

MINUTES – AS PRESENTED 1/24/17  
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 6, 2016

9:30 a.m.

Roll Call: Members Present

Nicole Benson  
Albert Delgado  
David Gomez  
Justin Hepworth  
Diane Kinsel  
Mallory Levins (arrived at 9:32 a.m.)  
Shari Lyman  
Lois Mack (arrived at 9:34 a.m.)  
Cyndy Mahoney (arrived at 9:33 a.m.)  
Mike Malone  
Becky Nielson  
Rachel Wren

Members Absent

Deborah Mancini  
Lisa Nelson  
Glen Olsen

Rick Baldwin, Director II  
Tracy Murphy, Coordinator IV  
Steve Burda, GIS Coordinator III  
  
Ray Negrete, Transportation Coordinator III

FLAG SALUTE

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Adoption of the agenda for December 6, 2016.

Motion: Mike Malone    Second: Shari Lyman    Vote: Unanimous

Mallory Levins, Lois Mack, Cyndy Mahoney, Deborah Mancini, Lisa Nelson, and Glen Olsen were not present to vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes for December 1, 2016.

Motion: Nicole Benson    Second: Shari Lyman    Vote: Unanimous

Lois Mack, Cyndy Mahoney, Deborah Mancini, Lisa Nelson, and Glen Olsen were not present to vote.

## REPORTS

Rick Baldwin stated a new calendar will be discussed in 3.06.

### FOCUS AREA E5 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Rick Baldwin stated Focus Area E5 establishes an attendance zone for the new, unnamed, elementary school on Antelope Ridge Drive. No new scenarios are being presented. Scenario 1 reassigns 359 students from Linda Rankin Givens Elementary School and 85 students from Ethel W. Staton Elementary School to the new school, for a total of 444 students plus many students from new residential development in the area.

Rachel Wren stated the principals of Givens and Staton Elementary Schools do not feel a parents meeting is necessary. Their communities have no questions on subjects under the jurisdiction of AZAC. Ms. Wren recognized Givens Elementary School principal Daniel Hungerford for attending each meeting addressing his school's area.

Rick Baldwin stated he agrees with Ms. Wren, the community understands the zoning needs for their area.

Albert Delgado stated the total estimated student count for the school on Antelope Ridge Drive is very low at 444.

Justin Hepworth stated he is also concerned with the low estimated number of students, in spite of expected students from current development in the area. Mr. Hepworth asked what else will be done to ensure that the school does not open seriously under its capacity so there is adequate funding.

Rick Baldwin stated the low number is not of concern, having seen how much growth is going on in the area. Mr. Baldwin stated the area yielding 85 students being reassigned from Staton Elementary School to the new school on Antelope Ridge Drive had only 21 students a year ago. There is still more active development underway in the area. Mr. Baldwin also explained that both the new school and Givens Elementary School may come in with official projections that generate the Open Enrollment program, allowing parents to select one of these schools for their student's remaining elementary grades. This may also provide some relief to surrounding schools.

Justin Hepworth stated he understands Mr. Baldwin's statements. He stated his concern is the new school at 400 students under capacity and Staton Elementary School appearing 100 students over capacity. He asked if some relief could come by assigning students to the new school from Staton Elementary School residing on the east side of CC 215.

Rachel Wren stated she drove the area of Focus Area 5 and was surprised how quickly the homes are being completed and people moving into them. Ms. Wren stated parents in the area have communicated their concern that the new school would grow over its capacity quickly due to the development and they would not be able to rezone to alleviate the overcrowding.

David Gomez stated he believes at this time they do have adequate funding; he doesn't think it will affect them, especially seeing that every school will become an empowerment school. As Ms. Wren said, there

are going to be students from the new development moving into that school, so he doesn't believe it will be affected in that aspect.

Justin Hepworth asked if the anticipated growth in that area will yield only about 230 students.

Albert Delgado stated he sees new development yielding approximately 1,033 students in just the suggested Staton Elementary School zone, with both active and inactive development, as well as 173 in the suggested Givens Elementary School zone. Combined that will total 3,171 elementary students in Focus Area E5.

Rick Baldwin stated there are a substantial number of developments proceeding in Focus Area E5.

Justin Hepworth asked if the development in the southern part of the area is currently actively building, or simply planned for the future.

Rick Baldwin stated some are actively building.

Albert Delgado stated AZAC must consider inactive as well as active development, because the inactive will at some point begin building and increasing student yield, eventually totaling over 3,000 students in a three school area.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan Hungerford, principal, Givens Elementary School, stated, in meetings with parents and PTA, their only remaining concerns are not with the boundary lines, but with Open Enrollment. Students who are in fourth grade, zoned for the new school, and wish to complete their elementary school time at Givens Elementary School might not get through the Open Enrollment process because it is first come, first served.

Mr. Hungerford addressed Mr. Hepworth's concern, stating the school opened in 2004 with under 500 students and now has over 1,000. They are aware of the building going on around them daily and are not concerned about filling the schools with students.

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

Motion: Rachel Wren

Second: Cyndy Mahoney

Vote: Unanimous

David Gomez, Deborah Mancini, Lisa Nelson, and Glen Olsen were not present to vote.

#### FOCUS AREA E8 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Rick Baldwin stated Focus Area E8 evaluates Frank Lamping and Glen C. Taylor Elementary Schools.

Mr. Baldwin stated nine years ago the area referred to as "the boot" was reassigned from Lamping Elementary School, which was overcrowded, to Taylor Elementary School, which was relatively new and had space available. Since then new developments, including several large apartment complexes, have opened in the Taylor Elementary School zone creating overcrowding, while the Lamping Elementary School enrollment has stabilized. AZAC has been asked to move "the boot" area, which has 55 elementary students, back to Lamping Elementary School. Mr. Baldwin stated the principal of Lamping Elementary School has granted 97 zone variances in order for the school to reach desired enrollment, so they do have space for these students.

Mallory Levins stated she and Mr. Hepworth met with the principals of both schools; the principal of Taylor Elementary School is looking for relief from their high enrollment. Ms. Levins stated they only feel

comfortable reassigning the students in “the boot” due to new schools opening in the area in the future. They must leave other areas open to possible rezoning at that time. “The boot” will not be affected by new schools’ zoning. Moving students in this area will provide some relief to Taylor Elementary School while complying with the request of the Lamping Elementary School principal.

Albert Delgado stated Lamping Elementary School’s capacity is 534. Moving these students would take the school to 112 over its capacity.

Rick Baldwin stated Lamping Elementary School was built on the 1994 prototype which has twelve rooms designed to be divisible. The principal has the flexibility to double the twelve rooms to 24. They currently divide the rooms to create more, smaller classrooms; however, capacity is calculated as if they are not divided.

Albert Delgado asked if Lamping Elementary School has portables.

Rick Baldwin stated they do.

Justin Hepworth stated the principal of Lamping Elementary School advised them they have some classrooms currently not in use, which gives them space for additional students.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Jean Martin, grandparent, Taylor Elementary School, stated she has two grandchildren in the school. She was asked to speak on their behalf. Ms. Martin stated she is not sure her grandchildren would be reassigned, but they live in “the boot” area. Her concern is in rezoning some of Taylor Elementary School, new schools being built, and the breakup of the Clark County School District and how they will be affected by these situations in the future. Ms. Martin stated an additional concern is striving for smaller class sizes allowing for more personalized instruction.

Albert Delgado asked if the students currently transported to Taylor Elementary School would be in walking distance to Lamping Elementary School.

Ray Negrete stated the area is within two miles of Lamping Elementary School and there is a suitable safe walk path so they will not require transportation if reassigned.

Albert Delgado asked how many busses are serving the area and the approximate cost.

Ray Negrete stated he will check and have the answer in a minute.

Albert Delgado asked Mr. Hepworth to address the new schools coming into the area in the future.

Justin Hepworth stated there are three new schools planned for 2018 that will impact the zoning of Taylor Elementary School. Mr. Hepworth stated for this reason additional rezoning is not advisable at this time.

Rick Baldwin stated three upcoming schools are in District A and will be addressed by AZAC next year. Additional rezoning this year would limit the commission’s ability to properly evaluate them next year. He stated moving “the boot” will not be necessary next year. When the change was made nine years ago

Lamping Elementary School had over 1,000 students making the move the only practical solution, in spite of their close proximity to Lamping Elementary School.

Ray Negrete stated 40 students are currently transported from “the boot” to Taylor Elementary School; discontinuing this route would save the district \$22,000 per year.

A motion was made to move Focus Area E8, Scenario 1 to Proposal 1.

Motion: Mallory Levins

Second: Justin Hepworth

Vote: Unanimous

Deborah Mancini, Lisa Nelson, and Glen Olsen were not present to vote.

#### EVALUATE SCENARIOS FOR FOCUS AREA E9 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Rick Baldwin stated there are two scenarios for James E. and Alice Rae Smalley and J. Marlon Walker Elementary Schools. Mr. Baldwin stated he, Ms. Murphy, Mr. Hepworth, Ms. Levins, Trustee Wright and the newly appointed Associate Superintendent of this performance zone held a parents meeting. As a result staff suggests some form of grandfathering if this moves forward to proposal. Smalley and Walker Elementary Schools are currently sister schools sharing one attendance boundary. Walker Elementary School previously had an immersion Spanish language program. Because of that parents were asked to sign a commitment to stay at their chosen school through their elementary years. While CCSD has no legal requirement to follow the agreements, in the spirit of cooperation it is recommended that the agreements be honored through grandfathering for the students currently enrolled.

Mallory Levins stated the parent meeting rendered the conclusion that Scenario 1, which places Smalley Elementary School physically outside its zone, is not viable. Ms. Levins and Justin Hepworth met with families who support Scenario 2 with grandfathering. Parents at the meeting expressed their intent, when registering at either Smalley or Walker Elementary School, that their children, not just current elementary student(s), all attend the school of choice. They request phasing including siblings. Ms. Levins stated she understands that Clark County School District has not done this in the past. Ms. Levins stated sister schools a mile apart is also unprecedented. She stated the principals are concerned about the school teams required by AB 394 for determining budgets; having firm numbers of projected student enrollment will make the process more efficient. Parents are in favor of this as long as grandfathering is provided. Ms. Levins stated her suggestion that parents be required to submit a letter of intent by the end of March, 2017, to be eligible for future enrollment without transportation for a younger sibling. By offering this option there should be community support and promote moving forward with firm boundaries for Smalley and Walker Elementary Schools enabling principals to have better data in formulating budgets and staffing.

Albert Delgado asked Transportation if a student residing on the east side of US 95 who has selected Smalley Elementary School would be provided with transportation.

Ray Negrete stated students on the east side of US 95 are currently provided transportation to both schools. Mr. Negrete stated grandfathering will cost CCSD for the four years the students phase out of their current schools. The actual cost has not yet been calculated. Mr. Negrete stated a change in bell times will be recommended so the cost impact can be kept to a minimum. It is recommended that one school moves their bell times by 15 minutes, because they both currently start at 9:00 a.m.

Nicole Benson asked if the sibling option would apply to current siblings, or if the option could go on for years and years as additional children are born.

Justin Hepworth stated two scenarios had been discussed. The families suggested the idea Ms. Benson asked about, with all future children included. The alternative Mr. Hepworth and Ms. Levins suggest says students currently enrolled at Walker and Smalley Elementary Schools would be grandfathered in for the balance of their elementary careers. Siblings of students currently enrolled may submit the notice of intent by the end of March of 2017 to be eligible to enroll at the same school without transportation. This will allow future students born by March 31, 2017, to be grandfathered in but any born after that date will not.

Nicole Benson asked if the house changes ownership to a different family member if it would cover their students.

Rick Baldwin stated the declaration of intent will include the current student, grade, address, and all current siblings including date of birth who will be the only ones allowed to register in the future.

Cyndy Mahoney asked if a student who would be rezoned to the new hard zone would be allowed to choose to attend the rezoned school instead of being grandfathered into their current school. If the students farthest from Smalley Elementary School are grandfathered to Smalley without transportation, but would receive a bus to Walker Elementary School, they may prefer to attend Walker.

Rick Baldwin stated current discussion did not allow that choice. The difficulty raised by Ms. Mahoney's suggestion is that projections of student enrollment provide staffing and budgets for the schools. If we do not have a mechanism in place that determines where students attend we cannot provide needed data. Mr. Baldwin stated these two principals have done an incredible job, through much effort, of balancing the numbers of students between the two schools. The intent is to create hard zones to carry forward, but not disrupt what they have put into place and potentially have an adverse effect on those students' educational programs.

Justin Hepworth stated the manner in which this hard zone and option are suggested is in line with the letter the parents all signed agreeing to complete their elementary years at the selected school.

Cyndy Mahoney stated her concern is if they are grandfathered without transportation, students who have had transportation are asked to find their own way to school and not allowing them to choose their schools.

Becky Nielson asked what the Legal Department said whether the letter parents signed is binding .

Rick Baldwin stated he has not yet received a response from Legal. Mr. Baldwin stated while we are probably not bound by the letter, it is desirable to be understanding with the parents.

Cyndy Mahoney asked if the siblings of the grandfathered students may choose to attend the rezoned school.

Justin Hepworth stated Ms. Mahoney is correct; the purpose of the declaration of intent due by March 31 is to allow parents to elect the school for future students and stick with that choice.

Cyndy Mahoney asked if this is a one-time option, confirming that in two years they cannot change their minds.

Rick Baldwin stated she is correct. This was worked out at the parents' meeting as a means of compromise. Mr. Baldwin gave an example of a parent with a fourth grade student who wants to complete fifth grade at his current school. They have an incoming Kindergarten student and are happy for that student to go to the rezoned school. They simply do not complete the declaration of intent card.

David Gomez questioned Mr. Negrete's recommendation that they would fluctuate the bell times and cited NRS 388.090 students have to have instructional time and asked if fluctuating the bell time would affect their instructional time. Mr. Gomez stated the required times are 2 hours for Kindergarten, 4 hours for first and second, 5 hours for third through sixth, excluding lunch.

Ray Negrete stated instructional time would not be decreased, students will have a longer ride time. One school will potentially have a 15 – 20 minute longer ride time than they have now.

David Gomez stated he understands the longer ride time, but questions whether the bell time change will cut into their instructional time. Mr. Gomez gave the example of one school bell ringing at 2:34 and the other rings at 3:00 and they were both ringing at 3:00 at one point, would that cut into their instructional time.

Ray Negrete stated both are currently at 9:00. In order to offset the cost of going to grandfathering, one school would remain at 9:00 to 3:16 bell times and the other would go to 8:45 to 3:01. The instructional time does not change. The change allows them to pick up all of these students and service both schools in both directions, which is not done now. One bus just serves Smalley Elementary School and another bus only serves Walker Elementary School. With grandfathering, they will be serving both schools from all areas. This will increase transportation costs. In order to offset that cost, they must consider shifting bell times to accommodate both schools on all busses at the same time.

Albert Delgado acknowledged Trustees Patrice Tew and Deanna Wright and thanked them for attending.

Cyndy Mahoney asked if there would be one bus dropping students at both schools.

Ray Negrete stated Ms. Mahoney is correct. The schools currently have students balanced to allow a bus to pick up from one area and drop at one school, with an overlap in the central area. Grandfathering with transportation will require picking up students from both sides of the zone and dropping them at both schools.

Rachel Wren asked if the area between Mission Drive and Patti Ann Woods Drive had been discussed at the parent meeting. Ms. Wren asked if the reason the students in the area, which number fewer than 20, are not being added to Smalley Elementary School because its capacity is 694 and they are already over that number.

Justin Hepworth stated grandfathering would allow families in that area who want to continue to attend Smalley Elementary School to do so. Any future families moving into the area would be hard zoned to Walker Elementary School. Mr. Hepworth stated the parents at the meeting do want the area zoned to Smalley Elementary School because they are one community and they wish to remain so. They are, however, happy with the grandfathering as a compromise.

Albert Delgado asked if consideration had been given to allowing the administration and staff to decide allow who attends each school. Mr. Delgado asked if transportation is the primary reason for the decision being made in advance.

Rick Baldwin stated the principals currently do a fabulous job of maintaining balance and determining who attends each school. The cause for the request is AB 394 budgeting requirements and so the schools can establish their organizational teams, as required by AB 394. These sister schools are unique in that they are not adjacent to each other.

Albert Delgado stated it could be AZAC's recommendation that they not have any of the aforementioned options, but could allow staff to continue to make the decision to allow a family to grandfather in or not.

Rick Baldwin stated Mr. Delgado is correct. AZAC's decision can be that no recommendation be made. They can make the recommendation to hard zone with no phasing.

Albert Delgado asked if the only difference is transportation. The families far from the schools are provided transportation now. If it is left to the principals, AZAC would not have to make amendments to their proposals; it would be left to the staffs at the schools. Mr. Delgado asked if transportation is part of the schools' budgets or if it is a separate Clark County School District cost. Phasing in over the next five or six years will increase costs and must be taken into consideration in regards to their budgets if they pay for it from their budget.

Rick Baldwin stated currently transportation costs do not come from the school budgets. Mr. Baldwin does not know if there are plans to send costs to the school directly in the future. Mr. Baldwin stated he believes a decision to take no action on AZAC's part leave transportation cost the same. You would still have to send one bus to 2 schools. In 5 or 6 years the cost will eventually decrease. The final wording of the option is key, whether to state the option with or without transportation.

Ray Negrete stated once moved to proposal Transportation will provide an exact cost estimate prior to recommendation so AZAC can make their final decision as to the wording.

Cyndy Mahoney stated the residential development map shows the growth in the suggested Walker Elementary School zone is much higher than the active growth in the suggested Smalley Elementary School zone. Walker Elementary School will eventually catch up with Smalley Elementary School. Ms. Mahoney likes keeping communities together and the area north of Patti Ann Woods Drive, which has few houses and only 22 students now, would not be a burden to Smalley Elementary School were they assigned there. Ms. Mahoney asked how strongly they considered that.

Justin Hepworth stated they did consider that possibility. He stated the concern is the growth in the Smalley Elementary School area, both in the Patti Ann Woods Drive area and south of the school. Walker Elementary School is at 662 students in the scenario and was left relatively low because of potential growth in the area.

Mallory Levins stated they hope grandfathering to include siblings will allow these families to stay together while establishing firm boundaries with the expectation of the new growth to keep Smalley Elementary School's enrollment steady, because they are already over capacity.



Albert Delgado asked Ray Negrete the number of students currently bussed from the east side of Walker Elementary School to Smalley Elementary School.

Becky Nielson stated she feels there are questions as to why they should hard zone with transportation. The phasing is the right thing to do as a district because the families were expected to commit to one school through their students' elementary careers. Ms. Nielson stated she understands the need for hard zones for the future planning, especially in light of the new requirements. Hard zones will make it much easier for the schools and staff as families move in to the area they know which school they will attend. Ms. Nielson commended Mr. Hepworth and Ms. Levins on an excellent job with this scenario. Ms. Nielson asked if these are the last sister schools that are physically separated.

Rick Baldwin stated there are a few other sister schools, one other pair that is not directly next to each other.

Albert Delgado stated he agrees with the need for hard zones. He stated AZAC is adding additional duties onto their assignment when setting boundaries if boundaries are set with stipulations. It will get to a point where stipulations should be set by the Trustees and staff.

Justin Hepworth stated the parents are telling us now that they want grandfathering. We are going to submit a proposal with hard boundaries. If we, as a commission, feel grandfathering is important it should be part of the proposal. This asserts that AZAC is recommending it and leaves it to the Trustees to make the final decision.

Rachel Wren asked how many students are projected from the development in the area between Patti Ann Woods Drive and Mission Drive.

Ray Negrete stated, in response to the question regarding the area east of Walker Elementary School, there are 80 students attending Smalley Elementary School, 79 of whom are transported on one bus; 220 are attending Walker Elementary School, 176 being transported on two busses.

Rick Baldwin stated he drove the area prior to the parents meeting. The development Ms. Wren addressed is made up of very large homes and is split by Patti Ann Woods Drive. The homes south of Patti Ann Woods Drive are built on cul de sacs. This is not a master planned community. They are custom homes. There is a great deal of vacant land in the area and large horse properties. How the land is used will be determined by the City of Henderson. The area to the north of Mission Drive is more traditional, affordable housing.

Rachel Wren stated she is also concerned about providing transportation. While she understands parents currently receiving transportation wanting to continue to receive it, when she made the choice for her students to attend schools other than those to which they were zoned she willingly transported them herself. Ms. Wren asked if this is something that has been considered.

Justin Hepworth stated the wording of the option requires students to attend the school in which they are currently enrolled. Those students will be provided transportation. If it was reworded that they could choose to attend the school, denying transportation would be justified. The concern with choice is the school enrollment projection. Mr. Hepworth asked if the deadline of March 31, 2017 might be enough to eliminate the concern.

Nicole Benson stated she is concerned that the option grandfather students who have not yet started elementary School. The students currently at the school who have had wonderful experiences there are understandable, although students are rezoned each year. Ms. Benson stated those future students would very likely have wonderful experiences at the other school and she is concerned about grandfathering them.

Becky Nielson stated she understands Ms. Benson's concern. She also knows what it is like to have students attending different schools. A family with a fourth grader at Walker Elementary School whose kindergartener must attend Smalley Elementary School would be difficult. Ms. Nielson stated with the transiency in the district, it may not be as many as they think. People move sooner than is being anticipated. Ms. Nielson stated the history of these schools and the parents being required to choose their schools places responsibility on AZAC to honor it, allowing current families to phase into the hard zones. This is the first time Ms. Nielson has heard of grandfathering at the elementary level, but it is warranted.

Albert Delgado stated he is concerned that families in his area will expect to be offered grandfathering as well if it is done for the Walker and Smalley Elementary Schools.

Cyndy Mahoney stated the situation is different because these were sister schools sharing a zone, and they were asked to choose between the two schools. In the other areas students were zoned to just one school based upon their home address. Ms. Mahoney is opposed to the idea of allowing parents to choose to not stay at their current school because there is the potential for the balance in enrollment to be lost if large numbers leave for one school, while a large number choose to stay there.

Albert Delgado stated there are 260 students being bussed. A great number of students will be within walking distance. The commission will be setting precedents by grandfathering or phasing elementary schools. Mr. Delgado is not a fan of this, feels it is the job of the staff and administration, but will accede to the will of the commission.

Rachel Wren asked if Rick Baldwin would address the issue of transportation after the hard zoning.

Albert Delgado clarified the question as who will get transportation with phasing and the letter of intent.

Rick Baldwin stated the wording of the option will determine who gets transportation.

Mallory Levins stated if the commission requires grandfathering of the students who have chosen to attend Walker Elementary School or Smalley Elementary School they will remain at the schools of choice and transportation will be provided. If siblings are grandfathered in through the letter of intent, they will not be given transportation because parents have the choice to attend the school to which they would be zoned or the one their older siblings attend.

Cyndy Mahoney asked if a family has a fourth grader riding the bus, will an incoming kindergarten sibling be able to ride with their sibling? And, if so, will that cease to be offered when the older sibling moves on to middle school? Or is that up to Transportation?

Ray Negrete stated using middle school phasing as an example, a seventh and eighth grader ride the bus; their sixth grade sibling would be allowed to ride on a space available basis. Parents are advised that

when the older students are no longer attending the school transportation will cease for the younger siblings. Mr. Negrete restated the additional costs of offering transportation as a result of the separation of the sister school boundary, with the recommendation of bell changes to offset it to some degree. Offering the option without transportation will offer an additional means of reducing the cost increase.

Justin Hepworth asked for clarification of the increase, since we are already transporting the students now and they will continue to attend their current schools.

Ray Negrete explained they will have new students coming in from areas where the principals assigned students creatively. They are currently sending three busses to Smalley Elementary School and three busses to Walker Elementary School, servicing all students eligible for transportation. There will now be additional students coming in; they will transport with these same busses to both schools at the same time. Mr. Negrete stated he will have a full breakdown of costs, with and without transportation, once the scenario goes to proposal. The change in bell times will enable them to transport to both schools with an additional cost in mileage and driver pay.

Cyndy Mahoney asked if the letter of intent for younger siblings will be binding, should parents decide later that they would like to change to their zoned school.

Rick Baldwin stated the letter of intent is not legally binding. In a few years many parents may want their younger students to attend the zoned school, as both are excellent schools. While we would not necessarily hold them to it, it would be advantageous to the school and staff planning and projections to adhere to the letter of intent. Mr. Baldwin stated he would not recommend hard zoning these two schools without grandfathering. Mr. Baldwin reminded the commission that there are 78 students included in the Smalley Elementary School geographic numbers who are currently on zone variances to other schools. There are 77 students in the Walker area who are on zone variances to other schools. Hard zoning with no grandfathering would create major disparity between the two schools.

Justin Hepworth stated without grandfathering 300 students will be moved from Walker Elementary School to Smalley Elementary School and 300 students will be moved from Smalley Elementary School to Walker Elementary School.

Albert Delgado stated the area is unique because of the commitment letter signed by parents as required by the schools when choosing their students assignment. Grandfathering is being considered because of that letter. Students in other areas would like to stay with their friends in their current school but are not grandfathered.

Justin Hepworth stated there are actually three unique situations combined in this area: the letter as mentioned by Mr. Delgado, the Walker Elementary School language immersion program requiring the sister school configuration which is ending now, and the fact that they are sister schools.

Albert Delgado stated there are other schools with special programs.

Becky Nielson stated this was a unique situation because the entire school was a language immersion program.

Albert Delgado asked if this applied to both schools.

Becky Nielson stated it was Walker Elementary School and parents had to commit to it when they started. The language immersion program has now been discontinued.

Cyndy Mahoney stated another difference is the number of students, approximately 300 or 40% from each school, who would switch schools. Ms. Mahoney stated this situation is not really unique because another sister school zone divided a few years ago. It may come up again and she would not ask 300 students from each of two schools to switch just to create a hard zone. She stated other sister schools may want hard zones and she would not mind a precedent of grandfathering students in that circumstance, as it is different than individual school rezoning.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Erin Ackerman, parent, Smalley Elementary School, thanked AZAC for their thoughtful process. She stated there is no compelling reason for the hard zoning: there is no new school opening, nor is one school seriously overcrowded. Ms. Ackerman stated the board is changing things they have worked out organically. She commented on the 300 people being displaced from one school to be replaced by 300 from the other; 77 students are attending outside schools from one school, 78 from the other. Because AZAC is forcing the hard zone, they need the grandfathering. Examples of grandfathering in other districts and states were sent to AZAC. Ms. Ackerman stated transportation is not an issue with their families. It was discussed and they will work it out. If they choose for their younger children to attend the school their current students do, they will manage their own transportation. She stated she represents 300 – 400 families who will have severe issues if the scenario moves to proposal without grandfathering language. There is no critical need for the hard zones and the parents will get loud and vocal. Ms. Ackerman referred to the letter of commitment signed when they enrolled.

Laurel Dodds, parent, Walker Elementary School, lives in the suggested Smalley Elementary School zone. Ms. Dodds is in favor of hard zoning with the grandfathering clause. She feels community zoning is important. She read a statement on behalf of the principal and PTA of Walker Elementary School supporting Scenario 2 with grandfathering and requesting a survey be sent to parents (whether by CCSD, AZAC or the two schools) asking if they want grandfathering. Ms. Dodds thanked AZAC for their hard work.

Stefanie Ross, parent, Smalley Elementary School, is in favor of hard zoning with grandfathering to smooth the transition for current students, reduce confusion for new families moving in, and reduce work for the office staffs.

Ashley Simons, parent, Smalley Elementary School, lives in the west portion of the area suggested to go to Walker Elementary School. Ms. Simons agrees that community is important. They live in one of two neighborhoods across Mission Drive and will be separated from their church group and children's best friends who live south of Mission Drive. It will not affect just certain neighborhoods, but all. They have an investment in Smalley Elementary School, as do the parents at Walker Elementary School.

Cyndy Mahoney asked if AZAC would consider sending two proposals forward: one with Patti Ann Woods Drive and one without.

Justin Hepworth stated this is one of the reasons for grandfathering in this area: allow the current families to remain at Smalley Elementary School and new families will attend Walker Elementary School. Areas will

be split when you hard zone. Mr. Hepworth stated this boundary accommodates the area's growth, puts the growth in the school that can accommodate it, and creates parity between the two schools. Another boundary could leave Smalley Elementary School over capacity and Walker Elementary School under capacity. Grandfathering leaves current families in their school.

Albert Delgado stated Mr. Hepworth and Ms. Levins have done a great job. He stated this is an example of how AZAC takes into consideration public input when making proposals and, eventually, recommendations. Mr. Delgado stated he hopes their motion now will contain no verbiage so they can be sure that, by recommendation time, they are specific and concise, in grandfathering an elementary school. He is concerned about other areas wanting grandfathering if it is done here without specific wording of explanation.

Mallory Levins asked if the verbiage must be included now, or if it would be preferable to wait to perfect the wording.

Rick Baldwin stated they have the freedom to move the scenario to proposal with or without the option and add it at the time of recommendation. He stated it is fair to the community when it is taken to public input to let them know grandfathering is being considered. Mr. Baldwin expressed confidence that the parents present understand and would communicate it to their communities, but feels it is important that it is clear when taken to public input.

Albert Delgado stated he would like input from his trustee, as he is sure would Mr. Hepworth and Ms. Levins, as to the verbiage and precedent. He wants to delay just the grandfathering option, so staff can check the wording.

Cyndy Mahoney stated she feels there are two possibilities: no proposal, or a proposal with grandfathering. She does not want to send a proposal without grandfathering to public input and have 600 parents tell them they need grandfathering, which is known.

Mike Malone asked if, in two to three years, the trustees could reverse what may be put in place now with AZAC's recommendation at that time.

Rick Baldwin stated the Board of School Trustees can undo this in the future. They can also not vote for a recommendation, vote for it without the option, or amend the option at that time should they so choose.

Justin Hepworth stated the language they are using was drafted with the help of Rick Baldwin and his staff, not by Ms. Levins and himself independently. It is language that has been used before.

Albert Delgado asked if they can put at the beginning of the option, "Due to the letter of intent that they had already signed."

Rick Baldwin stated the maker of the motion could amend the motion and the seconder would have to second the amendment as well.

Albert Delgado asked if staff has a problem with the wording.

Rick Baldwin requested a five minute recess to properly insert the wording.

Albert Delgado asked Mr. Hepworth and Ms. Levins for their reasoning that omitting the requested wording will have no impact on other areas' expectations in their rezoning.

Justin Hepworth stated the minutes attest to the reasoning behind the grandfathering. The minutes are public and will be adopted at the next meeting.

Albert Delgado asked why the requested amendment should not be included.

Justin Hepworth stated there are several reasons, which have been discussed during this lengthy meeting. The minutes more accurately reflect the meaning.

Nicole Benson stated the compelling reasoning is the letter. Programming could roll over to many other schools and their rezoning.

Rachel Wren asked that Mr. Baldwin's request for recess be granted to go over the wording.

Albert Delgado asked that the recess be granted to assure that everyone is comfortable.

Cyndy Mahoney stated the letter is not the compelling reason for her, but the two schools in one zone, particularly because she has two schools in one zone in her area. She would want the motion's preface to state the reason as two schools in one zone being divided to two zones.

Ray Negrete stated Ms. Levins' motion stated without transportation for future students, but did not specify with transportation for current students.

Justin Hepworth stated "with transportation" can be added to the first sentence. Mr. Hepworth suggested, regarding the reasoning, inserting "for reasons discussed in the minutes" to refer people to the minutes for additional information. This will cover everyone's concerns.

Rick Baldwin reminded AZAC that they cannot recess with a motion on the floor.

Mallory Levins withdrew the motion and requested a recess.

Justin Hepworth seconded the withdrawal of the motion.

Albert Delgado called a recess at 11:39 a.m.

Albert Delgado called the meeting back to order at 11:52 a.m.

David Gomez stated listening to Justin Hepworth, he said refer to the minutes. AZAC does not do verbatim when it comes to minutes at times. So if we were to refer parents back to that, that would show a problem in the near future. So he just wants to put it on record that if they put that in there that it is verbatim, word for word.

Rick Baldwin stated referring people to read the minutes is not the best solution to the problem. Mr. Baldwin stated there is a solution that will cover this and future instances.

Mallory Levins stated it is on the record that this is a different situation before the commission. There is enough flexibility in the wording of what this grandfathering looks like and those details for when AZAC moves a proposal forward to recommendation.

A motion was made to move Focus Area E9, Scenario 2 to Proposal 1.

With the wording: Due to the necessary dismantling of sister school zoning for J. Marlon Walker and James E. and Alice Rae Smalley Elementary Schools students currently enrolled in J. Marlon Walker Elementary School and James E. and Alice Rae Smalley Elementary School will be grandfathered into their current school for the balance of their elementary school career with transportation. Siblings of students currently enrolled may submit a Declaration of Intent form by March 31, 2017 to be eligible for future enrollment at the same school without transportation. The Declaration of Intent form will include name of current enrolled student, current grade, address, name of all applicable siblings, sibling birthdates, parent names and signature.

Motion: Mallory Levins

Second: Justin Hepworth

Vote: Unanimous

Deborah Mancini, Lisa Nelson, and Glen Olsen were not present to vote.

#### CALENDAR, DATES, AND TIMES

Public Input meetings are scheduled for January 10, 2017, 6:00 p.m. at Sierra Vista High School; January 11, 2017, 6:00 p.m. at Basic Academy of International Studies; and January 18, 2017, 6:00 p.m. at Palo Verde High School. The next AZAC meeting will be held on January 24, 2017.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Trustee Patrice Tew, liaison to AZAC, thanked the commissioners for their willingness to volunteer their time and their thoughtful consideration of the issues. This body is unique nationwide. Trustee Tew stated it has been her honor to serve with AZAC.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

Motion: Shari Lyman

Second: Nicole Benson

Vote: Unanimous

Deborah Mancini, Lisa Nelson, and Glen Olsen were not present to vote.