2022 District Zone Committee Meeting April 25, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Steven Gutierrez, Chief Operating Officer, at 10:02 A.M. in the Tomball ISD Boardroom. He welcomed the committee members and members of the public and introduced Dr. Martha Salazar Zamora, Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Salazar-Zamora also welcomed attendees. Dr. Salazar-Zamora discussed the spirit of Tomball and how although we may not agree, we still treat everyone with respect and kindness and knows this important topic will be no different. She reviewed the process and reminded the committee that they will make a recommendation on a plan and if it aligns with the administration's recommendations, no further action or Board approval is required. If the plans do not align, the Board will take action and vote for the plan they feel is in the best interest of the District.

Dr. Gutierrez provided an overview of the first meeting, which provided context for the growth in the district, particularly in The Woodlands. He stated the goal of the meeting today would be to address the specific charge to the committee to reduce enrollment at Creekview Elementary and explained work would be done initially in small groups leading to the development of a committee recommendation. By the end of the next meeting, the committee will be voting on a committee recommended plan.

Rocky Gardiner of Zonda Education joined the meeting by Zoom. Rocky gave information about several of the plans discussed last week, which the committee will analyze to develop a recommendation. Mr. Gardiner shared the district housing overview. He explained that the enrollment projections for an area under boundary consideration are reviewed and updated more frequently than the standard twice per year. The projections for the area currently under review are up to date.

Rocky shared maps of relevant subdivisions being actively monitored for development. These include Fairway Farms, Enclave at Woodlands, and Lakes at Creekside. He gave detailed information about the number of lots, homes under construction and projected numbers of elementary students each neighborhood will yield for the next five years.

The committee subdivided into four groups to further review and analyze the projections of neighborhood elementary enrollments to begin development of a rezoning plan.

Each group selected a spokesperson to share their ideas with the committee.

Group 1 shared their idea of zoning the Enclave to CFES; however, they realized that would have no impact on the relief for CES. They discussed several options that would have meant rezoning some neighborhoods two times when the new elementary school is built in a few years.

Group 2 reviewed student counts in several neighborhoods not currently under consideration for rezoning and the bus options for those crossing Kuykendahl Rd. In looking at possible options, they felt Plan "A" was the optimal plan for reducing CES enrollment and was their recommendation for rezoning. A parent shared their family was rezoned recently to a new school despite being a mile away and with the ability to walk/bike but love their new school community. All three schools are great schools.

Group 3 recommended removing Plans "A" and "B" from consideration because both plans require students to cross Kuykendahl Rd. The group developed a hybrid plan by pulling the three neighborhoods already in discussion as being rezoned to Creekside Forest Elementary (Canoe Bend, Lake Voyageur, and Shaded Arbor) and adding the Carlton Woods and Enclave subdivisions. This move would pull more students from Timber Creek into Creekside Forest which, the group theorized, would allow more students from Creekview to be moved into Timber Creek. With this in mind, the group also recommended tweaking Plan B by incorporating the additional neighborhood of Saddlebrook in with the existing neighborhoods designated in Plan B to be rezoned from Creekview to Timber Creek (Fairway Farms and other areas on the western-most side of the current Creekview zone).

Group 4 mostly had a data-driven discussion and were aligned with Group 3 in their recommended new plan.

Dr. Gutierrez thanked the small groups for their work today. He also expressed appreciation for the attendance of representatives from The Woodlands Township and Howard Hughes Corporation.

Based on discussion from the previous meeting and on enrollment targets for each campus, Dr. Gutierrez presented the committee with five maps and forecast numbers for consideration. Plans 1A, 1B and 2 are plans previously considered at the last meeting. 1A is Plan A; 1B is the "Starter Map" plan; and Plan 2 is Plan B. Plans 3 and 4 are new plans. Rocky Gardiner explained the updated forecasted numbers for each plan. Dr. Gutierrez also noted that in addition to the updated enrollment numbers to the projections, the numbers in these current plans are inclusive of all student enrollment—zoned students, staff students and Limited Open Enrollment (LOE) students. Plans and enrollment numbers shown during previous presentations had LOE students manually subtracted from Rocky's provided totals.

Dr. Gutierrez asked the committee to review the five maps and forecasts this week and be ready to discuss the benefits and issues of each one at the next meeting. Given the committee charge of providing enrollment relief to Creekview Elementary, next week the committee will make a final recommendation of one of these plans or something different.

The next meeting of the committee will be Monday, May 2, at 10 am in the TISD Board Room. Dr. Gutierrez adjourned the meeting at noon.