

MINUTES - **AS PRESENTED 1/21/20**
CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
ATTENDANCE ZONE ADVISORY COMMISSION
EDWARD A. GREER EDUCATION CENTER, BOARD ROOM
2832 E. FLAMINGO ROAD, LAS VEGAS, NV 89121

November 19, 2019

9:42 a.m.

An attempt to start the meeting at 9:38 a.m. with Rachel Wren via phone conference failed. Meeting started at 9:42 a.m. when Mallory Levins arrived.

Roll Call: Members Present

Dave Flatt
David Gomez (arrived at 10:43 a.m.)
Justin Hepworth
Mallory Levins (arrived at 9:42 a.m.)
Lois Mack
Becky Nielson
Matthew Tramp (left at 11:36 a.m.)
Colleen Wilson-Pappa
Rachel Wren (arrived at 9:43 a.m.)

Members Absent

Albert Delgado
Diane Kinsel
John Mismas

Rick Baldwin, Director II
Tracy Murphy, Coordinator IV
Steve Burda, GIS Coordinator III
Sheri Garbiso, Senior GIS Analyst

Ray Negrete, Transportation Coordinator IV

FLAG SALUTE.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA.

Adoption of the agenda for November 19, 2019 with the amendment of switching items 3.05 and 3.06.

Motion: Matthew Tramp Second: Rachel Wren Vote: Unanimous

Albert Delgado, David Gomez, Diane Kinsel and John Mismas were not present to vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS.

None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES.

Approval of the minutes for November 12, 2019.

Motion: Justin Hepworth Second: Matthew Tramp Vote: Unanimous

Albert Delgado, David Gomez, Diane Kinsel and John Mismas were not present to vote.

REPORTS.

None.

EVALUATE SCENARIO(S) FOR FOCUS AREA E2 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Rick Baldwin briefly reviewed the scenarios for Focus Area E2 evaluating attendance boundaries of Frank Lamping, John C. Vanderburg, Neil C. Twitchell, and Elise L. Wolff Elementary Schools.

Mallory Levins stated that she had attended a parent meeting at Vanderburg Elementary School with the Vanderburg/Twitchell Elementary School's parents. Both scenarios were discussed. Almost all of the parents opposed Scenario 2. A concern with Scenario 2 is that it takes the elementary school out of feeder school alignment with the middle school. Mallory stated that she and Justin are reluctant to eliminate Scenario 2 at this time and would like to get more public input.

Justin Hepworth stated that AZAC should move both scenarios to proposals because both of them are legitimate options with both having pros and cons.

Laura Bodine, parent, Vanderburg Elementary School, stated that once the new school opens near Stephanie Street and Paseo Verde Parkway, the students would need to be taken from each school.

Cecilia Formisano, parent, Vanderburg Elementary School, stated she attended the last AZAC meeting. She wanted to continue to state how upsetting it is for them. She said she understands that AZAC will be looking at the feeder school alignment for that area, but has not seen any scenario for that as of yet.

Justin Hepworth stated if the rezoning from Vanderburg/Twitchell Elementary Schools to Lamping Elementary School was done this year, that area would not be up for rezoning again in the following years. He said that Vanderburg/Twitchell Elementary Schools are almost 200% over capacity. Lamping Elementary School is receiving an addition and could provide relief to Vanderburg/Twitchell Elementary Schools.

Motion to move Focus Area E2 Scenario 1 and 2 to Proposal 1 and 2.

Motion: Justin Hepworth Second: Mallory Levins Vote: Unanimous
Albert Delgado, David Gomez, Diane Kinsel and John Mismas were not present to vote.

EVALUATE SCENARIO(S) FOR FOCUS AREA E4 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Rick Baldwin presented Focus Area E4, Scenario 1 and 2 for Marion Cahlan, Arturo Cambeiro, Robert Lunt, Reynaldo L. Martinez, and C. P. Squires Elementary Schools. Mr. Baldwin informed AZAC that the Board of School Trustees met and approved Revision 4 of the Capital Improvement Program which will provide additional relief by adding building additions in a few years to surrounding elementary schools.

Rick Baldwin stated that an 18 room building addition was added at Squires Elementary School in 2018, which added much needed capacity to the school. He reported that Lunt and Cambeiro Elementary Schools are sister schools and explained that they share one attendance boundary. Rick informed AZAC that there has been a request to evaluate separate attendance boundaries.

Becky Nielson said that by looking at the Hot Spot Map one can see most of the overcrowding is to the east and the south. She thinks that making this change at this point is a good move.

Rick Baldwin stated he supports splitting the sister schools because the principals of those schools are willing to do the steps they need to do.

Lisa Drakulich, principal, Lunt Elementary School, stated she is in favor of Scenario 2.

Barry Bosacker, principal, Squires Elementary School, expressed support of Scenario 2. He also expressed concerns for bus traffic and car traffic. The other concern is the maintenance of the Squires Elementary School campus.

Motion to move Focus Area E4 Scenario 2 to Proposal 1.

Motion: Dave Flatt Second: Lois Mack Vote: Unanimous
Albert Delgado, David Gomez, Diane Kinsel and John Mismas were not present to vote.

EVALUATE SCENARIO(S) FOR FOCUS AREA M3 FOR MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS.

Rick Baldwin stated that Scenario 3 was created for Walter Johnson Junior High School, Ernest A. Becker Sr., and Sig Rogich Middle Schools.

Rachel Wren stated Scenario 3 was created to incorporate concerns from the community regarding overcrowding.

Justin Hepworth asked if any meetings with the parents of the elementary schools that are going to be split up were held and whether they have concerns or if they were fine with these changes.

Rachel Wren said she had not had meetings with the elementary schools.

David Gomez for the record said, if he understand this, I believe that if there is not any agenda item with fictitious names, school A, B, and C, that a commissioner can bring it up on the next agenda item and bring it to light whatever it is that they want to discuss. He asked the chair if that was correct.

Becky Nielsen said yes that was correct.

Rick Baldwin stated when noticing the middle schools of the meetings, staff also informs the feeder elementary school principals.

Rachel Wren stated for public record that AZAC has no say in zone variances.

Matthew Tramp said at this time he did not want to move to proposals yet. He said he would like to table this item for the next meeting.

EVALUATE SCENARIO(S) FOR FOCUS AREA M1 FOR MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS.

Rick Baldwin presented and discussed Focus Area M1, Scenario 1 and 2 for Dr. William H. "Bob" Bailey, Jim Bridger, John C. Fremont, Duane D. Keller, K. O. Knudson, Jerome D. Mack, Roy W. Martin, Mario C. and Joanne Monaco, Dell H. Robison, J. D. Smith and Ed Von Tobel Middle Schools.

Rick Baldwin stated staff would recommend that any middle school zone change be done with grandfathering, allowing all students currently enrolled at the currently assigned middle schools to be

grandfathered in, only impacting the incoming 6th grade students and any additional students that move into that area. He also said that feeder school alignment is extremely important for students' social and emotional well-being, as well as, having that feeder alignment allows elementary and middle schools to align the curriculums so that when they get to middle schools they are better prepared for the curriculum and education they are going to receive.

Susan Sancrant, grandparent, K. O. Knudson Middle School, said to make Fremont Middle School a total magnet school should not happen. It should be 50/50. Knudson Middle School is at capacity now and for any student taken from Fremont Middle School will probably lose a magnet seat. Ms. Sancrant asked why not rebuild Knudson Middle School and/or use the old John Miller school to be torn down and rebuild Knudson Middle School on that site.

Fredrick Ives stated he owns an Arts Conservatory in the downtown area. He said people come to him to gain skills for their students to be able to get into a Public Arts Program like Las Vegas Academy of the Performing Arts (LVA). The school has an answer to this for the lower to middle class families that cannot afford to send their kids to businesses like his. Any vote in favor of upsetting the balance of student population away from the magnet school at Knudson Middle School is discrimination against lower and middle school families.

Ginger Meurer, parent, Gilbert Elementary School, stated her student at Gilbert Elementary School wants to go to Knudson Middle School. The thing that makes LVA and Gilbert Elementary School unique is that they are full magnet schools. Knudson Middle School is not a full magnet school. She said they have long been assured that Knudson Middle School would be in line to become a full magnet. Knudson Middle School has 1300 seats available and only half of those are magnet. If anyone gets to go full magnet it should be Knudson Middle School.

Rocio Franco, parent, K. O. Knudson Middle School, requested that AZAC consider excluding Knudson Middle School from any of these scenarios. He said that Knudson Middle School is one of the few magnet schools and they have been requesting to become a full magnet school for over a decade. They are currently over capacity. There is no room for more children unless they lose magnet seats. Knudson Middle School is a community within itself. All students can participate in the same programs and no one is excluded.

Isaias Gonzalez, parent, K. O. Knudson Middle School, stated his son is currently a sixth grader and to see the reaction from him when he was selected to go to Knudson Middle School changed everything. He was so happy. Mr. Gonzalez said his son would be really sad if rezoned.

Ana Gonzalez, parent, K. O. Knudson Middle School, stated her daughter attends Knudson Middle School. She is a Special ED student as well as a magnet school student and on the A/B honor roll. Her daughter is happy, she wants to learn and go to school every day. Ms. Gonzalez requested AZAC take into consideration that this is a unique school.

Kim Cooper, parent, K. O. Knudson Middle School, asked whether to rezone Knudson Middle School is a matter of equity. If Knudson Middle School is rezoned the number of magnet seats will drop to 200.

Sara Ives said she is an Artistic Director of Downtown Dance Conservatory. She is also a volunteer for the dance department at Knudson Middle School and is extremely concerned about the amount of seats available for magnet students. Mrs. Ives urged consideration for how these magnet programs are filled.

Eva Villezeas, parent, K. O. Knudson Middle School, said she has had children at Knudson Middle School in the Mariachi and Dance Programs. Losing seats in the magnet program would be sad. Ms. Villezeas' daughter has gotten a lot of skills from the Dance Program and Core Programs at Knudson Middle School. She stated she does not understand why Fremont Middle School would get the opportunity to be full magnet when Knudson Middle School is so incredible and has so many programs. She stated Knudson Middle School needs a new building.

Elisa Dease, parent, K. O. Knudson Middle School, stated that their choices were White or Knudson Middle Schools. She had heard wonderful things about Knudson Middle School. Ms. Dease said that even though she lives one minute away from White Middle School, she chose to drive 25 minutes twice a day to take her daughter to Knudson Middle School. Ms. Dease does not understand why White Middle School has so much more opportunity for magnet than Knudson Middle School. Knudson Middle School is an incredible school and she would hate to see those seats taken by students that do not want to be in the magnet program.

Shawn Kelly, parent and teacher, K. O. Knudson Middle School, stated he is a teacher at Fremont Middle School and has a son attending the Knudson Middle School magnet Band Program. He stated that everything the parents had said was true and it does not make sense to him to decrease student numbers in the magnet program.

Dora Salguero, parent, K. O. Knudson Middle School, spoke through a Spanish translator. Ms. Salguero requested to remain at Knudson Middle School. She wants students to have the same opportunity as they have in other areas. Ms. Salguero has a son in the Graphic Design Program at Knudson Middle School and another son who has graduated that also took Graphic Design. She is now concerned that there will be cuts in the Graphic Design Program and wants programs available to kids in her zone.

Carlos Ariza, parent, K. O. Knudson Middle School, stated there was a group of concerned parents that had attended this meeting but unfortunately they had to leave before they had the chance to speak. They are concerned that their students will be moved from Knudson Middle School to Mack Middle School which does not have a Mariachi Program. These families have a long standing tradition of participating in a Mariachi Program.

Dee Dee Herrera, parent, stated her son wants to apply to Knudson Middle School. She said they are worried about the changes because there are only so many magnet seats. Ms. Herrera stated Knudson Middle School deserves to be rebuilt and to become 100% magnet. She had a letter signed by parents who support that.

Amy Symes, parent, K. O. Knudson Middle School, wants to ensure access to Art Programs at Knudson Middle School for all. She said that Knudson Middle School has been a magnet for 23 years. Ms. Symes stated they are very determined to make sure the class sizes do not increase. One of the best things about CCSD is making sure that everyone has access to an amazing education that fits them.

Tina May, parent, K. O. Knudson Middle School, stated she loves this school. She has a long history with the school and will not be redundant with what has been said. Her concern is that even if you maintain the magnet seats, the quality of the Arts education they will receive will be a lot less because it will be a strain on the resources of the school. In the past 8 years she has not seen any dramatic changes to the building and yet the students make magic there. Ms. May would like to see a full magnet school.

Jorge Macias, parent, K. O. Knudson Middle School, stated that when he saw these kids performing in the Mariachi Band, it caught his attention in such a way that he went back to his roots and culture. He said if they lose magnet seats that would deteriorate our school. He thinks every school deserves to be a magnet. Mr. Macias stated that this is the wealthiest country on the planet. He also stated why keep moving people around, spending fuel, making more damage to the environment and more headaches for people. He mentioned that he has a Chinese person playing in the Mariachi Band. Mr. Macias said that is wonderful and that means we are breaking the borders. It's good to have more magnet seats.

Pedro Marengo, parent, K. O. Knudson Middle School, said if they get less magnet seats, his daughter may not be able to come next year, and other people, too. He would like everybody to have the right to go to a magnet program that is close to them. He does not want Knudson Middle School to lose magnet seats. Mr. Marengo wants more seats instead of less.

Rick Baldwin stated there is zero intent to remove magnet seats or to diminish the magnet program. He said he is a proponent for magnet schools and would love to be able to expand and create more magnet schools. Rick made it clear that the commission has no authority, nor does he directly, in converting a school into a full magnet school program.

Becky Nielsen thanked all public for coming and sharing opinions. She said there has never been an intent of lowering the numbers of magnet seats at Knudson Middle School.

David Gomez stated he wanted to say thank you to the Hispanic community because number one he lives in that area and his business is on Eastern Avenue and Stewart Avenue. It's very hard for people to get there with an accent and speak positively about the things that have impacted their children and their schools. That takes a lot to get up there because the Hispanic community has been intimidated by so many factors in our country that they do not want to speak and it's important that we listen to these parents. He wanted to thank all the parents and the staff of the dance studio teacher that came down here because it takes a lot and he wishes that if we do keep this as a next agenda item that we make it first so that the parents that did not get to speak have an opportunity. This is the working class we're talking about, they utilize their time to be here to speak on behalf of their children and that's very important to me.

Becky Nielsen stated part of the reason this is happening is because of the success of our magnet programs. She said we have heard you, appreciate you, and we are going to have to continue with this.

Rachel Wren stated that AZAC had been tasked to adjust the magnet school attendance zones because of the success of the magnet program and offering more opportunities to more students. She said we greatly appreciate you taking your time to be here and thank you for coming out and making your voice heard.

Mallory Levins stated she had one more thing to add about the magnet programs and the fact that these magnet schools are coming into the area of the opportunity zone and wants to point out that they are not the same as the magnet program being offered at Knudson Middle School. She said she has concerns

about inequity in the community and that you do not hear about workforce development schools necessarily being developed in the most suburban parts of our community. Ms. Levins said she knew this is out of AZAC purview but are seeing a need and wanting to provide opportunity and choice to families should not be solely dictated by workforce demands. She said those students deserve the right to follow the career path of their choice.

CALENDAR, DATES, AND TIMES.

The next AZAC meeting will be held on December 3, 2019.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS.

Ginger Meuer, parent, said if it is not AZAC with the authority to make a decision on whether or not to go full magnet, then who would it be.

Becky Nielsen stated that it would be the School Board of Trustees and recommended contacting the Trustee for their area.

ADJOURN.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 1:04 p.m.

Motion: Justin Hepworth Second: David Gomez Vote: Unanimous
Albert Delgado, Diane Kinsel, John Mismas and Matthew Tramp were not present to vote.