

**MINUTES OF THE ELEMENTARY ENROLLMENT / ATTENDANCE
AREAS COMMITTEE
November 4, 2024**



Call to Order: 5:04 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Jake Dixon – Zone 1 Parent
Eryn Kelsey – Zone 3 Parent
Lauren Dalton – Zone 3 Parent
Jennifer Lloyd – Zone 5 Parent
Cody Perry – Teacher (absent)
Angela Stevens – Administrator
AJ Watson – Director

Holli Haws – Zone 2 Parent
Jennifer Warner – Zone 3 Parent
Emily Astin – Zone 4 Parent - absent
Tara Dayley – Teacher
Nick Muckerman – Administrator
Troy Johnson – Administrator
Jackie Reader – ArcGIS Specialist

Committee Purpose

- Address Decline in District-Wide Enrollment
- Maximize Use of District Resources
- Develop Recommendations/Options to Provide to School Board for Elementary Enrollment Areas

Mr. Watson welcomed the committee and stated they would be looking at items included in the packet. He stated they will also talk about closing Washington and leave time for questions.

Committee Goals

- *Optimizing Capacity-* balance populations make best use of available space
- *Equitable Access-* fair access to educational programs and facilities
- *Minimize Disruptions-* for learners and families
- *Maintain Efficiency-* travel time and middle school feeders
- *Future Needs and Considerations-* planning for future changes and needs

Mr. Watson reminded the committee of what the goals are.

Updated Information and Data

- Growth and Development Information

Mr. Watson stated in the packet was information from City of Chubbuck that showed growth areas and a map. The City of Chubbuck asked Mr. Watson to caution the committee as some of these that have been approved could be a long time down the road and could be slow to develop.

Mr. Watson updated the building capacity handout and added the preferred staffing based on grade levels and teachers. He said he also added the optimal capacity by number and percentage. He said this will give a visual while looking at the information on ArcGIS. Mr. Watson stated that we do not want buildings over 80% but closer to 70% would be a good capacity at a school.

Mr. Watson said they will show a framework to close Washington Elementary. Ms. Lloyd said last week the committee talked about closing Tendoy Elementary and keeping Washington Elementary open, she said she feels Tendoy Elementary could stay open as a temporary school for Washington Elementary learners so that they could do construction to fix it. Ms. Reader showed on ArcGIS what it would look like geographically if we closed Washington Elementary. Ms. Reader said after make changes to the boundaries and taking Wahsington Elementary out there were no changes to Chubbuck Elementary, Tyhee Elementary and Wilcox Elementary. Mr. Watson said there were some discrepancies between the numbers in Infinite Campus and what is in ArcGIS and

technology is working on getting this fixed. Ms. Reader said the proposed changes and impact to enrollment would be as follows:

Chubbuck Elementary 319, Edahow Elementary 279, Ellis Elementary 389, Gate City Elementary 305, Greenacres Elementary 305, Indian Hills Elementary 445, Jefferson Elementary 590, Lewis & Clark Elementary 501, Syringa Elementary 423, Tendoy Elementary 312, Tyhee Elementary 456, and Wilcox Elementary 440. Mr. Watson said as you start shifting boundaries and they noticed some of the streets were right across the street from the school. Mr. Watson said as they were shifting boundaries to close Washington Elementary students were pushed to Indian Hills Elementary, Greenacres Elementary and Tendoy Elementary. He said they also shifted some of Indian Hills Elementary into Jefferson Elementary and some of Tendoy Elementary into Edahow Elementary. Mr. Watson said most schools are impacted with a shift of boundaries. Mr. Watson asked if the committee wanted to start looking at each school boundary one by one or if there was another idea. Ms. Dayley said she would like to start with looking at Jefferson Elementary boundaries since they are overloaded with the proposed changes. Mr. Johnson said the hard part with Jefferson Elementary is the way the streets are and neighborhoods and there is not a lot to shift since they are on the south side of town. Ms. Stevens said Greenacres Elementary would be the new Washington Elementary and then you have to shift students up. She asked if they could take Trail Creek Road and shift some of it to Wilcox Elementary? Ms. Reader said there were only 13 students in that area if we shifted it. Ms. Dayley asked if we could take Foothill Blvd down out of the trailer park to Jefferson Elementary. Ms. Reader took Oakwood Dr and said there were 39 students in that area to be shifted. She said if we shifted from Ravine Dr it would be 87 students total. Mr. Watson said we could use the Portneuf River as a boundary line along Ravine and W. Trail Creek Rd. Ms. Stevens said we also need to some students out of Wilcox Elementary as this shift will make the school way over capacity. Mr. Watson said looking at Lewis & Clark Elementary the boundary line could be at the railroad but there were not very many learners. Ms. Dayley asked if we could take more out of Lewis & Clark Elementary and shift them into Wilcox Elementary and Ms. Reader stated that would be around 54 students. Ms. Stevens said if we take any by Alameda Middle School it is really close to Lewis & Clark Elementary and would not make sense as they are within walking distance. Ms. Kelsey asked if there was a natural boundary that is off of Edahow to shift all boundaries down instead of shifting up. She said she would like to shift some from Greenacres Elementary down to Indian Hills Elementary as they have the capacity to take on more students. Ms. Reader stated it would be 76 students. Ms. Stevens said if we are doing these changes and shifting students into Indian Hills Elementary and Jefferson Elementary there will be no room for those kids to go if they are overloaded. Mr. Watson said they could definitely take some of those students. Ms. Dalton stated she would like to go from Carter Street down S. 5th and shift them out of Greenacres Elementary into Indian Hills Elementary. Ms. Reader said that would be 79 students. Ms. Reader made these proposed changes. Ms. Dayley asked if they could take N. 12th Ave down to the natural boundary it will shift 89 students from Lewis & Clark Elementary and put them into Greenacres Elementary. Ms. Stevens said if we make all these moves there will not be much diversity in Greenacres Elementary. Ms. Reader made these proposed changes. Ms. Dayley asked to shift along Foothill Blvd and down Ravine Dr., Ms. Reader made this proposed change which is 54 students. Ms. Dayley asked if they could take Gould overpass by N Main Ext and Ms. Dayley asked if this would be a transportation issue. Mr. Watson said he would need to speak with transportation about all the proposed changes so they can tell us if bussing is doable. Mr. Johnson said if you go down Trail Creek to Ravine Dr. it splits the neighborhood into two schools. Ms. Reader said if you take all the students from Jefferson Elementary boundaries to the river it is 119 students. Ms. Stevens said it might make more sense to take those students to Lewis & Clark Elementary and shift their boundaries. Ms. Kelsey asked if you could shift Maple Street to Yellowstone of Lewis & Clark Elementary but there are no students in that area. Ms. Stevens asked where Lewis & Clark Elementary with capacity is with all the new proposed changes and Ms. Reader said 411 students. Ms. Stevens asked about the new boundary to Tendoy Elementary and wanted to shift it back to Lewis & Clark Elementary to not impact as many students. Ms. Reader said there are 9 students so the committee decided to shift it back. Ms. Haws asked if we took Ammon St and shift them out of Tendoy Elementary. Ms. Reader said there are 12 students in that area. The committee proposed to move this boundary into Greenacres Elementary. Mr. Dixon said we are getting close to the numbers and capacities that we need to be with closing Washington Elementary down. He asked if the committee (Mr. Watson, Ms. Stevens, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Muckerman and Ms. Reader) could work on these throughout the week and bring it back to the committee to look at next week? Mr. Watson stated that is what they would plan to do. Ms. Haws said if we are aiming toward one goal over the

other we just need to complete Washington Elementary. Mr. Watson said we talked about also having an option of not closing schools and Ms. Lloyd said she did not feel that would address any of the issues. Ms. Lloyd said based on the money needed to put into the schools, it would be best to eliminate a school. Mr. Dixon said for next week he would like to get the total numbers impacted by all the boundary changes. Ms. Reader and Mr. Watson to work on these and bring back to the committee. Ms. Lloyd asked if they could get a print out of the proposed maps for next week as well. Mr. Watson asked if the committee was looking at one over the other or looking at both? Ms. Dayley said she did not feel the committee did enough work on Tendoy Elementary to make a decision. Ms. Dayley said Washington Elementary is bigger and south and feels that is something to take into consideration. Mr. Johnson said the benefits of Washington Elementary is the location. Ms. Lloyd said she feels because of location it is the better one to leave open. Ms. Lloyd asked if the district has the money to fix Washington Elementary if Tendoy Elementary was closed. Mr. Watson said he cannot make the decision and he could bring Mr. Balls to the next meeting to give them information if the committee needed that. Ms. Lloyd asked if the district would build a new school if the committee decided that and Mr. Watson explained there has to be a bond passed with the public. Mr. Muckerman said the last bond was not passed for Highland High School and Century High School. Ms. Dayley said you cannot justify building a new school when schools are at 50% capacity. Ms. Warren asked if Washington Elementary is in the Historical Society and Mr. Watson said he was not aware of that but he will look into it. Ms. Warren said she doesn't feel we should keep Washington Elementary open over Tendoy Elementary because of the condition it is in. She said she feels there are options for parking at Tendoy Elementary. Ms. Dayley asked what maintenance would say about these buildings and Mr. Watson said they would say to close Washington Elementary. Mr. Dixon asked if by next week could Mr. Watson and the team could flush out the rest of Tendoy Elementary. Ms. Lloyd asked if the committee could get rid of Washington Elementary and still function with elementary schools and Ms. Haws said we just showed that today with all the boundary shifts. Ms. Warren said she feels maybe we are wasting out time looking at closing Tendoy Elementary.

Mr. Watson said he will meet with Ms. Reader and the principals on the committee and they will try and put information together with closing Tendoy Elementary as an option and start to narrow everything else down with closing Washington Elementary to get closer with numbers.

Mr. Dixon said there is a political side to this but if there is a transition/transfer period for those already in those schools to be able to attend where they are now. Ms. Kesley asked if the committee had to have recommendations within the next week for the Board Meeting because she didn't feel the plans are very clear. Ms. Warren said options are good but, in her opinion, she would like to talk just about closing Washington Elementary. Ms. Kelsey asked if the committee could get information on the middle school feeders.

Ms. Stevens asked if the committee could vote on closing Tendoy Elementary or closing Washington Elementary
Vote: Close Tendoy: 0 members voted
Close Washington: 10 members voted

Mr. Watson stated Ms. Reader the principals will only work on fine-tuning the closure of Washington Elementary and what the numbers will be at each school.

Enrollment Areas Collaboration and Committee Work

- Committee Discussion, Collaboration and Input- ArcGIS (Geographic Information System)

Discussion/Questions/Resources

- Resources and Information for Next Meeting

Meeting Adjourned at 6:33 p.m.