

Citizen's Advisory Council
Enrollment & Facilities Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2014

Present: Co-Chairs Sue Kerr and Don Kaiser, U-46 Administrator Jeff King, and members Ruth Beckner, Renee Sweeney, Glenn Tinio, and Roger Wallace

7:02pm: Meeting called to order.

On March 11, 2014 Sue sent the February 13, 2014 meeting minutes draft via email to committee members. With no changes, they were approved with a motion by Glenn and seconded by Sue.

Jeff provided a new boundary timeline and updated rules for the discussion. These have been approved by the school board.

Report discussion:

- P3: Remove items 3 and 4 – we did not end up doing those this year.
- Jeff said that there are some unique points in our report. When we review GIS, we should look at what we do that isn't in GIS and see how we can continue providing that information.
- P9: Add to recommendations that we will keep using our Excel data at least through the boundary discussions. We will compare the demographer's data, GIS and our Excel data, taking a close look at and significant discrepancies we find.
- Jeff had supplied Sue with some extra data (such as number of mobiles) to make data current.
- Add the updated boundary timeline to the report.

Comments from Jeff:

- The board wants us to make all boundary discussions at one time – elementary, middle and high schools.
- He will meet with the demographers this week, present the rules for developing boundaries, and begin the discussion of developing them.
- The goal is to have EDK at every school. When/if that happens, parents will not have to pay for it like they did this year.
- During boundary discussions, many options will be on the table including:
 - o Probably close a school when there are nearby schools that could absorb the students. It costs around \$40k/year to maintain a closed building. Spring Trail and Horizon are candidates – the students can fairly easily be moved to nearby schools that have room.
 - o Re-open a school that was previously closed to alleviate overcrowding at a nearby school or schools.
 - o Addition on an existing school to help alleviate overcrowding in densely populated areas.
 - o Move all 6th grades into middle school to help alleviate overcrowding in densely populated areas.
- There is no mandate about music or art rooms in schools. We should try to maintain them if they already exist or even try to create them, but that can't be a reason to move students.
- There were some problems this year with students from predicted small kindergarten classes getting moved from their home schools to other schools. Next year, if a class is predicted to be 15 or more, the students will stay at their home school.

- The process of getting into a school using an affidavit has historically been abused. Next year the process will be enhanced to require other proof of residency to ensure a child qualifies to attend that school.

Sue made changes to the report during our discussions. We decided to accept that as our final report, motioned by Renee and seconded by Roger.

History has shown that boundary discussions can become very complicated, time consuming and personal. As a committee we agreed that we should have strict participation and attendance rules, especially since we have to deal with boundaries for all grade levels at the same time. Jeff said he won't begin boundary discussions with us without clear guidelines in place. After some discussion, the following "Participation Guidelines" were developed:

1. This is a 2 year commitment. To ensure success, participants must understand this and be willing to see it through to the end.
2. Participants must join by the end of September 2014 for school years 2014-15 and 2015-16.
3. Each school will be limited to 3 dedicated voices during each meeting. Three was chosen to give each school more than one voice, have an odd number in order to break any ties between members from a school, and keep the numbers low to keep any one school from monopolizing the discussions and bogging the whole process down.
4. Create a district email (such as "boundaries@u-46.org") to give everyone a place to submit comments and/or questions. Jeff said he will be able to get this set up for us. This email will be monitored by the committee.

Sue will present these proposed guidelines to CAC Executive on Thursday. Once approved by CAC Exec, the guidelines will need approval of the board.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2014 at 7pm.

8:35pm: Renee motioned to adjourn, Glenn seconded motion.