

MINUTES-AS IS 12/3/13  
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

November 19, 2013

9:33 am

Roll Call: Members Present

Natalie Carter (arrived at 10:10 am and left at 12:34 pm)  
Albert Delgado  
JoAnne Foutz  
Zan Hyer  
Brian Krall  
Shari Lyman (arrived at 9:44 am)  
Lois Mack  
Cyndy Mahoney (arrived at 9:40 am)  
Mike Malone  
Marisol Montoya-Herrera (left at 11:54 am)  
Becky Nielson  
Anna Slighting  
Jose Solorio

Rick Baldwin, Director II  
Steve Burda, Coordinator III  
Sheri Garbiso, Senior GIS Analyst

Transportation

Ray Negrete, GIS Coordinator III

Members Absent

Nicole Benson  
Socorro Macias

FLAG SALUTE

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made to adopt the agenda as is.

Motion: Zan Hyer

Second: Lois Mack

Vote: Unanimous

Nicole Benson, Natalie Carter, Shari Lyman, Socorro Macias, and Cyndy Mahoney were not present to vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes of November 7, 2013 as amended.

Motion: Becky Nielson

Second: Mike Malone

Vote: Unanimous

Nicole Benson, Natalie Carter, Shari Lyman, Socorro Macias, and Cyndy Mahoney were not present to vote.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

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

Albert Delgado informed the public AZAC uses several vehicles of public communication which include the AZAC website, posting at several libraries, and principals and office managers from schools in discussion are provided the information in hopes that they will disseminate to their parents. The public can also request being placed on the AZAC mailing list by contacting the AZAC Secretary in the Demographics, Zoning & GIS Department.

#### SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA M1 FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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

Rick Baldwin reviewed the additional 4 scenarios for focus area M1.

Sheri Garbiso reviewed new residential development within focus area M1.

Ray Negrete reviewed the transportation cost analysis for focus area M1 after the completion of phasing.

Rick Baldwin explained phasing can be considered when there is a zone change at the secondary level. Mr. Baldwin said no students that are currently enrolled at a school would be reassigned; for the first year of the phase, only the incoming grade level would be reassigned. Mr. Baldwin said the policy allows older siblings to attend the new assigned school with the younger sibling.

Anna Slighting said most of the scenarios resulted from input from staff and parents. Mrs. Slighting said she does not want to give the sense that less credit is given to the overpopulated schools that are successful and said Rogich Middle School is a successful school despite their overcrowding. She said often times however, the voice that is not heard is the schools that are under capacity; Mrs. Slighting believes the school district can do a better job at using their resources.

Jose Solorio said they have received a lot of great feedback from parents at both the elementary and middle school level. Mr. Solorio said he does not want a scenario that will devastate a school that is successful, but over time will add students to a school that is under capacity.

Anna Slighting and Jose Solorio reviewed the 9 scenarios.

Jose Solorio said scenario 4 does not take a lot of students from Rogich Middle School and adds an equal amount to both Becker Middle School and Johnson Junior High School.

Rick Baldwin said it is staff's recommendation scenario 4 be extended west to the I-215 as it has no additional impact on students.

Anna Slighting said scenario 5 is a modification of scenario 4, adding a few more students to Johnson Junior High School. Mrs. Slighting, however, is not comfortable moving the students in Desert Foothills as it is a farther distance for them to travel to attend Johnson Junior High School.

JoAnne Foutz suggested the new growth in the Rogich Middle School area be zoned to another school.

Zan Hyer questioned why 10 percent of students in the Johnson Junior High School zone choose to attend other schools. She said instead of putting money into bussing students, maybe it could be better spent to help Johnson Junior High School attract students.

Anna Slighting agrees there are many other factors to consider; however, AZAC is tasked with the zoning criteria and not how funds are allocated.

Jose Solorio said scenario 7 keeps the majority of the growth in the Rogich Middle School boundary and of the 210 students Rogich Middle School loses, they will gain back with some of the growth. Mr. Solorio said in scenario 8 the new growth is assigned to Becker Middle School and in scenario 9 the new growth is assigned to Johnson Junior High School, leaving the neighborhoods north of Summerlin Parkway at Rogich Middle School. Mr. Solorio said he is of the opinion that the new developments be the areas that should move rather than impact the current families.

Becky Nielson said the valley is very transient and she is concerned about setting a precedent when referring to new versus established neighborhoods and hesitates using that criteria when adjusting boundaries; just because a home has been there for five or ten years, does not mean the residents have been there that long. The Clark County School District educates each child no matter how long they have lived in a home.

JoAnne Foutz said it is a new day and age as far as rezoning since there are no new schools being built. She feels the fair way to go is to zone out the newest area.

Jose Solorio said they are faced with a difficult decision and want to do what is fair; it is not fair to displace families that have lived in a neighborhood for a while in favor of those who have just moved in. Mr. Solorio said they cannot solve the issue, but can set up zones that will take it into account.

Anna Slighting expressed her hesitancy about leap frog zoning as she thinks the potential for unintended negative consequences are greater. She said she would like to research the success rate of leap frog zoning.

Jose Solorio likes scenario 9 as it takes all new development into Johnson Junior High School thus having a scenario which only impacts all future students.

Cyndy Mahoney said in all 9 of the scenarios, Rogich Middle School goes from being 11 percent over capacity to 15 to 20 percent under capacity at the end of the three year phasing period. Mrs. Mahoney does not think they should impact a successful middle school by 30 percent.

Jose Solorio said he initially had the same concerns but understands for various reasons enrollments are increasing in the area and, therefore, will not devastate Rogich Middle School.

Albert Delgado called for public comment.

Alvin Adelhoch, parent, Staton Elementary School, suggested a magnet program be implemented at Johnson Junior High School in order to attract more students.

Paul Mrazik, parent, Givens Elementary School and Rogich Middle School, said it is definitely time to consider moving the new growth to other schools thus providing an expectation of what school they will attend.

Elaine Atterbury, parent, Bonner Elementary School and Rogich Middle School, suggested all current students be grandfathered in and all new students attend the reassigned school.

Jon Spinogatti, parent, Bonner Elementary School, said the solution should not be rezoning, but at the schools themselves. A school is overcrowded because they are good schools; people pay more money to live in certain areas with good schools. He suggested creating a committee from parents that have helped make schools successful to emulate at under capacity schools to draw more students.

Jeff McGeachy, parent, Staton Elementary School and Rogich Middle School, said they should consider a combination of scenarios 8 and 9 to split the new growth between Becker Middle School and Johnson Junior High School. He agrees that adding programs to Becker Middle School and Johnson Junior High School would help to draw more students.

Amy Smith, Principal, Becker Middle School, is concerned about the enrollment numbers at Becker Middle School if scenario 9 were to go forward as they would not be gaining additional students.

#### SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E1 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Focus area E1 evaluates the existing attendance boundaries of Bonner, Givens, Piggott, Lummis, and Staton Elementary Schools.

Rick Baldwin reviewed the two new scenarios of focus area E1.

Sheri Garbiso reviewed new residential development within focus area E1.

Ray Negrete reviewed the transportation cost analysis for focus area E1.

Anna Slighting explained Bonner Elementary School is not included on several of the scenarios; the principal realizes his enrollment is high due to zone variances and tuition based full day kindergarten programs and has asked to hold on rezoning for a year to allow him to change the culture at the school. Mrs. Slighting said they should also take into consideration the capacity at each school in focus area E1; Piggott Elementary School has a smaller capacity and is not in a position to take a lot of the growth.

Jose Solorio said there has been a lot of parent input. Mr. Solorio said the issue of tuition based kindergarten programs and zone variances adding to the overcrowding at some of the schools needs to be addressed. Moving the full day kindergarten programs to Lummis and Piggott Elementary Schools could possibly alleviate the need for substantial boundary changes. Mr. Solorio said he is leaning towards the new growth in this area going to Lummis and Piggott Elementary Schools; parents will then know where their children will attend, allowing for the option to move in or not.

Anna Slighting said with the amount of growth expected, AZAC should take into consideration how high to leave Givens and Staton Elementary Schools. Mrs. Slighting said addressing the new growth is creating a large shuffle of students.

Albert Delgado called for public input.

Kelly Grimm, parent, Givens Elementary School, said she appreciates that discussion is on rezoning, but wanted the commission to know that a year round schedule does not solve an overcrowding issue. In addition, she feels a year round schedule disrupts the flow of student learning, resulting in lower test scores and splinters the tight knit community. She asked when rezoning is being considered, AZAC appreciate the schools are top performing five star schools, proving they can, not only handle their numbers, but excel academically. Givens Elementary School has exceptional daily parent participation that allows the overcrowded school to function in an organized manner. Stop trying to fix what is not broken and focus on the real problem which is new growth. Ms. Grimm proposed taking the year round schedule off the table and only focus on rezoning the new growth.

Jennifer Carvalho, parent, Staton Elementary School, said the overwhelming consensus after hearing each schools concern is to see the new growth moved to Lummis Elementary School. She would like to see parents come together to support a bond campaign to get a new school in Summerlin; thus allowing the growth to be moved back to a new school. She agrees if zone variances and all day kindergarten are addressed at Staton and Bonner Elementary Schools it allows for a lot more children to attend Lummis and Piggott Elementary Schools.

Steve Moss, parent, Bonner Elementary School, said the school is doing really well and everybody is happy. To move students to other schools when there is not yet a crisis would be devastating. Mr. Moss said it makes sense to allow the principal to control the student population and see how it goes.

Paul Cacciatore, parent, Staton Elementary School, supports the views being shared by moving the new growth to Lummis Elementary School and let the current communities stay where they are. Mr. Cacciatore said the principal at Bonner Elementary School made it clear his issues are a result of bringing in the all day tuition based kindergarten program; moving the all day kindergarten programs to Lummis and Piggott Elementary Schools will create an opportunity for natural growth at those schools.

Jeff McGeachy, parent, Staton Elementary School, said everyone is happy and the students are performing well and encouraged the commission to hold off on making any changes at this time. Mr. McGeachy agrees moving the new growth from Givens Elementary School to Lummis Elementary School is the best solution especially since no additional transportation cost would be incurred. He also agrees reducing the amount of zone variances and moving the all day tuition kindergarten to Lummis and Piggott Elementary Schools will help.

Kristi Buzoff, parent, Givens Elementary School, said she is representing a large group of parents who are against moving Givens Elementary School from a 9 month calendar to a year round schedule; they are currently 40 percent overcrowded and moving them to a year round schedule would still leave them severely overcrowded and does not take into account the new growth that is occurring daily. Rezoning in a responsible manner is absolutely necessary. She is concerned putting all the growth in the western part of Summerlin into Staton Elementary School will cause them to have to rezone in another year or two. They cannot continue to disrupt students academically by putting them through the process again and again. Both the Givens and Staton Elementary School zones need to be locked in to established communities and the new growth be zoned to Lummis Elementary School.

Beth Rall, parent, Bonner Elementary School, said for the past ten years, she and many other Bonner Elementary School parents have helped implement PTOs and special programs to make the school what it is today; to tell them they have to leave, after they have done a good job is not right. Ms. Rall said the school unites the communities. They pay their taxes, live there, and should be the ones who reap the rewards.

Alvin Adelhoch, parent, Staton Elementary School, resides in the West Hills development which would be impacted in 4 of the 7 proposed scenarios. Mr. Adelhoch said the community take pride in its administration, teachers, parents, PTO and extra support programs that help Staton Elementary School achieve and maintain the five star rating; any rezoning would subtract the qualities that are currently present. His family and many others have contributed many hours and financial resources to support the school's educational community initiatives and believes his children and many other students would be negatively impacted academically and personally if they were rezoned to a school that does not achieve or maintain the academic standards and sense of community that Staton Elementary School currently has. Based on parental input, it is clear the families of Bonner, Givens and Staton Elementary Schools do not feel their schools are in need of rezoning at this time; leave these school boundaries intact.

Carolyn Waters, parent, Staton Elementary School, suggested Lummis Elementary School and Johnson Junior High School become magnet schools as it would be an opportunity to attract more students, avoiding the discussion of rezoning year after year.

Julie Vigil, parent, Staton Elementary School, said she echoes the sentiments of the parents that have spoken that new growth be moved to Lummis Elementary School, and control the zones that are currently in place. Ms. Vigil said although they live in a transient community, they continue to raise their families in a community they see as long term. She does not think they should perpetuate the stereotype that Las Vegas, Nevada is a transient community.

Lisa McKenrick, Principal, Lummis Elementary School, said as far as stereotyping, she believes if a school is not a five star school, it does not mean it does not offer a challenging curriculum. Lummis Elementary School is a four star school and they are very proud of their school. Ms. McKenrick said they are only 80 students from being at full capacity with one tuition based kindergarten program; taking on every new community would result in their becoming over crowded.

Rick Baldwin said he has suggested a magnet program be implemented at Johnson Junior High School. He explained magnet programs are tied to federal funding and a school has to meet several criteria and guidelines in order to receive federal funding and unfortunately, Johnson Junior High School does not meet the guidelines.

Albert Delgado said some of the criteria AZAC looks at when reviewing zoning include, but are not limited to, current and future enrollment growth, proximity of schools to where the student lives, distance and travel time to school, safety of the students getting to and from school, and feeder school alignment. Mr. Delgado said leap frog zones and moving the new growth does not fall in line with the criteria that AZAC are asked to follow.

Brian Krall explained AZAC makes the zoning recommendation to the Board of School Trustees and if that recommendation does not solve the problem, parents are encouraged to contact the school board trustee in their area to consider a change other than zoning.

Jose Solorio believes there are some options available that will have minimal impact on the current zones. Mr. Solorio would like to have a solution that takes into account the growth and will last five years.

#### SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E4 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Focus area E4 evaluates the existing attendance boundaries of Bartlett, Beatty, Cartwright/Gehring, David Cox, Hummel, Lamping, Roberts, Schorr, Glen Taylor, Vanderburg/Twitchell, Wallin, and Elise Wolff Elementary Schools.

Rick Baldwin said there are no scenarios for focus area E4.

JoAnne Foutz reported they have decided not to draw up scenarios this year for focus area E4.

Natalie Carter said she spoke to principals at Bass, Beatty Cartwright/Gehring, and Schorr Elementary Schools. The principal at Schorr Elementary School realizes his school is overcrowded and meets most of triggers for a year round schedule.

JoAnne Foutz said she spoke to the remaining principals in focus area E4 and the concern is this area does not have any available seats and therefore there is no need to shift students. Mrs. Foutz said Glen Taylor Elementary School has a large zone with eleven buses going to the school and the principal asked that it be addressed next year. There are also new developments that will have an effect on the schools in this area as well.

Natalie Carter also said there is a new apartment complex being built in the Hummel Elementary School boundary that causes concern for the safety of students crossing the street as there are no crosswalks.

Sheri Garbiso reviewed new residential development within focus area E4.

Albert Delgado called for public input.  
None.

A motion was made to take no action on focus area E4.

Motion: JoAnne Foutz                      Second: Cyndy Mahoney                      Vote: Unanimous  
Nicole Benson, Natalie Carter, Socorro Macias, and Marisol Montoya-Herrera were not present to vote.

#### SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E5 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Focus area E5 evaluates the existing attendance boundaries of Cozine, Elizondo, Eva Wolfe/Guy, Scott, Tartan, and Watson Elementary Schools.

Rick Baldwin reviewed three scenarios for focus area E5.

Rick Baldwin informed the commission Elizondo and Scott Elementary Schools are over capacity and Tartan and Watson Elementary Schools could provide relief. Rick Baldwin explained Watson and Tartan Elementary Schools had a late implementation of the full-day kindergarten program which had an impact on their enrollment. Mr. Baldwin believes if there had been earlier knowledge a full-day kindergarten program was implemented at Tartan Elementary School it would have attracted more students and therefore he is hesitant to move forward with the current scenarios as further review is necessary.

Sheri Garbiso reviewed new residential development within focus area E5.

Rick Baldwin informed the commission the transportation cost analysis provided by Ray Negrete indicates an additional bus route will be required for all three scenarios as students would have to cross Losee Road.

#### CALENDAR, DATES, AND TIMES

The next AZAC meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, November 26, 2013 and Tuesday, December 3, 2013.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Albert Delgado called for public comment.  
None.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm.

Motion: Becky Nielson                      Second: Mike Malone                      Vote: Unanimous  
Nicole Benson, Natalie Carter, Socorro Macias, and Marisol Montoya-Herrera were not present to vote.