

MINUTES – **AS IS 12/4/12**
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 27, 2012

9:33 am

Roll Call: Members Present

Albert Delgado
JoAnne Foutz
Zan Hyer
Shari Lyman
Cyndy Mahoney
Mike Malone
Becky Nielson
Anna Slighting

Members Absent

Socorro Macias
Lois Mack
Jose Melendrez

Rick Baldwin, Director II
Steve Burda, Coordinator III

FLAG SALUTE

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made to adopt the agenda as is.

Motion: Mike Malone Second: Zan Hyer Vote: Unanimous
Socorro Macias, Lois Mack, and Jose Melendrez were not present to vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes of November 13, 2012 as submitted.

Motion: Zan Hyer Second: Anna Slighting Vote: Unanimous
Socorro Macias, Lois Mack, and Jose Melendrez were not present to vote.

REPORTS

Steve Burda explained the contents of the packets given to AZAC.

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E2 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Focus area E2 evaluates the existing attendance boundaries of Alamo, Bass, Batterman, Beatty, Bell, Bendorf, R. M. Bryan, Christensen, Decker, Derfelt, Diskin, Dondero, M. Earl, Fine, Forbuss, Frias, Goolsby, Gray, Hancock, Hayes, Hill/Wiener Jr., Hummel, Jydstrup, Kim, Ober, Piggott, Reedom, Ries, Rogers, Schorr, Steele, Stuckey, Tanaka, Thiriot, Warren, Wright, and Wynn/Roundy Elementary Schools.

Albert Delgado reviewed the three scenarios and explained the purpose for the scenarios is to provide relief to the overcrowding at elementary schools in the southwest and specifically at Forbuss, Reedom, and Wright Elementary Schools. Mr. Delgado said the principals at the southwest elementary schools are aware of the need to move students to alleviate the overcrowding; the principals are also in favor of the year-round calendar.

Albert Delgado said growth within the Reedom Elementary School boundary is not just in one specific area, but throughout the entire zone which makes it difficult to make adjustments. Mr. Delgado thought phasing could be a possibility.

Becky Nielson questioned if phasing could be done at the elementary level.

Sheri Garbiso, Demographic Specialist, Demographics, Zoning & GIS, informed the commission that Regulation 7111 indicates grade level phasing can be recommended when evaluating attendance boundary changes between existing middle and junior high schools and between existing high schools but does not include elementary schools.

Cyndy Mahoney said phasing at the elementary school level is not feasible because it is over a six year period.

JoAnne Foutz called for public input.

Jared Green, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, asked that the community of Rhodes Ranch be kept together. Mr. Green said one of the criteria in Regulation 7111 is keeping a community together when reviewing boundary changes and none of the scenarios accomplish that task. There is also concern for the safety of students who would have to cross Blue Diamond Road to attend Forbuss Elementary School. He suggested the boundaries be shifted farther to the east as opposed to the north.

Josh Dobbins, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, concurs with Mr. Green's comments.

Ken Wronski, Principal, Schorr Elementary School, informed the commission that Bass and Schorr Elementary Schools are over their program capacity with growth within their boundaries. Mr. Wronski suggested they consider boundary adjustments as many schools in the area are under capacity. Mr. Wronski provided a report.

Omar Palacios, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, informed the commission that most of the Rhodes Ranch community is opposed to the proposed change. Mr. Palacios also feels very strongly about the safety implications for the students proposed to move in the Mountains Edge community to Forbuss Elementary School.

Brandee Evarts, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, resides in the Rhodes Ranch community and said moving students from Forbuss Elementary School would be removing them from their community school; splitting up the community would be a detriment to the families residing in Rhodes Ranch and she urged the commission to keep the community together.

Cecilia Dean, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, moved to the Rhodes Ranch community for her children to attend Forbuss Elementary School and does not want the community split up. A safe walking path was built from the back gate of Rhodes Ranch to the school.

Jori Church, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, supports keeping the close-knit community of Rhodes Ranch together.

Sara Garcia, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, said many of the families moved to the Rhodes Ranch community for their children to attend Forbuss Elementary School and stressed the importance of keeping the community together.

Kelly Bonn, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, said the Rhodes Ranch community is very tight-knit. Her oldest child attends the full-day kindergarten program at Forbuss Elementary School which is a very important start in the education system; not all elementary schools offer a full-day kindergarten program and she would like her younger children to be awarded the opportunity to attend the full-day program at Forbuss Elementary School as well.

Sandy Abston, Principal, Batterman Elementary School, said Batterman Elementary School has had a large student population since the school opened eight years ago, and are equipped to handle it; she thinks it would be best to leave them at Batterman Elementary School rather than overcrowding another school less equipped to handle the larger student population.

John K. Ligon, Principal, Hayes Elementary School, is pleased the numbers were adjusted on scenarios 2 and 3 for Hayes Elementary School.

Cory Garcia, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, supports keeping the Rhodes Ranch community together.

Albert Delgado looks forward to working with the Rhodes Ranch community and explained he does not want to split the community as it is quite large with 650 students residing in it; however, Forbuss Elementary School currently has 1200 students and with the projected growth could be at 1336 students if nothing is done. Mr. Delgado said the projected growth and a program capacity of 796 are the reasons these boundary adjustments are being considered.

Rick Baldwin said administration will hold a meeting to discuss the ramifications of Question 2 not passing, therefore at this time, their recommendation would be to hold on all zone changes with the exception of Focus Area E2; however the commission should get directive from their trustee.

Becky Nielson said if Question 2 passed, it would have provided the funds to renovate older schools, and build two new schools in overcrowded areas. With what they are facing right now in the southwest, she does not see many options other than to rezone a great deal of the area. Mrs. Nielson understands not wanting a community to be split up, but keeping a large community together is difficult.

Zan Hyer appreciated the public input and asked that they share any solutions to relieve the overcrowding at Forbuss Elementary School. Mrs. Hyer explained AZAC only deals with the zoning process and does not have authority in regards to a school's year-round calendar or funding.

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E5 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Focus area E5 evaluates the existing attendance boundaries of Gray, Griffith, Hancock, Vegas Verdes, and Wynn/Roundy Elementary Schools.

Becky Nielson said she spoke with the academic managers and principals who are in agreement because of the concern for the varying programs from school to school, AZAC should postpone doing anything at this time. Mrs. Nielson said she would like to see some of the self-contained special education programs moved to neighboring schools with available space.

JoAnne Foutz called for public input.

Tam Larnerd, Academic Manager, Performance Zone 13, said because of the different demographics, programs will vary and agrees the best decision is to hold off in doing anything.

A motion was made to take no action on Focus Area E5 and reevaluate it next zoning season.

Motion: Becky Nielson Second: Cyndy Mahoney Vote: Unanimous
Socorro Macias, Lois Mack, and Jose Melendrez were not present to vote.

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E4 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Focus area E4 evaluates the existing attendance boundaries of Goldfarb, Iverson, Mendoza, Rundle/Keller, and Wengert Elementary Schools.

Anna Slighting reported the Mendoza Elementary School principal expressed his continued concern of the overcrowding at his school; and the Wengert Elementary School principal is concerned about the building limitation if she receives additional students.

JoAnne Foutz called for public input.

Suhaila Mustafa, Principal, Wengert Elementary School, said she would be happy to help relieve the overcrowding at Mendoza Elementary School but explained she has an aging building and some rooms are uninhabitable and renders their official capacity inaccurate. Ms. Mustafa also said they no longer have a full-day kindergarten program and also said a third of their student population is special education. She suggested if a zone change occurs and they receive students from the Mendoza Elementary School zone that they consider rezoning the students residing across Nellis Boulevard so they would no longer have to cross the street and allow Wengert Elementary School to stay within their capacity.

Brenton Lago, Principal, Mendoza Elementary School, said he is currently at 856 students and typically gains 50-100 students after the winter break which is added concern to the already overcrowded issues they are dealing with. Any relief the commission can provide is appreciated.

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA M2 FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Focus area M2 evaluates the existing attendance boundaries of Harney, Keller, and Mack Middle Schools.

Anna Slighting said for the purpose of feeder school alignment, Focus Area M2 and Focus Area E4 go hand in hand.

JoAnne Foutz called for public input.

Nobody from the public chose to speak.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

JoAnne Foutz called for public input.

Nobody from the public chose to speak.

Rick Baldwin thanked his staff for overseeing the office in his absence.

CALENDAR, DATES, AND TIMES

JoAnne Foutz recognized Trustee Erin Cranor.

Erin Cranor, Board of School Trustees, District G, said the school district will be facing some extremely difficult financial decisions this year and asked the commission to give the Board of School Trustees the best possible alternatives in regards to Focus Area E2.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 4, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn.

Motion: Zan Hyer

Second: Becky Nielson

Vote: Unanimous

Socorro Macias, Lois Mack, and Jose Melendrez were not present to vote.

Adjourn: 11:41 am