

Tomball Independent School District

Student Growth and New Facilities Subcommittee

November 1, 2012

Minutes

Chairperson Sue Anne Wake called the meeting to order promptly at 6:30 pm. There were nineteen members present. The agenda was reviewed and introductions were made. The chairperson reviewed the parameters of the meetings:

- Start and end on time
- Members wishing to add agenda items should email them to the chairperson ahead of time to txmom85@gmail.com
- Minutes of the prior meeting and the agenda for the next meeting will be sent out beforehand
- Decisions will be made by consensus
- Members should keep an open mind, respect other's opinions and listen
- If it is not possible to answer questions at the meeting, the information will be obtained and they will be answered at the following meeting

Members were asked to provide suggestions and express concerns. None were indicated

The chairperson reviewed the definitions of capacity versus enrollment:

- Maximum enrollment is the largest number of students the school board wants to see at that campus (i.e. an elementary with 900 students)
- Core capacity is the set number of students that common areas will support. Common or core areas are the library, the cafeteria, hallways, etc.
- Operational capacity is less than the core capacity and depends on the types of programs in a building (i.e. a room assigned to a smaller special ed class rather than a regular sized class)

Mrs. Wake introduced David Schuelke, Assistant Superintendent of Ancillary Services.

Presentation to Committee

Mr. Schuelke presented a PowerPoint entitled "District Wide Needs Assessment Study—New Instructional Facilities." Each member received a copy of the presentation. Mr. Schuelke reviewed the enrollment projections. Three elementary schools will be out of capacity by 2015/16: Canyon Pointe, Willow Creek, and Creekside Forest. He also stated the intermediate enrollments at Northpointe and Creekside Forest would exceed capacity in 2014/15. Tomball Junior High will exceed capacity in 2015/16. Although Willow Wood Junior High and Rosehill Elementary will exceed capacity in 2020/21 and 2021/22, those projections are beyond the five year parameter of the study as directed by the school board.

A question was asked in regard to how the district estimates the number of students a school will have. Mr. Schuelke explained his department worked with the builders to determine the number of households and how many students each household would yield.

The proposed buildings are:

1. New Elementary K-4 in the southern part of the district to relieve Canyon Pointe, Willow Creek and Lakewood.
2. New Elementary K-5 in the northeastern part of the district (Creekside area) to relieve Creekside Forest and Timber Creek.
3. New Intermediate 5-6 in the southern part of the district to relieve Northpointe.
4. New Junior High 6-8 in the northeastern part of the district to relieve Tomball Junior High.

Mr. Schuelke explained that it takes approximately 18 months to build an elementary campus and about 2 years to build a junior high. He showed the committee members the two sites in the Woodlands that are owned by Tomball ISD in the Creekside area off of Kuykendahl Rd. These two sites would be designated for the new elementary and the new junior high proposed for that area. He also indicated the sites for the new elementary and intermediate schools in the southern part of the area near Tomball Memorial and Canyon Pointe.

A question was posed about the effect of the Grand Parkway on our district's growth. Mr. Schuelke responded that the project will impact growth but it would probably not come for about four years. When asked about the time table, he responded that the project has two exit ramps proposed at FM249 and Telge Road, but would not affect us for about five to six years.

Gary Hutton, Director of Construction for Tomball ISD, reviewed the movement of portable buildings to various campuses: two to Canyon Pointe, two to Creekside Forest and two to Northpointe. He reviewed the project budgets and target dates for opening the proposed campuses:

1. K-5 Elementary in the Woodlands—Cost of \$21,090,349, opening fall of 2015/16 school year
2. 5-6 Intermediate in the south—Cost of 21,090,349, opening fall of 2015/16 school year
3. 6-8 Junior High in the Woodlands—Cost of \$45,214,765, opening fall of 2016/17 school year
4. K-4 Elementary in the south—cost of \$22,461,222, opening fall of 2016/17 school year

Mr. Hutton pointed out that cost savings can be achieved by modifying the building models that the district has used at Creekside Forest and Timber Creek.

A question was asked about whether the new intermediate and elementary down south was embedded in a subdivision. Mr. Hutton explained the subdivision eventually would wrap around the two schools as it built out.

Mr. Schuelke discussed the need for renovations to be made to the band halls at Timber Creek and Creekside Forest in order to make them into classrooms when the grade configuration is changed to K-5. He indicated the recommendation from this subcommittee needed to go the Additions/ Remodeling Committee.

Discussion/Questions and Answers

A member indicated a concern about the size of the sixth grade class at Creekside and Timber Creek before 2015/16 and a suggestion that the elementary open earlier to deal with the capacity issue.

A question was asked about rezoning and the new elementary in the Woodlands. Mr. Schuelke indicated rezoning will occur between the new elementary school and Timber Creek and a Rezoning committee will be formed to address that issue, as is the district practice, before the new school opens. It is the preference of the district not to rezone between Creekside and Timber Creek.

A question was asked if the district planned to use portables to handle the crowding at Creekside and Mr. Schuelke answered in the affirmative.

A member of the committee questioned if the 6-7-8 model for the Woodlands junior high included separation of the grades in the design. It was indicated the grades could have separation.

The question was asked how the district makes a determination of which school is built first. Mr. Schuelke responded he looked at the capacity.

A question was posed in regard to what was lost (playground space, etc.) when portables were brought onto a campus. Mr. Schuelke indicated he could show the group a schematic of proposed locations.

Review of Charge and Proposals

Chairperson Sue Anne Wake indicated the subcommittee must reach consensus on the need to build the schools proposed. All agreed. She indicated one of the parameters set by the Board of Trustees was the span of five years to determine building needs. It was agreed the situations for Rosehill Elementary and Willow Wood Junior High were outside of the parameter set and would not be considered.

The subcommittee reached consensus on meeting the needs at the secondary level by proposing the building of a 6-7-8 junior high in the Woodlands area on the district owned site indicated.

The subcommittee reached consensus on meeting the needs at the intermediate level by proposing the building of a 5-6 school on the district owned site on Shaw Road.

The subcommittee reached consensus on meeting the needs at the elementary level by proposing the building of a) one K-4 elementary on district owned land in the southern part of the district and b) one K-5 elementary on district owned land in the Woodlands area.

Future Meeting Needs

Based on the concerns and questions asked, Chairperson Sue Anne Wake reviewed the items the subcommittee is requesting of Mr. Schuelke:

- Construction schedules
- Feeder maps

- List of special population programs on each campus
- Capacity chart for each school
- Placement schematic of portables

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Next Meeting is Thursday, November 8, at 6:30 pm, at the Technology Staff Development Center.