartens and then attend Wayne Elementary in first grade. E&F should consider that and Omega's K-1 survival rate should be higher, because it has a big impact on projections that gets compounded in every future year.
- Question: Do we have a timeline from Omega yet? No, not yet.

We discussed the changes that have been made to the Supporting Data spreadsheet this year:

- We have added extra utilization sheets, for a total of five. The original sheet is still there, which covers projections if nothing is changed. We have also added the following scenarios: utilization if all kindergartens are all day, utilization if room capacities are adjusted for programs, utilization with both all kindergartens being all day and room capacities adjusted for programs, and utilization if there are not dedicated art or music rooms.
- Bev asked why we have the sheet for all kindergarten being all day when Tony has said we shouldn't consider that. Roger had already added the sheet to Supporting Data before Tony gave us direction, so we have left it in for information in case the question comes up again.
- Sue and Jeff spent many hours studying school layouts and determining exactly how many classrooms each school has. This has helped resolve some of the discrepancies that have existed for years between E&F and the district's data.
- Question: Do we need to know if PreK rooms can be used for GenEd or other classrooms if the space is needed, or do they get to keep their rooms? Steve: Liberty has a PreK wing, but hasn't been used for that for years and is used for other things; hopefully with boundary changes we'll make more room for PreK. Note: PreK busing is one way only.
- There are a couple numbers on the Classroom Utilization sheet that need to be verified with Jeff.
- The Building Classrooms sheet has been added. This sheet shows what rooms are designed and used for at each school.
- There are only 14 active developments shown on the Community Developments sheet. This has been much higher in the past when the real estate market was much better.

Discussion about the Report text:

- Glenn asked if we would be keeping the timeline in the report that is out of date. We will keep it, but we need to make a note that it will be updated in the future.
- On the Boundary Work page we will just summarize what we've been doing so far.
- On the Recommendations page we will just say that we will continue to work on boundaries.
- Renee suggested that we put Tony's comments about operational efficiency as our primary goal in the report.

General comments and questions:

- Jeff is not sure if Omega will be ready for the March 3rd meeting.
- We should post all of the documents we are discussing on the E&F web site.
- Based on the current projections, Wayne has a lot of concerns. We will look at the data and methodologies used for projections, and try to make changes to improve projection accuracy for all schools.
- Tony has said our final date for submission of our report in December 2015 cannot change. The committee is concerned that we are getting too far behind, and they do not want to rush this. Roger will talk with Tony about this.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for March 3, 2015 at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.