

MINUTES-AS IS 12/16/04
CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
ATTENDANCE ZONE ADVISORY COMMISSION
GRANT SAWYER BUILDING, ROOM 4412
555 EAST WASHINGTON AVENUE, LAS VEGAS, NV 89101

December 9, 2004

9:30 a.m.

Roll Call: Members Present

Frank Albano
Eleanor Chow
Erin Cranor (9:30-10:42 a.m.)
Carolyn Edwards
Gaya Guymon (9:34 a.m.)
Vivian 'Buffy' Kilarski (9:32 a.m.)
Kitty Kinkade
Dave Miller
Barbara Moody
Becky Neilson
JaNece Pinegar

Members Absent

Jill Beesley
Jennie Orme

Sharon Dattoli, Coordinator III, Demographics and Zoning

FLAG SALUTE

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion to adopt agenda with amendment to have public input after each focus area.

Motion: JaNece Pinegar Second: Eleanor Chow Vote: Unanimous

Jill Beesley, Gaya Guymon, Buffy Kilarski, and Jennie Orme were not present to vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of November 30, 2004, as amended; December 2, 2004, as amended; and December 7, 2004 as is.

Motion: Dave Miller Second: Buffy Kilarski Vote: Unanimous

Jill Beesley and Jennie Orme were not present to vote.

REPORTS

There were no reports.

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREAS E6

Sharon Dattoli reviewed scenario 1 for focus area E6, which evaluates the existing attendance zones for Cunningham, Ferron, Goldfarb, Harmon, Iverson, Thorpe/Treem, and Whitney Elementary Schools, which was approved in a prior meeting to go to public input.

Buffy Kilarski presented scenario 2 for focus area E6. She addressed the concerns she had with this scenario. The problem with scenario 2 is if a new school is sited in the area, students who are noticed to be reassigned for next year, will be reassigned in 2 years.

Sharon Dattoli stated staff does have land in this focus area. One site is referred to as the Quarry site, the area where homes were put on hold because of environmental issues. Staff will look into finding sites south of Desert Inn Road, if and when the methodology is present, to accommodate the growth.

Frank Albano questioned the safety issues for this focus area regarding students crossing and being zoned across major streets such as Boulder Highway, Hollywood Boulevard, and US-95.

Sharon Dattoli stated there is a safety meeting held every Spring to discuss and evaluate safety issues with the school district and all entities, including Metro.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON FOCUS AREA E6

Carol Foster, principal, Ferron Elementary School, stated it is important for the school to remain on a 9-month calendar because there are several specialized programs held at the school during the summer months.

Michelle Baker, parent Ferron Elementary School, expressed safety concerns and fear of a calendar change.

Roz McClary, parent, Treem Elementary School, stated the school has 5 growth areas in their zone. She does not understand why AZAC is considering moving students into their school, when surrounding schools are allowing zone variances. She is opposed to adding students to Treem/Thorpe Elementary Schools.

Jerry Boles, principal, Iverson Elementary School, stated the school has a large zone and is surprised to see it involved in zoning. He stated the current enrollment is 765 students and the school has 42 zone variances. Iverson Elementary School has a Minority to Majority Option and is designated as an alternative school for the AYP status at Lynch Elementary School. He is concerned with adding students to the zone because there is growth in the established zone. Before the start of the school year, Iverson Elementary School was projected to only have 670 students; however, 80 additional students were enrolled by the first day of school. He cautioned AZAC about expanding the zone.

Barbara Guthrie, parent, Ferron Elementary School, stated her main concern is the safety of the students. One of the cross walks at the school was erased 3 years ago. She is against the school going year round.

Lisa Goodwin, parent, Ferron Elementary School, stated the special education program works perfect on the 9-month calendar. Her child is involved in the summer school program and she would hate to lose the program.

Kitty Kinkade stated almost all elementary schools have safety issues. Schools go year round every year and if this school goes year round, the children and parents will adjust, just as others have.

JaNece Pinegar stated she wishes the district would look into doing more things to keep schools on 9-month calendars because calendar does matter. She stated AZAC should look at adding students to Adams and McDaniel Elementary Schools.

Sharon Dattoli stated McDaniel Elementary School cannot convert to a year round calendar and cannot accommodate a building addition because it is just over 4 acres, instead of the 10-12 acres other sites have. She stated half of Adams Elementary School campus is underground and because of this, it would be hard to convert with relocating portables. Staff would prefer not to recommend year round calendar for this site.

Motion to take scenario 2, for focus area E6 to public input.

Motion: Buffy Kilarski

Second: Erin Cranor

Vote: Unanimous

Jill Beesley and Jennie Orme were not present to vote.

FOCUS AREA E4

Sharon Dattoli explained scenarios for Focus Area E4, which establishes zones for the new Goynes and Tartan Elementary Schools and evaluates the existing zones of Carl, Elizondo, Heckethorn, Simmons, Priest, Watson, and Wilhelm Elementary Schools.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON FOCUS AREA E4

DeAnn Bauman, parent, Priest Elementary School, stated there are 2 developments in the zone and adding students will trigger the school to convert to a year round calendar, causing them to lose programs.

Denise Hogan and Dona Henderson, parents, Priest Elementary School, would like the school to remain on a 9-month calendar.

Tim Bauman, parent, Priest Elementary School, stated he would like for the school to remain on a 9-month calendar as well. In addition, if the district is worried about overcrowding at the schools, something should be done about students from other countries attending public schools.

Carolyn Edwards reminded the public AZAC does not determine which schools convert to year round; however, the decisions AZAC make can trigger schools to go on or off a year round calendar. AZAC is tasked with looking at all schools and all calendars.

JaNece Pinegar stated AZAC has guidelines they must adhere to and this is not the forum to address calendar changes.

Buffy Kilarski stated the 1998 Bond Fund was passed by citizens and the approval was based on all elementary schools being on a year round calendar.

Kitty Kinkade stated she was not aware of any growth in the Priest Elementary School zone. She is not happy with the changes that are being proposed to the Priest Elementary School's zone; however, Wilhelm needs some relief. Even with the changes, Wilhelm Elementary School will still remain over crowded.

Motion to amend original motion for scenario 1 for focus area E4, to include amendments to have the Loma Vista Apartments and the area south of Craig Road, north of Alexander Road, between Martin Luther King Boulevard and Revere Street, to attend Priest Elementary School, to public input.

Motion: JaNece Pinegar Second: Gaya Guymon Vote: 9-1

Oppose: Kitty Kinkade

Jill Beesley, Erin Cranor, and Jennie Orme were not present to vote.

Recess: 11:07 a.m.

Reconvene: 11:20 a.m.

FOCUS AREA FOR FOCUS AREA H1

Sharon Dattoli stated scenarios 5 and 6 for focus area H1 are being represented from AZAC's previous meeting because the Commission did not want to vote until they saw the amended scenarios with new geographic numbers.

JaNece Pinegar presented scenarios for focus area H1, which establishes an attendance zone for the new high school, project number 1539, and evaluates the existing attendance zones for Centennial, Cheyenne, Cimarron-Memorial, Mojave, and Shadow Ridge High Schools.

Becky Neilson requested a scenario be created that will work because neither scenario will work as is.

Sharon Dattoli stated noticing as many families as possible is wonderful; however, AZAC needs to be sure scenarios are viable because it could create situations that can make schools uncomfortable. If the Board chooses to select a proposal "as is", rather than the recommendation AZAC forwards.

Kitty Kinkade cautioned to be careful to what is happening with Cheyenne High Schools. The current scenarios are reducing the diversity at Cheyenne High School.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON FOCUS AREA H1

Nobody from the public chose to speak.

AZAC agreed to recess this discussion until the next AZAC meeting.

FOCUS AREA H2

Sharon Dattoli stated scenario 2 for focus area H2, which evaluates the existing attendance zones for Canyon Springs, Desert Pines, and Valley High Schools, needs to be overturned. She stated because of funding issues with the Grant at Canyon Springs, staff does not advise rezoning more minority students into their zone at this time.

Motion to resend scenario 2 for focus area H2, from going to public input.

Motion: Kitty Kinkade Second: Buffy Kilarski Vote: 9-1

Abstain: Dave Miller

Jill Beesley, Erin Cranor, and Jennie Orme were not present to vote.

MEETING CALENDAR, DATES, AND TIME

Sharon Dattoli reminded AZAC of the next AZAC meeting on December 14 and 16, 2004. She stated there will be an AZAC meeting on January 4, 2005, to provide an overview of procedures and conduct at public input meetings.

Recess to a time and date certain: December 14, 2004, at 9:00 a.m., Edward Greer Education Center, Board Room.

Recess: 12:47 p.m.,

Reconvene: December 14, 2004, at 9:03 a.m.

Everyone was present, with the exception of:

Frank Albano (via Telephone)

Jill Beesley

Barbara Moody (9:10 a.m.)

Dave Miller

Becky Neilson (9:09 a.m.)

Eleanor Chow

Jennie Orme

FOCUS AREA H1

Sharon Dattoli stated the discussion and possible action on focus area H1 is being continued from the December 9, 2004, AZAC Meeting. She presented scenarios for focus area H1, which establishes an attendance zone for the new high school, project number 1539, and evaluates the existing attendance zones for Centennial, Cheyenne, Cimarron-Memorial, Mojave, and Shadow Ridge High Schools.

JaNece Pinegar questioned if staff knew how many juniors opened the Shadow Ridge High School. She stated the families are split, some want to attend the new school, while others would like to remain at Shadow Ridge High School.

Sharon Dattoli stated the data will be provided and if an option is created, it will be recommended to the board without transportation.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON FOCUS AREA H1

Pat Hayden, principal, Arbor View High School, stated this is the fourth new school he has opened. He expressed his excitement of seeing the boundaries come into place.

JaNece Pinegar stated whatever boundaries are decided, she would like to come back next year and create feeder school alignment with the middle schools in the area.

Motion to take scenario 7 as is and scenario 5 with an amendment to have the area south of Ann Road, north of Lone Mountain Road, between Decatur Boulevard and Jones Boulevard, to remain at Cheyenne High School, for focus area H1, to public input.

Motion: JaNece Pinegar Second: Gaya Guymon Vote: Unanimous
Jill Beesley, Dave Miller, and Jennie Orme were not present to vote.

Motion to adjourn.

Motion: Erin Cranor Second: JaNece Pinegar Vote: Unanimous
Jill Beesley, Dave Miller, and Jennie Orme were not present to vote
Adjourn: 9:15 a.m.