

**MINUTES OF THE ELEMENTARY ENROLLMENT / ATTENDANCE
AREAS COMMITTEE
November 11, 2024**



Call to Order: 5:03 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

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

Holli Haws – Zone 2 Parent (absent)
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 updated information.

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

- Enrollment Area Maps
- Elementary Counts (Current/Proposed)
- Middle School Feeders

Mr. Watson said there were updated maps included in the packet along with proposed numbers as well. He said he and Ms. Reader were able to verify numbers and make sure they were accurate. Mr. Watson said last time we met the committee made the decision to move forward with the recommendation of closing Washington Elementary. He stated as we look at each of the changes made with elementary schools only one school was not affected at this time which was Tyhee Elementary School as far as their enrollment area.

Mr. Watson said included in the packet was a spreadsheet that showed current enrollment with the boundary areas right now. He said also on that spreadsheet were columns that showed proposed enrollments as well as current and proposed percentages of FRAM. He said this would affect 1,145 learners total in the elementary schools. Ms. Stevens asked about the numbers for Gate City Elementary and Greenacres Elementary saying she felt that Gate City Elementary seemed a bit low and Greenacres Elementary seemed a bit high. Mr. Watson said that Gate City Elementary's enrollment is low as to leave them a little bit of room for growth. Ms. Kelsey asked about Indian Hills Elementary and Mr. Watson said they do not have any classroom capacity to add more enrollment with having an ERR program. He said if we put too many students at Indian Hills Elementary, we do not have anywhere to overload students. Mr. Watson said the other two schools he thought the committee might need to look at is Ellis Elementary and Jefferson Elementary as they are a little bit tighter. Mr. Johnson

asked if Gate City Elementary with their current enrollment is able to sustain where they are and Mr. Watson said they still have an available classroom right now.

Enrollment Areas Collaboration and Committee Work

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

Mr. Watson asked the committee to look at each elementary map that was included in the packet. Mr. Watson said when looking at the Wilcox Elementary and Jefferson Elementary boundaries there was a shift from Gould Street overpass which encompassed that entire neighborhood and moved them into Wilcox Elementary as Jefferson Elementary picked up an area over by the golf course. He said Chubbuck Elementary picked up a trailer park off of Quinn Rd and Philbin Rd to help distribute enrollment more evenly. Ms. Kelsey asked if transportation was given these maps and was okay with all of these changes? Mr. Watson said he has given the changes to transportation and asked them to look at them and give him feedback if there are any red flags but has not heard back. He will follow-up with the to make sure these changes will actually work. Mr. Watson said the south boundary of Jefferson Elementary is on one side of the valley to separate them. Ms. Stevens said above the hospital was shifted into Greenacres Elementary. Ms. Reader showed the changes on ARCGis that were made since last week.

Mr. Watson said currently Greenacres Elementary enrollment was at 343 for a proposed boundary and said that was too high. Ms. Stevens asked if the committee could look at Lewis & Clark Elementary and shift more learners into that school. Ms. Stevens said she thought Greenacres Elementary should be closer to 300 learners as they have two teachers per grade level. Mr. Perry asked if Tendoy Elementary could take on more learners from Greenacres Elementary and Mr. Watson said they have limited room/capacity for learners. Mr. Watson said we have to be mindful in some of these schools with the potential for growth to shift too many learners into those areas. Mr. Muckerman stated Edahow Elementary was a challenging school to overload from for transportation because there are areas that they cannot transport from. Mr. Watson said there could be a few moved into Lewis & Clark Elementary and a few into Tendoy Elementary. Ms. Reader said if you pulled everyone in from Franklin Road it would be 15 students to Lewis & Clark Elementary school and 9 to Tendoy Elementary School. Mr. Watson asked Mr. Reader to take the boundary to 10th street and she said that would be 54 learners. Ms. Reader said using Sublette Street, both sides of the street, would be 13 students. Ms. Dayley asked if we can adjust Edahow Elementary and Tendoy Elementary so they both have 300 kids since they are schools with similar teacher structures. Ms. Stevens said there are bubbles that come through each year and it depends on if we have room each year and it makes it difficult to accommodate that. Mr. Watson said the options for Greenacres Elementary are to pull from the southside to Lewis & Clark Elementary and to shift a few into Tendoy Elementary School. Ms. Stevens said she would like to make those adjustments. Ms. Reader said after making these shifts it puts Greenacres Elementary proposed enrollment at 311, Lewis & Clark Elementary at 433, and Tendoy Elementary at 271. Mr. Watson stated it would be ideal for Greenacres Elementary to be under 300 as they will have an ERR program that pushes in. He said asked if it would be possible to take a few more streets over to shift into Lewis & Clark Elementary. Ms. Reader said that would be an additional 14 students. Ms. Dayley said she is concerned that we are continuing to shift all of these students into the lower economic schools and leaving the higher ones like Gate City Elementary which is sitting at a really low capacity. Mr. Muckerman said the lower economic schools are not the ones that are getting growth, the ones like Gate City Elementary and Edahow Elementary are the ones that are very like will get the growth. He said nine out of 10 years Edahow Elementary has had to overload students and this last year they did not but it was a fluke year so we did not want to overload the schools where the potential for growth is there. that school could very possible see quite a bit of growth and also be used for a school as overload. Mr. Watson said the reality is a school like Wilcox Elementary School could have four teachers per grade level if we had the numbers to fill them. Ms. Dalton asked if they could move the ERR programs and Mr. Watson said it is all based on transportation and we try to keep them centralized for that purpose. Mr. Watson said for the sake of time we could go school by school and figure out where the committee would like them to be for an ideal number.

He said he, Ms. Reader and the three principals could meet separately and move a few streets in each boundary to get this figured out and bring it back to the committee next Monday.

Indian Hills Elementary – Proposed – 472 learners – committee agreed this is a good number

Jefferson Elementary – Proposed – 415 learners – committee agreed needs to be reduced a little bit

Greenacres Elementary – Proposed – 343 learners – committee agreed needs to be closer to 280

Tendoy Elementary – Proposed – 262 learners – committee agreed this is a good number

Lewis & Clark Elementary – Proposed – 410 learners – committee agreed this is a good number

Edahow Elementary – Proposed – 252 learners – committee agreed this is a good number

Syringa Elementary – Proposed – 421 learners – committee agreed this is a good number

Gate City Elementary – Proposed - 357 learners – committee would like to shift some into Syringa (Olympus)

Ellis Elementary – Proposed – 408 learners- committee would like to look at reducing

Tyhee Elementary – Proposed – 521 learners – committee would like to look at increasing

Chubbuck Elementary – Proposed – 410 learners – committee agreed this is a good number

Wilcox Elementary – Proposed – 533 learners – committee agreed this is a good number

Mr. Watson said included in the packet was the proposed middle school boundaries which was overlaid on the proposed elementary school boundaries. He said the middle school boundary committee was going to look at changing the Ellis Elementary area that was shaded green and move it into Alameda Middle School. He said there was also a section in Jefferson Elementary that was shaded red in a triangle that they would change as well but as of right now there were no students in that section. He said the other area between Lewis & Clark Elementary and Tendoy Elementary that would split the one section of students would be going to Franklin Middle School they would talk about moving into Alameda Middle School would depend on what our committee did before they make their decision. Ms. Dayley asked if the middle school committee is looking at changing all the boundaries and Mr. Watson said they are not looking at changing the boundaries much. She asked if they are looking at moving the high school boundaries and Mr. Watson said not at this time. Mr. Watson said he would ask a couple from this committee to come meet with the middle school committee next week to meet for an hour. Ms. Lloyd said she would be available to meet with the committee. Mr. Watson said he and the team will refine what they have to get the numbers closer to what we want with the information from the middle school as well. Ms. Stevens, Mr. Muckerman and Mr. Johnson, and Ms. Lloyd will be the representatives from this team. He also asked for a couple of representatives from the team for the Board Meeting next Tuesday at 5:30 to talk to the Board about the process our committee has been through to come up with our recommendation. Ms. Dalton and Ms. Dayley said they would be available to come to the meeting next Tuesday to represent our committee. Mr. Watson said his assumption is that the Board may like us to go out and get public input. Ms. Dayley asked what input would look like? Mr. Watson said we could ask the public for written input in several different ways that will go to the Board for them to see. He said we may have to have another meeting to look over and review all the written input from the community. Ms. Jensen stated that you want to give the community input on boundary changes. Ms. Reader stated she could do surveys through the ARCGIS system with the view of the maps if we want that option. Ms. Dayley asked if learners will have the option of staying in their current schools. Mr. Watson said we will have to talk through options and what it will look like for transfers and grandfathering in 5th graders possibly for the next year and timelines of when this will be implanted. Ms. Dayley said she would like to see average class sizes for next weeks meeting. Mr. Watson said this he will work on this for next week. Ms. Dalton said she would like Ms. Reader to provide a new spreadsheet with would like average class size. Mr. Watson will work on this. Ms. Dalton asked for Mr. Reader/Mr. Watson to update the spreadsheet with optimal capacity on it.

Discussion/Questions/Resources

- Resources and Information for Next Meeting
- Meeting with Middle School Committee

Next Meeting, Monday November 18th at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:34 p.m.