

MINUTES **-AS IS 1/8/13**
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

December 4, 2012

9:32 am

Roll Call: Members Present

Albert Delgado
JoAnne Foutz
Zan Hyer
Shari Lyman
Socorro Macias (arrived at 9:35 am)
Cyndy Mahoney
Lois Mack
Mike Malone
Jose Melendrez
Becky Nielson
Anna Slighting (arrived at 9:45 am)

Rick Baldwin, Director II

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 and Anna Slighting were not present to vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes of November 27, 2012 as submitted.

Motion: Zan Hyer Second: Mike Malone Vote: Unanimous
Socorro Macias and Anna Slighting 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 will meet on December 13, at which time school capacity planning options will be discussed and therefore it is staff's recommendation to hold off on final zone change proposals until further direction is received. However, Mr. Baldwin said AZAC should proceed with the review of the current proposals.

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E3 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Focus area E3 evaluates the existing attendance boundaries of Givens, Lummis, and Staton Elementary Schools.

Jose Melendrez said he met with and received input from principals in the area.

JoAnne Foutz recognized Rick Slater, Principal, Givens Elementary School.

Rick Slater, Principal, Givens Elementary School, said Givens Elementary School is one of a few schools with a two-story prototype and has been over 1000 students for 4 years. Mr. Slater said the two-story prototype, 12 portable classrooms, and awesome community support have allowed them to handle the growth and remain comfortable.

Jose Melendrez said he will meet with Trustee Cantu' to make him aware of the situation in the area, but explained with a new Trustee being appointed in Trustee District E, he would like to hold off on any changes and review after the transition of the new trustee takes place.

Rick Baldwin said while there are concerns with the high enrollment and projected growth within the Givens Elementary School zone, staff concurs with the recommendation to hold on changes.

JoAnne Foutz called for public input.

Paul Mrazik, parent, Givens Elementary School, said the community is comfortable with the decision to hold off making any changes, but does agree, given the growth in Givens Elementary School boundary that it may have to be looked at again in the future.

Jennifer Carvalho, parent, Staton Elementary School, said Staton Elementary School is at a perfect enrollment, but understands the schools around them are not. She appreciates the thought and concern put into AZAC's decisions.

Sona Koeharyan, parent, Staton Elementary School, asked that they leave the zone the way it currently is.

Jennifer Moyer, parent, Givens Elementary School, said Principal Slater has done a phenomenal job managing the large size of the school and since they have a huge active parent volunteer group would like it to stay the way it is.

Tim Klinger, parent, Staton Elementary School, said things at Staton Elementary School are flowing well and at this time, thinks it could stay the way it is.

Peter Drumond, parent, Staton Elementary School and Rogich Middle School, has concerns that the proposed focus areas for elementary and middle schools would result in both his children having to move and prefer the zones to remain the same.

A motion was made to take no action on Focus Area E3 and reevaluate it next zoning season.

Motion: Jose Melendrez Second: Cyndy Mahoney Vote: Unanimous

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA M1 FOR MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

Focus area M1 evaluates the existing attendance boundaries of Becker and Rogich Middle Schools and Johnson Junior High School.

JoAnne Foutz called for public input.

Jim Bolla, parent, Rogich Middle School, asked if phasing would be implemented at the middle school level.

Lauri White, parent, Rogich Middle School, said her daughter is very comfortable at Rogich Middle School; entering middle school is a difficult time and changing mid-stream would be difficult.

Susan Harrison, Principal, Rogich Middle School, said Rogich Middle School is an outstanding school and students are performing at a high level. Ms. Harrison said they offer great programs and hopes what is currently in place is not disrupted.

Rick Baldwin said the focus area would balance the enrollment at Becker and Rogich Middle Schools and Johnson Junior High School. Mr. Baldwin said staff's recommendation would be to hold on any zone change and reevaluate next zoning season.

Rick Baldwin informed the commission that open enrollment is currently being promoted.

Zan Hyer asked Principal Susan Harrison to share what attracts students to Rogich Middle School to model in other schools.

JoAnne Foutz recognized Susan Harrison.

Susan Harrison, Principal, Rogich Middle School, said they offer programs based on the level of a student's achievement. Ms. Harrison said they are looking at students needs for the 21st Century and have become a technology based middle school.

Rick Baldwin said the Board of School Trustees can recommend phasing with a middle school zone change. Mr. Baldwin explained with phasing, no student currently at the school would be rezoned; rezoning would occur in phases, by reassigning one grade level each year beginning with the incoming sixth grade students, until all grades, 6-8 have been reassigned.

A motion was made to take no action on Focus Area M1 and reevaluate it next zoning season.

Motion: Jose Melendrez

Second: Zan Hyer

Vote: Unanimous

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E4 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

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

Anna Slighting said she attended a parent meeting at Mendoza Elementary School.

JoAnne Foutz called for public input.

Nobody from the public chose to speak.

A motion was made to take no action on Focus Area E4 and reevaluate it next zoning season.

Motion: Anna Slighting

Second: Jose Melendrez

Vote: Unanimous

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 focus area M2 goes hand and hand with focus area E4.

JoAnne Foutz called for public input.

Nobody from the public chose to speak.

A motion was made to take no action on Focus Area M2 and reevaluate it next zoning season.

Motion: Anna Slighting

Second: Lois Mack

Vote: Unanimous

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E2 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

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

JoAnne Foutz said the commission spoke with their trustees in regards to how to proceed with focus area E2.

Mrs. Foutz said Trustee Wright would not like to rezone any schools in District A unless it is necessary to do so next year.

Becky Nielson said Trustee Alderman is fine with whatever the decision may be. Mrs. Nielson said principals at Hill/Wiener, Jr. Elementary Schools are fine with taking additional students to help with the overcrowding. Mrs. Nielson said AZAC should continue to look at as many zoning options as possible for this focus area and it should be ready to go in January as there is limited time.

Anna Slighting said Trustee Cranor would like the commission to provide them as many options as possible in order to make the best informed decision.

Albert Delgado said Trustee Edwards would also like the commission to provide a proposal to relieve the overcrowded southwest schools. In addition, Mr. Delgado said he met some of the parents in the southwest area who are in favor of the year-round schedule.

Albert Delgado said while the goal is to move the least amount of students, because of the enormous growth in the area, it is very difficult without creating a domino effect regardless of the scenario. Mr. Delgado reviewed scenario 4.

Zan Hyer asked if transportation would be affected.

Ray Negrete, Coordinator III, Transportation Department, said scenarios 1-3 create no changes to transportation.

Rick Baldwin explained since there were changes to scenario 4, it will become scenario 5. Mr. Baldwin reviewed scenario 5.

Albert Delgado said scenario 5 was created in an effort to keep communities intact. However, Mr. Delgado said the Rhodes Ranch community is much too large to keep together to provide relief to Forbuss Elementary School.

JoAnne Foutz called for public input.

Jared Green, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, thanked Mr. Delgado for his efforts and supports scenario 5 as it is a much more feasible scenario and addresses a lot of the parent concerns.

Josh Dobbins, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, concurs with Mr. Green's comments and also said scenario 5 addresses the safety concerns by making Blue Diamond Road a firm boundary.

Omar Palacios, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, concurs with Mr. Green and Dobbins. Scenario 5 addresses the safety concerns and is the best scenario to fit the needs and desires of the Rhodes Ranch community.

Angela Bangert, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, said students have a great rapport with the principal and teachers. She supports scenario 5 as the least amount of movement for the Rhodes Ranch community would be best.

Judy Eleerhart, grandparent, Forbuss Elementary School, takes her grandchildren to and from school every day as do many other grandparents; she would like it to remain the same and supports scenario 5.

Cecilia Dean, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, said they moved to Rhodes Ranch because of the school. Her daughter will be in the 5th grade next year and would hate to have her move in the final year of elementary school. Many of her nieces and nephews also attend Forbuss Elementary School. She supports scenario 5 or a year round schedule rather than being rezoned.

John Kern, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, said Rhodes Ranch is a tight-knit community; community along with education is an absolute necessity in the foundation of society. He represents hundreds of parents that feel the same way and strongly supports scenario 5 as it keeps a great part of Rhodes Ranch together.

James Dean, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, said he would like his children to continue with the same continuity they have been used to and encourages the commission to consider scenario 5.

Kelly Bonn, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, lives in Rhodes Ranch but each scenario rezones her children. She said there are only two streets in the Rhodes Ranch community being moved and asked if they would receive transportation to the new school.

Braxton Pacatle, parent, Hill Elementary School, said students who reside in the southwest would have to travel a long distance to get to Hill/Wiener, Jr. Elementary Schools and it would also put them out of middle school feeder alignment. He thanked the commission for their hard work.

Susana Avila, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, said it would be very difficult for her son with autism to change schools and therefore, supports scenario 5.

Beth Mundo, parent and PTA President, Hill Elementary School, said because the enrollment has decreased over the years, they are in favor of adding more students to Hill Elementary School thus enhancing the quality of the school. Her only concern is there would be an increase in the parent disconnect when bringing students over from a far distance; she explained there is already that disconnect with families that attend Hill/Wiener, Jr. Elementary Schools who reside on the other side of Interstate 15.

Pat Fordyce, grandparent, Forbuss Elementary School, has taken her twin grandsons to and from school every day for the past three years; they are apprehensive about being moved and would prefer to stay at Forbuss Elementary School. She feels it would not make sense to bring students across Blue Diamond Road to attend Forbuss Elementary School and move students that reside in Rhodes Ranch who are directly across the street from the school. She supports scenario 5.

Dawn Westervelt, parent, Forbuss Elementary School, said they moved here just four months ago from a city where they had school choice and all the students went to different schools and did not know each other; dividing the Rhodes Ranch community is not the right decision as it would create the same situation and there would be no sense of neighborhood.

Wanona Goldsmith, grandparent, Forbuss Elementary School, takes her granddaughter to and from school every day and would hate to have to move her from her friends and teachers. She is in support of scenario 5.

Charles Aauntz, grandparent, Forbuss Elementary School, said he resides in the two streets being considered for rezoning within the Rhodes Ranch community and wondered if the people supporting scenario 5 would feel the same way if they lived on one of those streets. He cannot imagine that there are that many students residing on those two streets that it would make a difference. After attending the same school for five years, it would be devastating for his grandsons to have to attend another school for one year and he would like phasing be considered for 5th grade students.

Rick Baldwin explained scenario 5 would move 80 students within the Rhodes Ranch community to Tanaka Elementary School. Mr. Baldwin said there were an additional 83 students outside the Rhodes Ranch community also being considered to move for a total of 163 students.

Becky Nielson said phasing has only been approved by the Board of School Trustees at the secondary level and therefore they cannot recommend phasing at the elementary school level.

Ray Negrete, Coordinator III, Transportation, explained the general education busses have limited access to where they can travel. Mr. Negrete said all existing bus stops in the Rhodes Ranch community would remain the same and they would designate different pick up times to differentiate the bus to another zoned school. Mr. Negrete informed the commission if the zone change between Beatty Elementary School to Cartwright/Gehring Elementary Schools were to occur for students residing west of Maryland Parkway, east of Pollock Drive, south of Wigwam Parkway, and north of Pebble Road, an additional bus would have to be added as those students are currently within walking distance to Beatty Elementary School.

Albert Delgado said his task is to provide the Board of School Trustees with options to keep the student population as level as possible in all the schools in the southwest.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

JoAnne Foutz called for public input.

Paul Mrazik, parent, Givens Elementary School, suggested dates for open enrollment be extended as it could change a person's mind if rezoning takes place. Mr. Mrazik also said year-round schedule should be considered rather than rezoning.

CALENDAR, DATES, AND TIMES

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday January 8, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn.

Motion: Becky Nielson

Second: Jose Melendrez

Vote: Unanimous

Adjourn: 11:30 am