

MEETING MINUTES

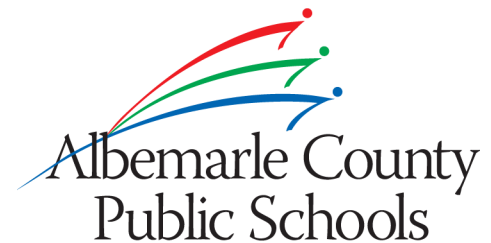
Date: 9/28/21

Time Scheduled: 6 pm – 8 pm

Time Started: 6 pm

Time Ended: 7:53 pm

Location: Zoom



In Attendance:

Committee Members

- ☒ Rich Anderson
- ☒ Lauren Carter
- ☒ Cathryn Davis
- ☒ Rupesh Silwal
- ☒ Andrew Joyner
- ☒ Christine Koenig
- ☒ Jennifer Roper
- ☐ Jojo O'Loughlin

Long Range Planning Advisory Committee Representative

- ☒ Jerrod Smith

Equity and Diversity Committee Representative

- ☒ Scott Guggenheimer

ACPS Support Staff

- ☒ Patrick McLaughlin
 - ☒ Renee DeVall
 - ☒ Maya Kumazawa
 - ☒ Michele Castner
 - ☐ Phil Giaramita
 - ☒ Lauren Hunt
 - ☒ Stephanie Bowles Hall
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Purpose: The purpose of this study is to address current and projected overcrowding at Brownsville Elementary. The proposed scope of the study will involve Brownsville and Crozet Elementary Schools only. The Committee's charge will be to work in cooperation with staff to analyze relevant data and redistricting options to present to the superintendent. At that point, the superintendent will make a recommendation to the school board, complete with supporting documents, including all options provided by the Committee.

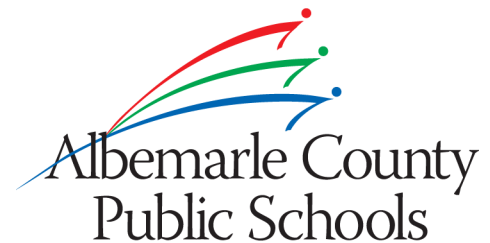
As part of its process, the Committee will schedule at least one public meeting to provide an opportunity for citizens to be informed of proposed changes and react to the proposals.

Agenda Summary: Introduction of the Committee and discussion on the way forward. Slideshow presentation providing overview of the entire process and information needed to guide the Committee in coming up with a recommendation for the school boards review.

Facilitators: Patrick McLaughlin

Note Taker: Stephanie Bowles Hall

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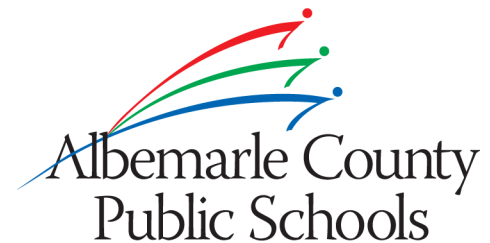
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Discussion:

- Dr. Patrick McLaughlin opened the meeting with introductions and welcomed Dr. Mathew Haas.
- Dr. Haas introduced and thanked members for their commitment to ACPS and for serving on the Redistricting Advisory Committee.
- Patrick McLaughlin began the slides going over the ACPS vision, mission, values, goals and closing with the guiding principles. The Committee's guiding principles are as follows:
 - Attendance areas will serve the district for at least 3-5 years with a goal of 5-7 years
 - Attendance areas will be largely contiguous
 - Walk areas for each school will be considered
 - Transportation routes will be as efficient as possible, giving consideration to minimizing ride times within acceptable parameters
 - Neighborhoods will be assigned to the same school whenever possible
 - Greater demographic balance amongst impacted schools will be strived for where feasible
 - Grandfathering existing students will be considered by the Board on a study by study basis.
- Patrick McLaughlin explained the importance of incorporating the Guiding Principles into the decision-making process. The Redistricting Advisory Committee process was reviewed along with the scheduled timeline. To follow along with our process, we have made available the Webpage, Livestream to Our Meetings and Email for the Committee. The Committee members will be able to review available documents in the committee share drive to include: Study Scope, Committee Membership, Meeting Schedule, School Board Policy FB: Facility Planning, Capacity vs. Enrollment, Slide Decks, Current Boundary Maps and Planned Developments. Background information on previous redistricting in fall of 2007 and fall 2009 was provided. The projected deficit for Brownsville and Crozet were discussed along with the scope of what Crozet's current renovation, addition and site improvement will provide in time for the 2022/23 school year.
- Maya Kumazawa went over capacity and enrollment providing a to date combined overview from 2019-2021. The discussion continued with the current building capacity at Brownsville at 756 and Crozet post-expansion at 668.
- Patrick McLaughlin introduced Renee Devall and her experience in transportation, routing and previous redistricting committee inclusion.
- Renee Devall added that the focus would be boarder neighborhoods.
- Patrick McLaughlin reviewed the neighborhood information outlining the current boundaries. For Crozet we have N of 240 and N of Railroad Ave, Lanetown Way & Orchard, Hill Top and Park, Sneads & Claudius, Westhall and Highlands. For Brownsville we have Grayrock, Waylands Grant & Bargamin, S of Rt 250 Batesville, N of Rt 250 Newtown, Old Trail, Rt 240 between Crozet and Rt 250/Miller School Road, Rt 250 E of Miller School and Western Ridge/Wickham Pond. The enrollment history of each given neighborhood was provided.

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The discussion was opened for questions:

Rupesh Silwal: Why are we seeing enrollment numbers dipping in the last two years?

Patrick McLaughlin: Went over historical neighborhood growth and COVID being assumed factors.

- Maya Kumazawa led into planned developments, reviewing a map of the planned developments with the estimate of potential student yield. Patrick McLaughlin discussed with Maya the phase guide provided for the projections (Legislative Review, Approved Legislation, Site Design Review, Under Construction and Current Elementary School District Boundaries).

Jerrod Smith: Do the projections include townhome vs single family on the map?

Maya Kumazawa: The Committee's share drive includes a google sheet with data that includes the type of housing in the planned development.

Lauren Carter: Is there a way to get the current enrollment distribution per grade?

Maya Kumazawa: Data will be dropped in the share. It was presented to the board and will be made available to the group.

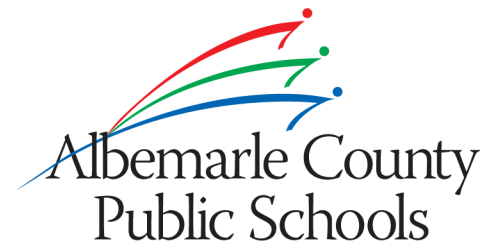
Rich Anderson: There is a decline in elementary school kids in older neighborhoods excluding the pandemic year. Why are they declining?

Renee Devall: It is a common trend. The numbers for elementary schools increase when the neighborhoods are new but steadily decline.

Break for 10 minutes: Post break Patrick McLaughlin wants us to think about what target number for enrollment are we shooting for at each school. Consider continued growth in the area so the process will not need to be repeated in the next three years.

- Patrick McLaughlin opened the floor to members of the Committee for their ideas on developing scenarios for our next meeting, what target should we set for the number of students to move from Brownsville to Crozet?
- Andrew Joyner stated that understanding neighborhoods should be kept together, we might not want to take off the table the idea of breaking off some sections of Old Trail due to its size and projected growth.
- Patrick McLaughlin added to consider moving more to Crozet to make room for them, and eventually there could be a third school to accommodate the growing population.
- Rupesh Silwal after reviewing the projected enrollment slide suggested we move 200-250 to Crozet.
- Rich Anderson agreed but cautioned splitting Old Trail given its vicinity to Brownsville.
- Rupesh Silwal suggested the Committee take a look at transportation routes.
- Renee Devall agreed and advised that distance of bus routes is a factor in routing.
- Christine Koenig cautioned that Crozet Ave has pending construction cited info for routing purposes.

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- Cathryn Davis and Scott Guggenheimer requested that we truly take a look at demographics of the neighborhoods for equity.
- Patrick McLaughlin included that when we move to discussing the scenarios that equity and diversity would be highlighted in the discussion.
- Andrew Joyner inquired that given busing and the pandemic, how capable is Crozet to handle the flow of traffic on Crozet Ave?
- Renee Devall advised that the new pattern at the school moves the buses away from parent pick-up. In addition, it would only take two more buses to accommodate the projected growth. She suggested that we come up with two or three sets of numbers and consider space for PK and SPED.
- Michele Castner agreed that without balance and inclusion of space for those numbers we would quickly fill all auxiliary space.
- Rich Anderson recommended we start with 200 and begin with areas like Grayrock, Waylands Grant & Bargamin and Western Ridge/Wickham Pond. Cathryn added that we might consider moving some Crozet to Brownsville for demographics.
- Renee Devall noted that if we do that we are at risk of creating little islands.
- Andrew Joyner asked how staffing would go into play as far as moving teachers to Crozet.
- Maya Kumazawa advises that staffing standards are always reviewed annually but that staff would not be automatically transferred from one school to another. Staffing is done by the principals.
- Michele Castner added that it would not be forced but volunteered and worked out between the principals of the schools.
- Rupesh Silwal would like to review prior districting documents that are available on the Committee drive.
- Renee Devall let the Committee know that there is no official walk zone for either Crozet or Brownsville for elementary school kids.
- Patrick McLaughlin will work on getting any outstanding questions answered and building out some scenarios prior to the October Meeting.