

MINUTES – AS IS 12/9/14
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 2, 2014

9:33 a.m.

Members Present

Albert Delgado
Anna Slighting
Nicole Benson
Natalie Carter
Zan Hyer
Brian Krall
Shari Lyman
Lois Mack
Cyndy Mahoney
Mike Malone
Marisol Montoya-Herrera (Arrived at 9:35 a.m.)
Becky Nielson
Lori Walker (Arrived at 9:42 a.m.)

Members Absent

Tara Raines

Demographics, Zoning & GIS

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

Transportation

Ray Negrete, GIS Coordinator III

FLAG SALUTE

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Adoption of the agenda for December 2, 2014.

Motion: Mike Malone

Second: Lois Mack

Vote: Unanimous

Marisol Montoya-Herrera, Tara Raines and Lori Walker were not present to vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes for November 20, 2014.

Motion: Brian Krall

Second: Shari Lyman

Vote: Unanimous

Abstained: Natalie Carter and Becky Nielson

Tara Raines and Lori Walker were not present to vote.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Rick Baldwin informed the commission that there is an email address specifically for AZAC.

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E5 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Albert Delgado called for discussion of Focus Area E5 addressing attendance boundaries for McCaw Elementary School and Robert Taylor Elementary School.

Rick Baldwin stated McCaw Elementary School will be a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) magnet school next year. This scenario makes the McCaw Elementary School zone for kindergarten only; all first through fifth grade students would be zoned to Robert Taylor Elementary School with preference to attend the magnet program if they apply.

Natalie Carter stated there will be 700 seats available for which students can apply.

Albert Delgado called for public input.

None

A motion was made to move Focus Area E5, Scenario 1, to public input.

Motion: Natalie Carter

Second: Becky Nielson

Vote: Unanimous

Tara Raines and Lori Walker were not present to vote.

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E1 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Albert Delgado called for discussion of Focus Area E1 addressing attendance boundaries for Givens Elementary School, Ober Elementary School, Piggott Elementary School and Staton Elementary School.

Rick Baldwin stated Piggott Elementary School will be an International Studies magnet program next year so there is need for change. The neighborhood around the school will remain as a kindergarten zone; both scenarios recommend first through fifth grade students be rezoned to Ober Elementary School, with students in the kindergarten zone receiving preference to attend the magnet program if they apply. The area rezoned last year from Givens Elementary School to Piggott Elementary School, which has no students currently in residence, but high potential for future growth, is being considered in Scenario 1 to be moved back to Givens Elementary School and in Scenario 2 to be moved to Staton Elementary School.

Anna Slighting stated she and Lori Walker met with Rick Baldwin. They agree that they want to keep current and future families together in proximate location to their neighborhood school. Some schools in the area do not have capacity to take on the new development. Some development is expected to be complete by the end of this year and early next year. Moving the area to Staton Elementary School keep them in a proximate school, even though it is a leap frog from the new growth area down Far Hills Avenue to Staton Elementary School. It is a short ride.

Albert Delgado asked for confirmation that Piggott Elementary School area students would have preference in selection for the magnet program.

Rick Baldwin confirmed the Piggott Elementary School neighborhood will have a preference to attend the magnet program if they apply. The data sheet, which shows over 1,000 students zoned to Ober Elementary School does not take into account the majority of students currently enrolled at and anticipated to apply to and remain at Piggott Elementary School.

Albert Delgado asked if the commissioners for this area had spoken with Ober Elementary School.

Nicole Benson stated she spoke with Ober Elementary School principal, Dr. Ellis, who is aware of this and asked how many students she can expect.

Rick Baldwin stated that information will be available after the magnet application process is complete.

Albert Delgado asked if there were other possibilities explored that do not involve a leap frog?

Anna Slighting stated the only way to do that would be reassign the area back to Givens Elementary School which would mean a major rezoning of the whole area. This would not be in the best interest of the students in the community.

Albert Delgado asked how many students this area yields.

Anna Slighting stated right not no one is living in the area. There are homes currently closing.

Sheri Garbiso stated there are 149 elementary students anticipated from what is currently building in the area under discussion.

Albert Delgado called for public input.

Vijahi Poluri, Givens Elementary School, stated the scenario 2 will be a more equitable solution. She generally does not favor leap frogging, but this is an interim solution. Ms. Poluri asked what preference students originally zoned to Piggott Elementary School will receive preference to attend the magnet program. She would like to know what the extent of preference is to be.

Julie Vigil, parent, Staton Elementary School, attended meetings last year. It was her understanding that if a school is rezoned they could not be rezoned again for two years, yet schools touched last year are being considered for rezoning again this year.

Kelli Mendenhall, parent, Givens Elementary School, has three children in the school. Ms. Mendenhall voiced her gratitude for scenario 2. She believes sending the new growth area to Staton Elementary School, where the numbers are currently low, will be the best alternative.

Albert Delgado explained no students were moved in the zone changes made last year. It is a new development area. Mr. Delgado asked Ms. Poluri to speak with staff after the meeting regarding magnet preference questions.

A motion was made to move Focus Area E1, Scenario 1 and Scenario 2, to public input.

Motion: Anna Slighting

Second: Lori Walker

Vote: Unanimous

Tara Raines were not present to vote.

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA M1 FOR MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

Albert Delgado called for discussion of Focus Area M1 addressing the attendance boundaries of Johnson Junior High School and Rogich Middle School

Rick Baldwin stated Johnson Junior High School will be an International Studies magnet school in the 2015 – 2016 school year. The same area discussed in the previous agenda item, which had last year and still has no students, was rezoned from Rogich Middle School to Johnson Junior High School is Scenario 1 to provide feeder school alignment with whatever may or may not be done with the area elementary schools.

Anna Slighting stated both elementary schools discussed in the previous item were feeder schools to Rogich Middle School before last year's rezoning and should be moved back to Rogich Middle School.

Becky Nielson thanked the commissioners for looking at this and making a better solution for the community.

Albert Delgado called for public input.

None

A motion was made to move Focus area M1, Scenario 1, to public input.

Motion: Lori Walker

Second: Cyndy Mahoney

Vote: Unanimous

Tara Raines were not present to vote.

SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E4 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, FOCUS AREA M4 FOR MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS AND FOCUS AREA H1 FOR HIGH SCHOOLS

Rick Baldwin stated the commission was asked to consider bringing Snow Mountain Paiute Indian Reservation and Kyle Canyon Gateway into valley schools. Those two areas are currently zoned to Indian Springs Elementary School and Indian Springs Middle/High School, which is a very long bus ride every day. The area was divided into three focus areas because they are elementary, middle and high school students. It is practical to consider them together. There are very few students in the Snow Mountain Paiute Indian Reservation area in elementary school, fewer in middle and high school. It is not a big issue of space, while Bilbray Elementary School, Scherkenbach Elementary School and Cadwallader Middle School have space available. Arbor View High School is over capacity, but the number of students involved is negligible. Transportation has prepared references to this issue.

Ray Negrete, Transportation, stated there would be a significant impact on Indian Springs School with this rezoning. A large number of students are attending Indian Springs on Elementary, Middle and High School on Open Enrollment and Zone Variance. Because their busses are not filled to capacity with eligible students, these students are allowed to ride on a space available basis. There are currently over 140 students being serviced by two busses. The ride time would be significantly less to the valley schools. However if the areas are rezoned the transportation cost increase would include one additional route to each of those schools because they still service the Mount Charleston area and middle and high school students must be taken to Indian Springs School. Mr. Negrete spoke with the principal of Indian Springs School, who feels his school's population would greatly decrease because parents decision to send their students to Indian Springs based upon availability of transportation.

Anna Slighting stated she had an opportunity to go to Indian Springs and see the drop off of students riding the busses. There is a good community feel there. At the beginning of the zoning season the numbers appeared so small the option to send them to school in town seemed reasonable. However the principal pointed out the space availability provides two full busses of students to Indian Springs; the zone change would decrease the population of the school, which she is not comfortable doing. Ms. Slighting recommends the commission does not move forward with this and leave things as they are.

Brian Krall asked if the principal of Indian Springs School was concerned about the decrease in population.

Anna Slighting stated the he is, and was the one who brought up the space availability issue she took to Mr. Negrete.

Albert Delgado asked for confirmation that there would be an increase in transportation cost with these scenarios.

Ray Negrete stated there would be an increase because they still service the Mount Charleston they would need two additional busses for each of the elementary school, middle school and high school since they are on different bell schedules. They would have to consider three additional busses to transport students into town.

Marisol Montoya-Herrera stated two busses with so many students on Open Enrollment and Zone Variances doesn't appear they want to go to school in town.

Rick Baldwin stated parents may request Open Enrollment options for Scherkenbach Elementary School and Cadwallader Middle School and they could speak with the principal of Arbor View High school and plead their case if they wish their students to attend school in town.

Anna Slighting stated this was brought to the commission's attention by a parent from the Snow Mountain Paiute Indian Reservation who has since communicated with Trustee Tew and is now knowledgeable of the options Mr. Baldwin mentioned.

Albert Delgado called for public input.
None

Mike Malone asked why, if Snow Mountain Paiute Indian Reservation is federal land, it is Clark County School District's responsibility to transport them to school.

Rick Baldwin stated because there are students out there we have to educate them and transport them to school.

Brian Krall pointed out that there is no school on the Snow Mountain Paiute Indian Reservation.

CALENDAR, DATES AND TIMES

The next meeting will be December 9, 2014.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

MOTION TO AJOURN

10:21 a.m.

Motion: Brian Krall

Second: Shari Lyman

Vote: Unanimous