

MINUTES-AS IS 11/17/2005
CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
ATTENDANCE ZONE ADVISORY COMMISSION
EDWARD A. GREER EDUCATION CENTER, BOARD ROOM
2832 E. FLAMINGO ROAD, LAS VEGAS, NV 89121

November 15, 2005

9:30 a.m.

Roll Call: Members Present

Eleanor Chow
Erin Cranor
Carolyn Edwards (10:11 a.m.)
Joanne Foutz
Gaya Guymon
Vivian 'Buffy' Kilarski (9:34 a.m.)
Julie Littmann
Patricia Lopez (9:37 a.m.)
Dave Miller
Barbara Moody
Becky Neilson
Ken Rezendes

Members Absent

Kitty Kinkade

Sharon Dattoli, Director II, Demographics, Zoning, and GIS

FLAG SALUTE

Sharon Dattoli announced AZAC has a new member named Patricia Lopez; Larry Mason's District D representative.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion to adopt agenda with an amendment to have public input after each scenario.

Motion: Eleanor Chow Second: Dave Miller Vote: Unanimous
Carolyn Edwards, Buffy Kilarski, Kitty Kinkade, and Patricia Lopez were not present to vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of November 8, 2005, as is.

Motion: Dave Miller Second: Julie Littmann Vote: Unanimous
Carolyn Edwards, Kitty Kinkade, and Patricia Lopez were not present to vote.

REPORTS

There were no reports.

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREAS E1

Sharon Dattoli explained scenarios 1 and 2 for focus area E1, which establishes an attendance zone boundary for the new Thompson Elementary School and evaluates the existing attendance zones for Allen, Bilbray, Darnell, Deskin, and Scherkenbach Elementary Schools.

Ken Rezendes stated this focus area is tough because of the growth. He explained the "triangle" area; northwest of U.S.-95, south of Grand Teton Drive, west of Tule Springs/Durango Drive; is closest to the new Thompson Elementary School. The students may have to be bussed to the new Thompson Elementary School because of U. S.-95. However, the triangle is also within two miles of Bilbray/Sherkenbach and Rhodes Elementary Schools and could possibly walk.

Ed Hale, Transportation Department, stated the students in the triangle area would be bussed to Thompson Elementary School because there is an overpass over the freeway that serves as an on/off ramp.

Ken Rezendes stated there are over 200 students whom reside in the triangle and he could consider shifting students south, into other schools with available space like Tarr Elementary School.

Sharon Dattoli cautioned AZAC about zoning too far south. There is still growth in these areas that will feed into these schools, such as Tarr Elementary School.

Gaya Guymon stated the new growth should yield approximately 500 students in the new Thompson Elementary School zone alone.

Erin Cranor questioned if there is a new site in this area.

Sharon Dattoli stated there are no elementary schools sited past 2007. She is unsure of how many new sites will be gained for the next round of siting. Furthermore, schools will be sited in the Spring of 2006, after final zoning. The schools sited will be based on all elementary schools being year round.

Buffy Kilarski questioned where sites are available in the northwest area. She stated she feels the triangle can attend and remain at Bilbray/Sherkenbach Elementary Schools. She stated she does not favor year round schools.

Gaya Guymon stated there are 9-month schools in the area that are over their 9-month capacity but just have not triggered to year round yet. She stated there will be 20,000 homes in a new master-planned community coming in near U.S.-95 and Moccasin Road in 2007.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON FOCUS AREA E1

George Ann Ray, parent, Allen Elementary School, stated she does not understand the reason for downloading Allen and Deskin Elementary Schools. The problem is with Darnell and the new Thompson Elementary Schools. She requested the two schools be used to solve the zoning issues. She would prefer to move as few students as possible.

Gaya Guymon stated because of new growth, 150 additional students will be attending Deskin Elementary School and an additional 50 students will be attending Allen Elementary School.

Ken Rezendes stated it would be ideal to split the zone between the new Thompson and Darnell Elementary Schools. However, the majority of the growth is in the new Thompson Elementary School's zone. In addition, AZAC would not want to push schools to their maximum capacity.

Sharon Dattoli stated AZAC is dealing with a dense area around the new Thompson and Darnell Elementary Schools.

Buffy Kilarski stated if there is a master-planned community coming in near Moccasin Road and U. S.-95, usually the developer sets aside land for schools within the community.

Gaya Guymon stated none of the schools in this area are ready to be landlocked. It will be difficult to stabilize this area.

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E2

Sharon Dattoli explained scenarios for focus area E2, which establishes an attendance zone for the new Kitty Ward Elementary School and evaluates the existing attendance zones of Bilbray, Goynes, Heckethorn, Rhodes, and Scherkenbach Elementary Schools.

Gaya Guymon explained the growth in each area. She stated Heckethorn and Goynes Elementary Schools provide for feeder school alignment in scenario 2.

PUBLIC INPUT FOCUS AREA E2

Lee Enyart, parent, Heckethorn Elementary School, asked for geographic numbers from the scenarios.

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E3

Sharon Dattoli explained scenarios 1 and 2 for focus area E3, which establishes a new attendance zone for the new Hayden Elementary School and evaluates the existing attendance zones for Antonello, Elizondo, Tartan, and Watson Elementary Schools. She stated this is a topic on the November 17, 2005, agenda; it will be discussed at a later meeting because additional schools areas have not been noticed.

Gaya Guymon stated the area east of Lamb Boulevard, near Centennial Parkway, is zoned for Lowman/Manch Elementary Schools but belongs with the Tartan Elementary School community. However, because of the large number of students projected to attend Tartan Elementary School, it is recommended this area return to its community school next zoning season, when the 2007 school opens.

Becky Neilson stated ideally, everyone wants to remain on a 9-month calendar; however, the reality is the valley is growing and certain schools can no longer be protected. There is more stability having students go from 9-month to year round, then to have them move to another school.

Dave Miller stated AZAC is wasting energy trying to save 9-month schools. The voters have spoken and they chose to vote on elementary schools being year round.

Gaya Guymon stated she added up all the capacities of schools north of Craig Road based on the year round calendar and then added the new schools; as a result, this area still needs 2000 seats. She reiterated just because some schools are at 9-month does not mean they are under their 9-month capacity; they just may have not triggered to year round yet.

Eleanor Chow stated calendar is not AZAC's responsibility. AZAC is tasked with making boundaries and if they fall or trigger a school year round, so be it. She disagrees with Buffy Kilarski, she is for year round schools. San Diego, California, has a true year round program and it has been a success.

Ken Rezendes stated he did his research and considered the growth over the next two years so students will not have to shift back and forth.

Barbara Moody stated, she agrees, if the original boundary is going to trigger naturally, why move more students into the zone.

Gaya Guymon questioned how will the new schools with a high population open, like Tartan Elementary School.

Sharon Dattoli stated new schools can open year round unless there is a new school slated to open the following year.

Carolyn Edwards stated maybe staff should address the issues with Regulation 7124 to the Board. Schools have been triggering from year round to 9-month to be year round again in two years.

Sharon Dattoli stated she has had conversations with Dr. Rulfes and Dr. Orci regarding Regulation 7124. Converting back to a 9-month is not the problem; the problem is with the new schools. Existing schools must not exceed 7.5 percent of their program capacity for two consecutive years to convert back to a 9-month calendar.

Carolyn Edwards stated the Regulation states a new school will not open year round if there is new construction the following year.

Sharon Dattoli stated there is nothing wrong with the policy; staff makes recommendations based on the current and projected number of students in the area.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON FOCUS AREA E3

Paul Parrish, parent, Eva Wolfe Elementary School, stated it seemed there was not enough funds received on the 1998 Bond. He questioned if voters got to voice their opinion regarding the year round issue. Year round schools put stress on families and administration. He asked Eleanor Chow the difference between year round schools in Las Vegas and San Diego and if they were for all grades. He questioned if schools gave a preference for a certain track.

Carolyn Edwards stated there was a bond in 1996 and it did not pass. However, it was revised and revisited in 1998, when it was passed. The 1998 Bond was written this way because it did not pass the previous time. Many voters in Clark County do not have children and do not understand the difference between year round and 9-month calendars. In addition, the district would need an additional 208 schools right now to have every elementary school on a 9-month calendar.

Eleanor Chow responded by stating the year round concept came about because the schools were not being utilized for 3 months out the year. This is a new era and families are learning to adapt. Year round schools were only implemented at the elementary and middle school level. It was too hard to have year round in high school because of the extra curricular activities. In addition, she stated she worked on the 1998 Bond and it would have been too expensive to have all schools on a 9-month calendar.

Sharon Dattoli responded to Paul Parrish by stating each year round school should have a track selection request form available to fill out.

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA M4/M5

Sharon Dattoli stated scenario 1 for focus area M4 is to provide feeder school alignment from Bob Miller Middle School to Coronado High School. She stated scenario 1 for focus area M5 is to provide feeder school alignment from Elise Wolff to Webb Middle School.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON FOCUS AREA M4/M5

Pat Skorkowsky, principal, Webb Middle School, stated he requested the feeder school alignment. It allows for the entire Elise Wolff Elementary School to feed into Bob Miller Middle School.

Motion to take scenario 1 for M4 and M5, combined into 1 proposal, to public input.

Motion: Dave Miller Second: Buffy Kilarski Vote: Unanimous

Kitty Kinkade was not present to vote.

MEETING CALENDAR, DATES, AND TIME

AZAC reviewed what will be discussed at upcoming meetings.

November 17, 2005 –Hayden, Steele, Thompson, Ward, Wright Elementary Schools and NE High School

November 29, 2005 – Paradise and Hayden Elementary Schools, Johnston Middle School, and East High Schools

Motion to adjourn.

Motion: Buffy Kilarski Second: Carolyn Edwards Vote: Unanimous

Kitty Kinkade was not present to vote.

Adjourn: 11:00 a.m.