

CAC Enrollment and Facilities Meeting

April 7, 2015

Present: Co-Chairs Sue Kerr and Roger Wallace, U-46 Administrator Jeff King, Omega demographer Bruce Silva (via speaker phone), Mary VanSlyck (CAC Chairperson), and members

Call to Order: Roger called the meeting to order 7:07. Roger introduced Bruce from Omega on speaker phone and Mary Van Slyck, CAC chair.

March minutes: Nathan motioned to approve the minutes of the March 17th meeting. Brandi seconded.

Update: At last CAC Exec meeting, the Executive committee decided that E&F did not need to submit a formal report this year. Instead it will submit a summary report (to be reviewed at this meeting) of its work to date. E&F co-chairs have been updating the Board of Education on the work done so far this year, and will continue to do so.

Discussion of Work Summary document:

The Work Summary document outlines work done so far this year. The committee suggested the following changes.

- 4th paragraph under “History”: “approve” should be “improve”
- There was discussion about including information about mobiles in the Capacity section. It is possible for a school to have mobiles and yet be at less than 100% capacity schools. This is because of the way we figure utilization; we assume the maximum number of kids per class, which is often not the case.
- There was a suggestion that we need an additional bullet (under Capacity) which stated that we need to look at classroom usage as an additional factor since utilization may be less than 100% but mobiles may be in use.
- There was a suggestion for an additional bullet explicitly stating that the goal is to eliminate mobiles.
- There was discussion about Dual Language classrooms and whether 85% maximum utilization would be accurate since they have smaller class sizes. Roger and Sue explained that that had been taken into account when figuring the utilization capacity.
- There was discussion about school closings. Roger mentioned what had been talked about the night before at the Board of Education meeting. CEO Tony Sanders had discussed the possibility of opening a K-8 magnet school instead of closing an elementary school. Roger said Omega could still look at the potential for closing a school and where kids might go, but E&F would not have to recommend it. Someone asked if we should still present the Board of Ed with costs of closing a school. Roger said we could give the Board of Ed information about various alternatives (e.g., closing 1 school, closing 2 schools). Nathan noted there is not much difference between closing a school and turning it into a magnet school since in both cases children would have to leave their school.

Timeline: Roger said that there has been discussion with administration about turning this into a two step process. Fixing over-crowded elementary schools would be done for the 2016-17 school year. This

work would have to be done by 10/20/15 so it could go through the CAC approval process and be sent to the Board. Middle school and high school boundaries would not be changed but feeder patterns would have to be kept in mind as this work was done. Adjusting middle and high school boundaries, and making changes for a magnet school or closing a school would be done for the 2017-18 school year.

All-Day kindergarten: The committee had received a spreadsheet on all day kindergarten. While it would work for some schools, for a number of schools there wasn't the space. The district would not do it for only some schools because of legal issues.

Dual Language/Gen Ed pairings: The committee had received spreadsheets which looked at creating GenEd/Dual Language paired schools which shared a common boundaries. The hope had been that space could be used more efficiently. Preliminary studies suggest this does not look promising so it will not be pursued at this point.

Approval of Work Summary document: Nathan moved to approve the Work Summary document with changes; Renee seconded. Approval unanimous.

Road Ahead document

Bruce Silva and Roger had prepared a "Road Ahead" document outlining next steps of work to be done. Since closing under-capacity schools is not on the table right now, that section will be removed. Bruce discussed some of the ways he would be looking at over-capacity schools: looking at programs, seeing where kids came from (or went to, if they didn't attend their home school), etc. in order to make suggestions on how to move kids. Bruce noted he needed final utilization capacity numbers. Jeff, Roger and Sue are finalizing that.

Other business. Carol asked about publicizing the fact that we are not looking at closing schools at this point. Yes, that would be fine.

Sandy asked about when to have principals submit names for next year, since there is a chance the committee will be working over the summer. Mary VanSlyck said they could be submitted any time. Have the principal send names to her if needed.

Adjournment: Nathan moved to adjourn. David Marsh seconded. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:19