

Meeting: Demographic Trends & Facility Planning Committee

Date: December 19, 2019

Time: 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Location: Administration Building, Room 123B

Attendees:

Committee Members:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alicia Arnold	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nic Ashman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Josh Clements*	<input type="checkbox"/> Margot Dahling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David FitzGerald
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Goings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather Grant	<input type="checkbox"/> Liwei (Amanda) Guo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anne Hartman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caro Johnson
<input type="checkbox"/> Caitlin Lee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zoe Roberts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Weichelt		
Resource (non-voting) Members:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim Koller	<input type="checkbox"/> Abby Johnson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darryl Petersen	<input type="checkbox"/> Heidi White	<input type="checkbox"/> Jim Schmitt
<input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Hardebeck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phil Lyons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim Nordin		

*Chair

Notes: Marisa Anton

The meeting was called to order by Phil Lyons at 4:33 p.m. Roll call was performed.

- **Public Comment**
 - No comments.
- **Approval of Minutes from October 17, 2019**
 - The committee took time to re-read and review the minutes before motioning for approval.

ACTION ITEM(S)

- Motion to approve the minutes was made by Caro Johnson and seconded by Mark Goings.
- Request for members to confirm attendance on the Friday before each monthly meeting.

- **Election of Chairperson**
 - Congratulations to Phil for his nomination to School Board Commissioner. Phil Lyons stated that it has been great being the chair on the Demo & Trends Committee and asked for nominations for a new chairperson
 - Josh has stated interest in being the Chair of the Committee, he has been nominated by Anne Hartman and accepted the nomination.

ACTION ITEM(S)

- Heather Grant motioned; Anne Hartman seconded. Caro Johnson motioned to close the item; Anne Hartman seconded. Passed by unanimous voice of acclamation! Congratulations, Josh!

- **Direction and Committee Next Steps**
 - In November, the School Board gave this committee direction to focus on south side elementary enrollment and capacity issues. At this meeting, Kim Koller provided the committee documentation showing south side student data. The data was color coded based upon what the committee would need to watch out for in each south side building. Looking at this year's data, there are some buildings that are operating more sections than their buildings allow. Darryl Petersen provided square footage of the buildings and acreage across the district and noted that Sherman and Robbins are already built for 4 sections. Putnam, Manz, and

Meadowview are on enough land that could allow for an addition to be built making them 4 section schools. Please note, going from 3 sections to 4 sections does not mean 6 more classrooms; it means expanding the gym, cafeteria, kitchen, restrooms, mechanical systems, and fire protection. Putnam Heights was designed to be able to add onto the building as it was the intent for Putnam to be a 4-section school. Looking at the data, Meadowview would be next and Manz would be last. Manz has the least amount of square footage, green space, and parking. Flynn's size causes more of a fluctuation than other buildings due to its location. There isn't any space to adjust south side boundaries like on the north side.

ACTION ITEM(S)

- The committee would like to see a post-boundary change graph for the north side schools.
- Adding onto Putnam looks good, but their boundaries are already so close to Manz and Meadowview. The students are also very close to South Middle School, but their school path would change to DeLong Middle School. Strictly looking at the numbers it makes sense. Community support is important. We may need to consider a new 3 section school on the south side of town, there are so many logistics and maybe the cost is equivalent. There is infrastructure and sewer and water under the area near the dealerships on Hwy 93. The demand on city sewer and water is very different in a home or business versus a school. This is a good time to re-engage with the city to see where they expect growth to occur. If we build, we would want it to be there for 100 years or longer, and it's hard to know what is happening if we don't reach out to the city. Going forward we have greater flexibility with staffing to absorb those students into 4 sections. Going from 3 to 4 sections, we could do two of those for the same cost of building new with the flexibility of student fluctuations in the buildings. The County is updating the county plan, and they control the land use in the townships. They did ask what the reasonable growth would be in their townships. We should reach out to them also. If the city said that they were going to do a lot of sewer and water out near Hwy 93 that could change where development happens. If we need to extend sewer and water, it is about \$100 per linear foot it would be very expensive to get that option ready. There is word about a wind farm out on Hwy 93, south east of Eau Claire has some of the highest land cost. Will there be a lot of growth in the Meadowview and Robbins neighborhoods moving forward? People will build near parks and schools.

ACTION ITEM(S)

- The committee would like to know the number of students that live south of 94 in our district.
- It didn't seem that it would cost too much more to build new versus adding on to a few buildings. How would this impact the middle school and high school? Is there room on the south side?
- South appears to have a little wiggle room; the committee would like the orange paper updated.
- What are the open enrollment numbers? Altoona has the highest percent of students who open enroll out of ECASD. Many students are attending virtual schools. Our district has implemented a virtual school to help accommodate students and families. What about the apartment complex that was to go in across the street from Action City? It was declined at this time but that does not mean that it will not come back next month. Do we need to add a guiding principle to the list that we will strive for 30- to 45-minute bus rides? District policy states 1 hour is the maximum. Would like to be sure that we are not sending too many students to Robbins. At the listening sessions, it was noted that the committee was thinking of 2 solutions for building onto 2 buildings to make them 4 sections or build a new 3 to 4 section school on the south side. This committee would possibly need to have a recommendation by October 2020 for a January timeline. Should we think about having listening sessions prior to the recommendation? Yes, and have the costs for the projects. Explaining the projects to the public can help gain support for the projects. What information do we need to have an informed decision?

- Information added after the minutes were reviewed in January:
 - It is important to look at the educational implications if the District chose to construct a new school. Would like to discuss this with the City and County as well. It is easy to discuss money, but it is also important to discuss culture. There is a difference in culture between a 4-section school and a 3-section school. Would like to discuss this, along with the impact, need, and best practices with Teaching & Learning.
 - Included at the end of the minutes is a list of questions derived from the meeting.

ACTION ITEM(S)

- Where is growth happening, infrastructure, poverty locations, what does it cost for adding on?
 - Can we get a conceptual timeline?
- How does it work to get a plot of land? If someone knows that a school or city is looking at their property, the cost of the property shoots up. We may be able to purchase from the county. Where would the cost of staff come from? We would need a new principal and secretary for a new building, but the people in front of children could be shifted. A principal will cost the same regardless of the number of children you serve. Could have a capital, operational, or a hybrid for a referendum. Would recommend the committee presents to the Board before the Board creates the question. Remember, we deferred South and Roosevelt. Urgency on the south side is important, and we have good support. Our focus over the next several months is elementary schools; 4k is not our concern yet.

- **Future Agenda Items**

- South Side Elementary Capacity

ACTION ITEM(S)

- Invite south side principals to the next meeting.

Caro Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Nic Ashman. The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Questions from 12/19/19 Demo & Trends

- Could it be a standard practice on the Friday when you get the agenda out for public notice before the meeting, for members to confirm attendance?
- Would love to see this graph for the schools we just moved on the north side.
- Would like the number of students that live south of 94 in our district.
- How do these elementary school capacities and adding on, what does that look like for the middle school and the high school? Is there room on the south side?
- Would like the orange paper updated.
- Do we know OE numbers?
 - 308 open enrolled in and 550 open enrolled out as of 2nd Friday report (1/10/20).
- What about the apartment complex that was to go in across the street from Action City?
- Do we need to add a guiding principle to the list that we will strive for 30-45 min bus rides?
 - Need to check policy.
- What is the rural poverty out in Cleghorn and Brackett?
- What information do we need to have an informed decision?
- Where is growth happening, infrastructure, poverty locations, what does it cost for adding on?
- Can we get a conceptual timeline?
- How does it work to get a plot of land?
- Costs for additions and a new school?
- When can we have the city come and give us an overview? Hoping February? Would like the county as well?
- Would it be helpful from T&L to have a statement of what it is like in a 3-section vs 4-section?
- Can we invite other south side principals invited to the next meeting?
 - Yes; they have been invited and will attend if their schedule allows.