

Minutes
Special Board of Education Meeting
Of the
O'Fallon Community Consolidated School District 90
Board of Education
Monday, December 5, 2016
Fulton Jr. High
307 Kyle Road
5:30 P.M. Executive Session
6:00 P.M. Open Session

Call to Order/Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

Board members in attendance: Wagnon, Huller, Basket, Roach, Drury Lloyd

Board members absent: Todd Roach

Others in attendance (per sign in form): See attached list, Carrie Hruby and Lynn Biehl

Huller made a Motion to Enter into Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Issues Relative to Litigation, according to Section 2, subsection (c) (11) of the 5 ILCS 120/2 from Ch. 102, par. 41. Springer seconded the motion. All Board members present approved at 5:32 p.m.

Todd Roach joined the Executive Session at 5:36 p.m.

The meeting reconvened in Open Session at 6:05 p.m.

Boundaries Discussion--Details Regarding Options A, B3 and C

Superintendent Hruby presented information on each option. Option A has a 5th grade center; B3 is a redraw of boundaries; C1, C2 & C3 all have a preschool center. Within each option there are areas that can be tweaked. All of these scenarios use the current enrollment figures and the same staff. Option C is shown with several different scenarios as C1, C2, and C3 using different schools as the preschool center. Superintendent Hruby stated the Boundaries Committee would like the Board to narrow the list of their priorities for choosing the best option. She shared the list that had been compiled several months ago by the Board input and asked for the top priorities.

Superintendent Hruby stated there are currently 50 students being transferred and that number will likely increase in the next several years as new subdivisions are built in the north side of the district.

Because there are still quite a few options under consideration the Boundaries Committee doesn't have specific details of the cost of each plan, but stated that from the beginning of their review they only considered options that were affordable (and didn't have a significant financial impact).

Superintendent Hruby explained that the district began its review of the boundaries because Schaefer was at capacity and encompasses the areas of residential growth. Since the committee was reviewing boundaries, they also looked into the need to balance Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) since local dollars cannot be used for areas covered with Title I funds elsewhere (Federal supplement vs supplant rules).

The Board narrowed their list of priorities to: reduce transfers, add sections to each grade at each school, and optimize FRL.

The Board decided these priorities eliminate Option B due to increased population at Evans and not providing much difference in where the District is today, and Option C2 due to Evans being at capacity and not helping to balance FRL.

Superintendent Hruby will seek more information from the city regarding area developments. The Boundaries Committee will work on getting more information about the number of class sections for Options A, C1 and C3 and will prepare a list of pros and cons for each option.

Public Comment

Heather Dye - She pulled census data and ball-parked growth at about 5 - 10% on West side of town. She stated that Moye is the District's biggest school and is at the wrong end of town.

Alicia Tosspon - She has a hard time understanding why the Board is keeping Option A on the table. She thinks the District just needs to redraw the boundaries (Option B). Where are all the Schaefer teachers going to go? She stated that she uses whole brain teaching and that she would not fit at an open concept school.

Forey Wells - He stated that focusing on transfers and FRL are the things we can't control. He does not see how Option A increases the number of class sections. It seems to him like the District would have to add teachers with Option A. Having 50 transfers out of 2,200 K-5 students does not seem like not enough transfers to make the District go through this process. You can't control the where Free and Reduced Lunch students move.

Ray Roskos - He came here frustrated with this process and is even more frustrated now. The Board has managed to pit schools against each other and neighborhoods against neighborhoods and didn't even have the data to do so. He stated that Evans was attacked at the October Board meeting and a Board member met with a neighborhood afterwards. What is the cost of bus routes in C1? The Board has not been given enough data to make a decision. If the District has a preschool center, what will happen if more space is needed for K-5 down the road?

Jason Boone - He is an Evans parent. He thanked the Board members for their time working on this. The Board has brought out school pride. People are proud of their schools. We forget sometimes that we are all O'Fallon District 90. There is value in balancing the number of Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) students at each school. There is value in economic diversity. If we can get closer to balanced free and reduced - all the students benefit. He gets that people don't want to lose their school, but all the schools in O'Fallon District 90 are equally great.

Tim Becker - What is a P.E. waiver? Who funds Title 1 - it is federal or state? Can we ask the State for additional funds?

Jason Slack - What is the percentage of FRL the schools have to be within to make sure all schools get Title 1? Was it necessary to have a preschool? Could we just eliminate it? The Board is taking options off the table without all the data. It is premature to take any options off the table. He believes the Board should reconsider Option B and manipulate it based on the % FRL needed.

Megan Slack - She has children in 4th and 5th grade in our District. All the options will require money. She believes the District will have to hire another nurse in Option C3. She doesn't see any of the options with a preschool center working. She hates Option A because having a preschool and 5th grade school is not a good decision. She also hates all of the C options. Option B looks like the best option to her.

Kalya Boyd - Now that the goals of the Board have been defined maybe the other Option B's should be revisited.

Drury made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Huller seconded the motion. All Board members approved at 8:43 p.m.



John Wagnon, President



Mary Baskett, Secretary