

MINUTES-**AS IS 9/29/09**
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

January 29, 2009

9:34 am

Roll Call: Members Present

Sally Achord
Vera Barnes
Wendy Cashin
Erin Cranor (left at 12 pm)
Albert Delgado
Leigh Dunn
JoAnne Foutz
Gaya Guymon
Zan Hyer
Barbara Moody
Becky Nielson

Members Absent

Kitty Kinkade
Marie Lemos-Doran

Rick Baldwin, Coordinator IV
Sharon Dattoli, Director II

FLAG SALUTE

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made to adopt the agenda as is.

Motion: Barbara Moody Second: Erin Cranor Vote: Unanimous
Kitty Kinkade and Marie Lemos-Doran were not present to vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes of January 15, 2009, as submitted.

Motion: Erin Cranor Second: Zan Hyer Vote: Unanimous
Kitty Kinkade and Marie Lemos-Doran were not present to vote.

REPORTS

Rick Baldwin explained the contents of the packets given to AZAC.

Rick Baldwin reported the Board of School Trustees has directed staff to develop a committee to review high school phasing.

HIGH SCHOOL OPTIONS/PHASING

Discussion was tabled.

REVIEW OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Rick Baldwin reviewed each of the recommendations.

Rick Baldwin reviewed the phasing option between Johnson Junior High School and Rogich Middle School and said this was the first time the middle school phasing pilot program would be used.

There was discussion of the time frame siblings should declare their option to attend Johnson Junior High School.

Becky Nielson opened discussion for Agenda Item 4, High School Options/Phasing.

Sharon Dattoli informed the commission, if the School Board of Trustees approves the high school option recommendations, students will have athletic eligibility.

Sharon Dattoli reported the School Board of Trustees discussed the issues related to high school phasing at their January 22, 2009 meeting. Ms. Dattoli said the School Board directed staff convene a committee to include representation from high school principals, region, athletics, transportation, school board, AZAC, and parents. Mrs. Dattoli said because of the new high school opening the 2009-2010 school year, the School Board did not want to consider high school phasing; she explained the School Board wanted to have time to thoroughly evaluate high school phasing.

Sharon Dattoli explained high school option recommendations being considered for 2009-2010.

Discussion followed.

Gaya Guymon recognized Trustee Deanna Wright.

Deanna Wright, School Board of Trustees, District A, said because Liberty High School is underutilized, she and the region are open to the option being offered to Coronado and Silverado High School students to attend Liberty High School, for the remainder of their high school career, without transportation.

Becky Nielson shared concern about offering the option to Silverado High School as their enrollment is stable and if too many students were to take advantage of the option it could cause them to lose staff or programs.

Barbara Moody stated it is not just about filling seats at Liberty High School, but relieving the over-crowding at Coronado High School.

Leigh Dunn said she was concerned that students that may not get the option this year and if phasing for the following year is approved, those students would be penalized.

Erin Cranor agreed with Mrs. Dunn, and said the main reason the idea of options was brought up is so hopefully not as many students would have to change high school mid-stream as they originally thought.

The conditions for the options were discussed.

A motion was made to take the recommendation option which states "Recommendation to allow an option for students being reassigned to Liberty High School, beginning the 2009-2010 school year, who were assigned to and attended Coronado High School during the 2008-2009 school year in grades 9 and 10, to remain at Coronado High School; and for students assigned to Coronado High School in grades 9-12 beginning the 2009-2010 school year, to attend Liberty High School, for the duration of their high school career, without transportation, if intent is declared by March 27, 2009" forward to the Board of School Trustees for Coronado and Liberty High Schools.

Motion: Leigh Dunn Second: Zan Hyer Vote: Unanimous
Kitty Kinkade and Marie Lemos-Doran were not present to vote.

Leigh Dunn explained they would like to see a board approved option for students residing north of the I-215 to attend Green Valley High School and for students residing in the Foothill High School attendance boundary that live in the Roma Hills community to attend Coronado High School.

Sharon Dattoli said she has concerns with the options because it defeats the purpose of a boundary change.

Barbara Moody would like to wait to see if the high school phasing is approved for next year.

A motion was made to take the recommendation option which states, "Recommendation to allow an option for students in grades 9-12 assigned to Foothill High School, residing west of Gibson Road, east of Roma Hills Drive, and south of Horizon Ridge Parkway, to attend Coronado High School; and students in grades 9-12 assigned to Coronado High School, residing north of the I-215, east of the Green Valley Parkway, west of Stephanie Street, and south of Wigwam Parkway to attend Green Valley High School, beginning the 2009-2010 school year and continuing until graduation without transportation; intent must be declared by March 27, 2009, and if the number of students exercising these options does not impact the staffing at these high schools for the 2009-2010 school year prior to implementing the options" forward to the Board of School Trustees for Coronado, Foothill and Green Valley High Schools.

Motion: JoAnne Foutz Second: Leigh Dunn Vote: Unanimous
Kitty Kinkade and Marie Lemos-Doran were not present to vote.

A motion was made to take a high school option which states, "Recommendation to allow an option for students in grades 9-12 for the 2009-2010 school year residing in the Foothill High School attendance boundary have an option to attend Liberty High School without transportation for the duration of their high school career" as a recommendation to the Board of School Trustees.

Motion: Erin Cranor Second: Gaya Guymon Vote: Yes – 10 Abstain - 1
Kitty Kinkade and Marie Lemos-Doran were not present to vote.

Becky Nielson recognized Pat Skorkowsky.

Pat Skorkowsky, Assistant Region Superintendent, Southeast Region said Dr. Denson, Southeast Region Superintendent requested that if options are being recommended for students to attend Liberty High School, they would like some time to discuss with principals in order that a school is not devastated. Mr. Skorkowsky said if Liberty High School is still underutilized next year, then criteria can be put in place so they can implement the option the following year.

A motion was made to reconsider the recommendation for focus area H1.

Motion: Erin Cranor Second: Gaya Guymon Vote: Unanimous
Kitty Kinkade and Marie Lemos-Doran were not present to vote.

Erin Cranor explained there were feeder school alignment and busing concerns in the area bounded by the Sloan Drainage Channel, Lake Mead Boulevard, Hollywood Boulevard, and Owens Avenue and it would help to zone the area to Sunrise Mountain High School.

A motion was made to take focus area H1 as amended to reassign the area bounded by the Sloan Drainage Channel, Lake Mead Boulevard, Hollywood Boulevard, and Owens Avenue to Sunrise Mountain High School; and reassign the area bounded by Nellis Boulevard, Lake Mead Boulevard, the Sloan Drainage Channel, and Owens Avenue to Eldorado High School forward as a recommendation to the Board of School Trustees for the new Sunrise Mountain High School and Chaparral, Desert Pines, Eldorado, Las Vegas, Mojave, and Rancho High Schools.

Motion: Erin Cranor Second: Gaya Guymon Vote: Unanimous
Kitty Kinkade and Marie Lemos-Doran were not present to vote.

Erin Cranor said she would like to propose options for the East/Northeast area.

There was discussion of options for the East/Northeast area.

A motion was made to take the five recommendation options which state "Recommendation to allow an option for students being reassigned to Desert Pines High School, beginning the 2009-2010 school year, who were assigned to and attended Rancho High School during the 2008-2009 school year in grades 9 and 10, to remain at Rancho High School for the duration of their high school career, without transportation, if intent is declared by March 27, 2009, and if the number of students choosing to exercise these options does not impact the number of staff that will be assigned to these high schools for the 2009-2010 school year prior to implementing the option"; and

"Recommendation to allow an option for students being reassigned to Eldorado High School, beginning the 2009-2010 school year, who were assigned to and attended Las Vegas High School during the 2008-2009 school year in grades 9 and 10, to remain at Las Vegas High School for the duration of their high school career, without transportation, if intent is declared by March 27, 2009, and if the number of students choosing to exercise these options does not impact the number of staff that will be assigned to these high schools for the 2009-2010 school year prior to implementing the option"; and

"Recommendation to allow an option for students being reassigned to Eldorado High School, beginning the 2009-2010 school year, who were assigned to and attended Desert Pines High School during the 2008-2009 school year in grades 9 and 10, to remain at Desert Pines High School for the duration of their high school career, without transportation, if intent is declared by March 27, 2009, and if the number of students choosing to exercise these options does not impact the number of staff that will be assigned to these high schools for the 2009-2010 school year prior to implementing the option"; and

"Recommendation to allow an option for students being reassigned to Desert Pines High School, beginning the 2009-2010 school year, who were assigned to and attended Chaparral High School during the 2008-2009 school year in grades 9 and 10, to remain at Chaparral High School for the duration of their high school career, without transportation, if intent is declared by March 27, 2009, and if the number of students choosing to exercise these options does not impact the number of staff that will be assigned to these high schools for the 2009-2010 school year prior to implementing the option"; and

"Recommendation to allow an option for students being reassigned to Sunrise Mountain High School, beginning the 2009-2010 school year, who were assigned to and attended Desert Pines, Eldorado, Mojave, and Rancho High Schools during the 2008-2009 school year in grades 9 and 10, to remain at Desert Pines, Eldorado, Mojave, and Rancho High Schools for the duration of their high school career, without transportation, if intent is declared by March 27, 2009, and if the number of students choosing to exercise these options does not impact the number of staff that will be assigned to these high schools for the 2009-2010 school year prior to implementing the option" forward to the Board of School Trustees for the new Sunrise Mountain High School, and Chaparral, Desert Pines, Eldorado, Las Vegas, Mojave, and Rancho High Schools.

Motion: Erin Cranor Second: Gaya Guymon Vote: Unanimous
Kitty Kinkade and Marie Lemos-Doran were not present to vote.

Sharon Dattoli explained the option between Bonanza and Palo Verde High Schools.

Discussion followed.

A motion was made to take the recommendation option which states, "Recommendation to allow an option for students being reassigned to Bonanza High School, beginning the 2009-2010 school year, who were assigned to and attended Palo Verde High School during the 2008-2009 school year in grades 9 and 10, to remain at Palo Verde High School; and for students assigned to Palo Verde High School in grades 9-12 beginning the 2009-2010 school year, to attend Bonanza High School, for the duration of their high school career, without transportation, if intent is declared by March 27, 2009, and if the number of students exercising these options does not impact the number of staff that will be assigned to these high schools for the 2009-2010 school year with an option" forward to the Board of School Trustees for Bonanza and Palo Verde High Schools.

Motion: Wendy Cashin Second: Vera Barnes Vote: Unanimous
Erin Cranor, Kitty Kinkade, and Marie Lemos-Doran were not present to vote.

A motion was made to reconsider the option recommendation between Coronado and Liberty High Schools.

Motion: Leigh Dunn Second: JoAnne Foutz Vote: Unanimous
Erin Cranor, Kitty Kinkade, and Marie Lemos-Doran were not present to vote.

A motion was made to amend the option recommendation for focus area H2, options A and B to include that Liberty High School will not exceed its program capacity by 8 percent forward as a recommendation to the Board of School Trustees.

Motion: Barbara Moody Second: Albert Delgado Vote: Unanimous
Erin Cranor, Kitty Kinkade, and Marie Lemos-Doran were not present to vote.

Becky Nielson said she hopes they are addressing the public's concerns, but they are hesitant in offering options as it is a whole new way of zoning.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Becky Nielson called for public input.

Steve Saladino, parent, Coronado High School, thanked staff and the commission for the information they have provided. He said it has been a real roller coaster ride over the course of the three months. It is nice to see that everybody is working towards the best interest of the children in all communities across the valley and he said they are setting the foundation for much smoother waters.

Gib Dawson, parent, Coronado High School, said there seems to be a serious disconnect between the stated intentions and the finished proposal; they stated the purpose of the re-zone was to address over-crowding at Coronado and Foothill High Schools and the under-utilization of Liberty High School, they are still 500 over at Coronado High School and 750 under at Liberty High School. There has been 5 years of underutilization at Liberty High School before Madeira Canyon was even developed; they could have saved a lot of anguish and pain if they would have zoned Madeira Canyon for Liberty High School back in 2005-2006. Mr. Dawson said there has to be something done in fairness.

Meg Paulson, parent, Coronado High School, with the activities her children are involved in, she gave an example of what her day would be like having to transport her children if rezoned to Liberty High School. She also informed the commission of the unsafe roads that would have to be crossed if rezoned to Liberty High School. She cannot understand why there is not another option to fill these schools and help both sides. She asked that they do not make 200-300 students travel these unsafe roads; phasing does not fix the road.

Dave Miller, former AZAC member 2001-2008, thanked the commission for what they are doing and apologized they did not take care of the problem last year. Mr. Miller said they need to be pragmatic when making decisions based on the interest of a few, where you go to church, or where your neighborhood is; it should be based on what is best for the kids and the people managing the schools, and proper for the tax payers. Mr. Miller said there was no zoning done in 2005 for the Coronado High School area and purposely bypassed that year because they thought Inspirada was going to be developed with 10,000 houses. He would like to see hard zones be put in place with what they think is going to happen down the road and do not let things pass on to the future. He really appreciates seeing the commission going forth with the recommendation to help both Liberty and Coronado High Schools.

Mary Saladino, parent, Coronado High School, said she was very impressed with watching them work at today's meeting and what they put forth for the students. She said her daughter is one of the students being affected with the zone change. She said she is grateful for the options and that they are looking at things that Mr. Miller may have been faced with at the time as there is not as much growth and they are losing students; do not worry about what happened in the past, she loves that they are moving forward.

Caitlin Saladino, Chair, Henderson Parks and Recreation Blue Ribbon Commission on Educational Excellence and Youth Opportunity, asked the commission to check out the pod-cast because it was a huge thing for her little sister to do as she is an incredibly shy person and for her to be able to speak to the board is a huge feat for her. She thanked the commission for giving the options another look; she cannot imagine her sister being moved out of Coronado High School after she has made connections with friends and teachers; for her to leave would be devastating to her, the entire family and the band program. She asked that they remember that these are kids being affected, not numbers. Her sister's fierce involvement, and the importance she places on her education have prevented her from attending the meeting to speak to them directly, therefore she and her parents are speaking on her behalf and ask that AZAC does the right thing by giving her sister and the kids in Madeira Canyon the opportunity and the option they deserve, to remain at Coronado High School and finish what they have started.

MEETING CALENDAR, DATES, AND TIMES

The end of year AZAC meeting will be held on March 10, 2009. The special Board of School Trustees meeting for the elementary zoning recommendations will be held on February 24, 2009 at 5:30 pm and on March 3, 2009 at 5:30 pm for the secondary zoning recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Barbara Moody Second: Leigh Dunn Vote: Unanimous
Erin Cranor, Kitty Kinkade, and Marie Lemos-Doran were not present to vote.
Adjourn: 12:46 pm