

Elementary Reorganization Task Force

Minutes Elementary Reorganization Task Force

Week 7

Monday, December 5, 2011

Meeting was held at the Central Services Building, December 5, 2011 from 3:30 p.m. -5:00 p.m.
Dr. Jane Pryne facilitated the meeting.

Members in Attendance:

Patti Happe, Kate Wenzl, Laura Levine, Amity Butler, Cynthia Green, Claire Rausch, Walt Mozingo, Gary Pringle, Trent Pomeroy, Pauline Marvin, Michelle Olson, Evan Murphy, Doug Hayman, Stacey Nickerson, Teresa Beckstrom, Anne Mitchell, Coya Erickson, John Kilzer, Taffy Bond, Lisa Lisk, Chris Baker, Michele Haworth, Michelle Reid, Jane Pryne, Karen Ross, Jim Varela, Sarah Methner, Kathy Crowley, Julie Smith, Tim Ochs, and Gretchen O'Brien.

Members Absent:

None

Welcome:

Dr. Pryne opened the meeting by thanking all of the task force members for their hard work, and welcoming them to the final meeting. She also reviewed the agenda and supporting documents.

Additionally, she reviewed the goal of the Elementary Restructuring Task Force, its working norms, and decision making parameters.

Purpose of the Task Force

- Determine the sustainability of the current resources allocated across the elementary system.
- Research the most efficient, effective organizational structure over the next five years for our elementary schools.
- Make a recommendation to the Board of Directors on the next course of action.

PASD Strategic Plan Goal 3: Resources

Objective 1: Create a more efficient and equitable resource distribution system

Objective 2: Create an infrastructure that supports student learning

Action Item 1: Create a Task Force to study the restructuring of elementary education

Agenda

- Review the Minutes and Talking points from November 30, 2011.
- Review and discuss the data on Options 1, 2, 3.
- Decide on a recommendation from the analyzed data for the Board of Directors December 12 meeting.
- Summarize Talking Points.
- No future meetings planned.

Minutes

Dr. Pryne reviewed the decision making process and working norms with the task force. The group was then separated into breakout sessions to discuss the pros and cons of options one, two, and three based on all of the information provided throughout this process. Each group reported on the assigned plans' pros and cons.

Once the groups finished their report, the Task Force as a whole discussed the outcomes. Each task force member voted on the plan that they favored for recommendation to the Board of Directors. There was a majority vote on Plan 2.

Option 2:

- **Close Franklin**
- **Operate four K-6 schools**
- **All district programs will be housed at one of these schools (MAC, Special Needs, Early Learning) Note: Every school will house special education classrooms under each of the plans**

Includes closing Franklin. Consolidation is recommended to minimize operational costs and provide effective educational services. The rationale for closing Franklin instead of any other school, including Hamilton, is because 1) Franklin is reaching the end of its serviceable life - in a recent evaluation of facilities in the district it received the lowest condition score of any elementary school in the district. As is, it is compromised by old infrastructure and the cost of major modernization would be very close to the cost of replacement. 2) Because Jefferson is geographically close to Franklin, by closing Franklin instead of Hamilton (which is the second oldest elementary school) we maintain an even distribution of neighborhood schools, from the east to the west, throughout the district.

The rationale for having four K-6 schools allows for the majority of students to stay in their neighborhood schools for up to seven years. Fewer transitions means fewer disruptions which helps to build a sense of community. This addresses the district's goal of keeping students connected, which in turn, provides the opportunity for academic success for all students.

Future Possibilities

Sell Fairview, Franklin, CSB and use this capital funding to add a third wing on Jefferson.

Talking Points

- Reviewed pros and cons of each plan option.
- Discussed the dilemma of possibly needing to cut \$1.9 million out of the 2012-13 budget.
- This decision was extremely difficult.
- This is only a recommendation to the Board of Directors.

Meeting Closing:

The meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.