

Facilities Advisory Committee

Meeting #4 Summary – February 27, 2020

I: Welcome and Introductions

Penny Mabie, facilitator, welcomed committee members and briefly explained the meeting's agenda. **Jane Stavem,** Lake Washington School District Superintendent, reminded the committee to think about what this work will mean for students such as those attending Alcott Elementary School. **Jon Hedin,** principal at Alcott, gave the committee an overview of challenges present at the school, such as children traveling with lunch trays across the courtyard, increasing enrollment and need for more classrooms.

Q: What is the size of first grade classes at Alcott and how do they compare to others in the district?

A: Due to limited space, Alcott has slightly larger classes of about 27-28 students compared to other class sizes in the district, which are about 22-23 students. An additional grade level teacher was allocated to provide assistance in this grade level.

II: Future facilities needs - context setting

Barbara Posthumus reviewed some of the key findings from the ThoughtExchange online survey and asked the group if they noticed any additional themes.

Comments:

- There seems to be a lot of ignorance from the community; we need to get this information out to the community.
 - We'll have to do some myth-busting with some of the misinformation shared in the survey.
- The platform did a nice job of filtering out the irrelevant comments.
- Mostly everyone noted the high growth rate.
- Portables are largely disliked by the community. How do we consider the desire to build permanent facilities with future growth in mind while balancing the dislike of having new buildings with unused space?
- There was some desire for more programs such as arts and P.E. as well as a desire for flexible spaces. Need to educate the community on what we can and can't do at this point.
- Seems to be a lack of trust in the leadership in this effort. People don't understand just how abnormal this growth is. We're running out of capacity due to extreme growth, not poor planning by the district.
 - This communication would also explain why the district has had to ask for so many bonds – the community needs to know the level of growth we're experiencing.
 Explain that even when bonds fail, the growth continues.
- We should also be noting that as time has passed, we've been updating our methodology. Sharing this may help with the community's faith in the work we're doing.
- We should consider how we're communicating. Mailers are often tossed without being looked at. How should we get the message out?



• Community doesn't understand that building a new facility typically costs less then renovating an old building.

Q: Lake Washington School District is large and includes many communities with separate issues. Has splitting the district into smaller districts been considered?

A: No. Splitting the district has not been considered. In many other states districts are significantly larger. Splitting the district would increase overhead costs as well.

Q: How many people participated in the survey? How does that number compare to other districts?

A: The average number of participants ranges from 1,000 to 1,300. The total for our district was over 1,200.

> ACTION ITEM: Share data from Eastside Economic Outlook Summit with FAC

III: Developing future facilities proposal, Part 1

The committee worked in small groups to develop proposals for how to address needed capacity over the next 10 years, using all data that had been provided to date. Groups wrote recommendations for each facility category (high school, middle school, elementary school and other) and each learning area (Juanita, Lake Washington, Redmond and Eastlake) and posted them to the sticky wall.

Q: What is the position of the Lake Washington Schools Foundation? Can they help fund facilities needs?

A: The foundation is an external entity that fundraises for enrichment and support, such as youth mental health services. They wouldn't be funders for our capital facility needs.

IV: Developing future facilities proposal, Part 2

After small group discussions, the committee regrouped and gathered at the sticky wall to observe and discuss recommendations.

Juanita Learning Area – Elementary School (ES)

- New or additional elementary school
- Replace old portables
- Centralize preschool in the west side move to existing buildings with open spaces

Juanita Learning Area – Middle School (MS)

- Remodel/replace/rebuild/enlarge Kamiakin Middle School, increase capacity to 900
 - Possibly include choice school
- Reboundary Kamiakin MS and Finn Hill MS
- Partnership with cities for major efforts
- Combine efforts with city for shared facilities, such as a shared community center at Kamiakin MS

Juanita Learning Area – High School (HS)

[No proposed projects]

Juanita Learning Area – Other Facility Needs

- Move choice schools such as Renaissance, Environmental & Adventure School and Stella Schola from buildings that are over capacity
- Implement (or raise, if one already exists) business impact fee to support funding of schools
- Expand the homeschool parent partnership program
- Partner with cities and corporations for community space
- Have discussions with the county about the Urban Growth Area to lift building bans on properties we own to be used for schools only
- Refurbish Juanita field house and pool and partner for new sports fields

Lake Washington Learning Area – Elementary School (ES)

- Add 1 new elementary (possible Emerson site)
- Reboundary the Lake Washington elementary area
- Replace all old portables

Lake Washington Learning Area – Middle School (MS)

- Expand Kirkland MS and Rose Hill MS
- Consider creating choice middle school

Lake Washington Learning Area – High School (HS)

• Possible Choice High School (Emerson site)

Lake Washington Learning Area – Other Facility Needs

- Preschool space, maybe at Rose Hill ES possibility to make comprehensive
- Look at partnerships with businesses in the area for programs
- Partner with cities and corporations for community space
- Approach King County about building outside of GMA area

Redmond Learning Area – Elementary School (ES)

- Rebuild and enlarge Rockwell Elementary
- Add 1 new elementary

Redmond Learning Area – Middle School (MS)

- Reboundary the middle schools
- Replace all old portables lack of agreement amongst group whether to replace with new portables or permanent structures

Redmond Learning Area – High School (HS)

Expand Redmond High School to increase capacity to 2,500

Redmond Learning Area – Other Facility Needs

• Partner with cities and corporations for community space

Eastlake Learning Area – Elementary School (ES)

- Rebuild and enlarge Alcott Elementary
- Rebuild and enlarge Smith Elementary
- Replace all old portables

Eastlake Learning Area – Middle School (MS)

- Rebuild Evergreen MS, possibly with combined high school (6-12 or even K-12)
- Reboundary Middle Schools
- Move Blackwell ES feeder school students to Evergreen MS

Eastlake Learning Area – High School (HS)

- Make Dickinson ES and Evergreen MS site a comprehensive high school, possibly add a choice school (knocking down a building is not ideal)
- Choice HS in Eastlake Learning area

Eastlake Learning Area – Other Facility Needs

[No projects proposed]

Proposals not specific to a learning area or grade band category

- Add elementary school
- Add middle school
- Add a fifth learning community
- Build a choice HS with a capacity of 1,000 to serve Lake Washington and Redmond Learning areas
- Have a corporation fund a high school (Microsoft High?)
- Add a fifth high school
- Work on the premise of no portables
- For all new/replacement schools, build vertically with one floor shell and core for future expansion
- Centralize preschools in leased Redmond Town Center space

V: Developing future facilities proposal, Part 3

After the large group discussion, the committee split again into new small groups, dividing evenly so there would be representation of the previous small groups in each new group. These new groups focused on developing a combined proposal for one of the four facility categories (HS, MS, ES, Other) using the proposals presented from the first round of discussion.

VI: Developing future facilities proposal, Part 4

After small group discussions, the committee again regrouped and gathered at the sticky wall to observe and discuss recommendations.

Elementary School

- Juanita
 - Move preschool and programs if needed to reduce adding portables
- Lake Washington
 - Add one new elementary school (assumes continued portable use)
- Redmond
 - New small elementary school on Redmond ES site
 - o Enlarge Rockwell ES and reboundary Education Hill
- Eastlake
 - Replace Alcott ES and Smith ES (large capacity)
 - Reboundary Alcott ES with Dickinson ES

Middle School

- Juanita
 - o Kamiakin MS site could accommodate additional use, maybe a choice school?
 - Rebuild/enlarge Kamiakin MS to 900 student capacity better utilize the space and address aging facility
 - Reboundary Finn Hill MS to Kamiakin MS
- Lake Washington
 - Expand Kirkland MS to 800 students to address growth
 - Redraw boundaries so some students from Rose Hill MS can move to Kirkland MS (after Kirkland MS rebuild - unsure of what kind of addition to recommend)
 - Possibility to move Stella Schola to Kamiakin site to give Rose Hill more capacity?
- Redmond
 - o Reboundary some of Redmond MS to Evergreen MS
- Eastlake
 - o Rebuild Evergreen MS to address aging facility
 - o Re-feed Blackwell ES students to Evergreen MS

High School

- Solve the overcrowding at Lake Washington HS and Redmond HS collectively. Build one new HS.
 - No current need in Juanita or Eastlake
- Reconsider our definition of a comprehensive high school. Consider an urban school model.
 - This urban school could be like a large choice school focus on arts, Science, technology, engineering, math (STEM), etc.
- Consider small additions at Eastlake and Redmond
- Acquire and repurpose some property on Marymoor Village site to build a school that uses park lands and community space.

Other Facility Needs

- Designated preschool campuses in 2 to 4 learning communities
- Reduce reliance on portables (relocate, reduce overall number)
- Partnership with cities for Major Efforts
- Combined effort with City for Facilities
- Group approach King County about building outside of the GMA area
- Consider swapping land
- Refurbish Juanita Field House and Pool and partner for new sports fields
- Expand more creative options so kids are LWSD students but on campus less. (Business partnerships, more home school program, company sponsored programs, half-day Kindergarten)
- Add choice school at available site, such as Rose Hill ES, Kamiakin MS, or Evergreen MS

Other notes

 Seeing a locked-in paradigm of choice vs. regular school binary – other programs/options to consider?

- There is no current program for half-day kindergarten is this something the community would want? (State requires All Day Kindergarten)
- There needs to be additional space for staff, too. Maybe partnering with cities for space?
- Keep in mind that choice schools work on a lottery system; they're not assigned by boundary

After the discussion, Penny asked for two to three volunteers to help write up the final recommendations. Three people volunteered to do so and will connect with Penny via email to get started (Martha Daman, An Tran and Tracy Boucher).

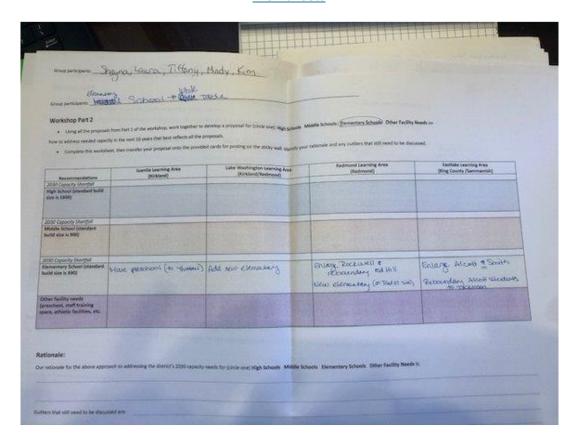
VII: Next steps

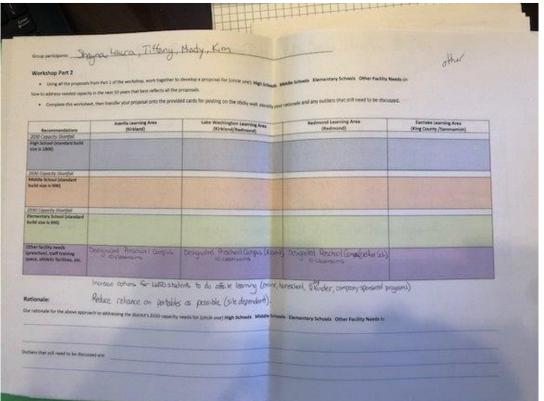
Next meeting originally scheduled for March 12 at Kamiakin Middle School. Due to school closures, the meeting was rescheduled to April 2 via Zoom.

ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- > Share data from Eastside Economic Outlook Summit with FAC
- > Compile notes from group exercise into cohesive summary
- > District will put together a rough cost estimate based on the discussed recommendations to be used in discussion at April workshop

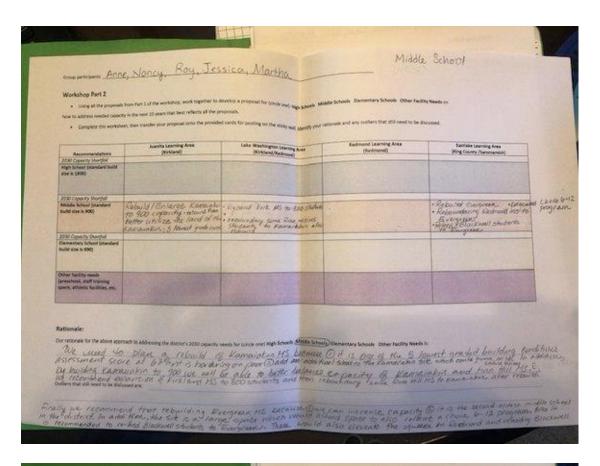
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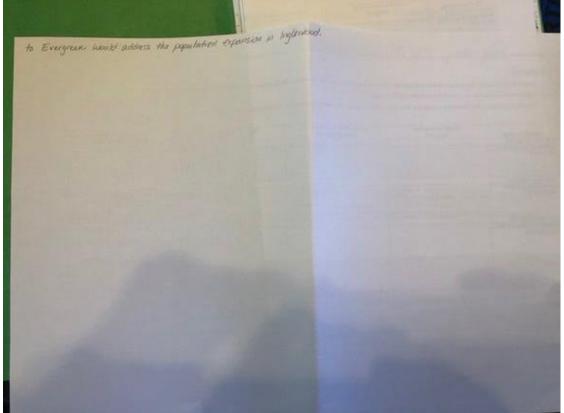




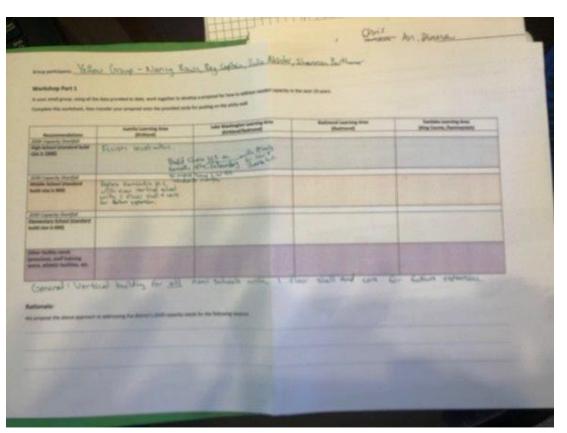
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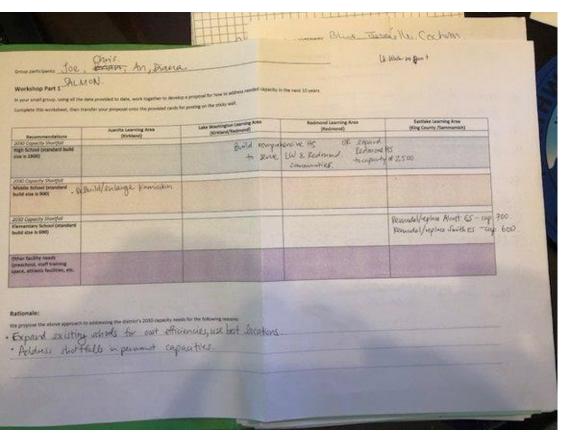
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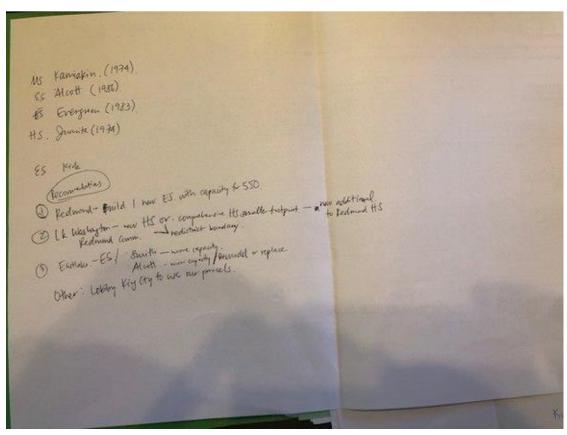


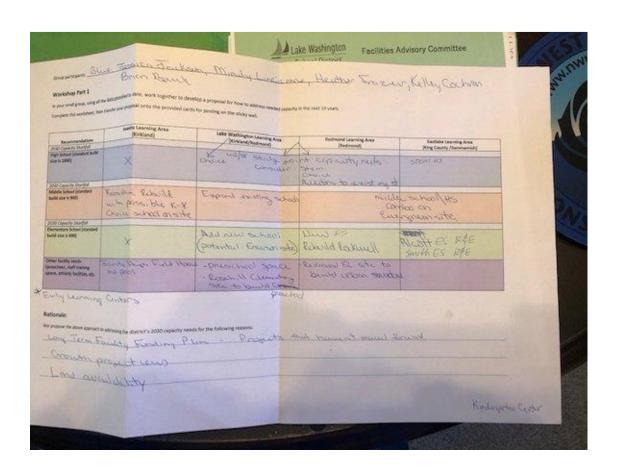


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