



*** MINUTES ***

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS AND FACILITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

April 13, 2016

4:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.

Room 123B – District Building

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Falch	Mark Goings	Joe Luginbill	Charles Vue
David FitzGerald	Wendy Sue Johnson	Ben Nemitz	

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Stephanie Regenauer

RESOURCE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Abby Johnson	Tim Leibham	Larry Sommerfeld
Mary Ann Hardebeck	Jim Schmitt	Heidi White

GUEST PRESENT:

Reporter, Channel TV 18

- .I. Meeting Called to Order – Mike Falch**
Meeting was called to order at 4:08 pm.

- .II. Approval of Minutes of February 18, 2016 & March 14, 2016**
Joe Luginbill moved that in item .III. the sentence should be changed to read, “the top three (3) short term options discussed included” instead of “the top three (3) options choices were.”
Seconded by Ben Nemitz to approve the change. Carried by unanimous voice of acclamation.

- .III. Low Cost/No Cost Options for Roosevelt**
Abby met with Jim Fey to gather some options for Roosevelt’s space issues for 2016-17.

Option #1: Apartment complex area north of North Crossing on E. Prairie Lane. One stop pickup of 16 students, grade k-5, at no cost to the current routing and taking them to Sherman Elementary. This is a rental area and may be an easy group to move due to being more transients. There is available space and time on the bus route. This is the preferred choice from Student Transit.

Option #2: Run the same route and go out past the Aspen Ridge development and pick up 13 students. There would be a small cost to the district due to the longer travel distance down County T. There would be multiple pick-ups. There is available space on the bus route.

.IV. Guiding Principles for Low Cost/No Cost Options for Roosevelt

Option #1 would meet the short term need and the low cost need. It was felt that that the turnover in the apartment rental area would be too flexible.

Would these decisions be a permanent boundary fix for the locations?
Why make a change for 16 students if Roosevelt's problem is bigger than this?

Option #1 and option #2 combined would be a better choice. We need to look at the voluntary option for parents to move their children out of Roosevelt with no cost to the district. A long-term fix cannot be looked at until the 2017-18 school year. Can we do a short-term and long-term fix?

Can we continue with the managed alternate school requests? In the last month, Tim Leibham indicated some alternate school requests that normally would not be allowed to go ahead, were permitted, so that helped with Some of the numbers at Roosevelt.

- a) none of the families were approached by school staff to see if they wanted to move, and
- b) we never asked ourselves what was that magic number and if we went out and asked families, how would we manage that?

Do we send a school wide letter to all families and ask for volunteers to go to Sherman and have them provide their own transportation?
Do we just start with the group on Prairie Lane first and see how many people would be interested first and go from there?
No board approval is necessary to send letters to families or call families.

There is a consensus that Roosevelt needs a long term solution, not only because of enrollments now, but because of age and size of rooms, cafeteria, library, gym and hallways. There are also safety issues to consider too with street access.

With the last 2010 referendum, Sherman and Robbins were expanded to four-level schools to pick up the overflow of urban schools. Those schools are still operating as three-level schools and have room in them. Should those schools be utilized first?

Superintendent, Dr. Hardebeck asked Tim Leibham to share his memo he prepared for the board identifying how we are communicating the issue of crowding. *“At times we are confusing a large grade level for “overcrowding” at a school. For example, third (3rd) grade is crowded at Manz, Putnam and Northwoods, but their other grades are well within or below the target range. Those are bubbles within our schools. Adding title funds, math coaches, Literacy coaches, etc. in the buildings taking up spaces to work with students that have been used for overflow in the past. So when we think of solving a problem about crowding, it might be a grade level problem and not a school problem. For this year, six (6) of the possible seventy-two (72) grade levels were above the targeted class size, including SAGE class size. That is only eight percent (8%) of our population for that one year.”*

Tim indicated that Lakeshore is not as crowded as once thought since moving from 1:18 to 1:21 students with the SAGE flexibility and has saved classroom space. By increasing class sizes by 2-3 students and being creative and flexible with resources, this allowed for the extra space.

Roosevelt’s current issue is with grade 1. They are at target in grade 2 and do not have any overflow, except for one small area. The school was only built to be a two-section school.

Should we consider closing off Roosevelt to new enrollment?

Do we try to keep it a two-section school and cap it at so many students per grade? Maybe take the additional kindergartners and see if any of them would like to be transferred to a different school until a long-term solution can be made and keep the numbers at 50?

To build or expand Roosevelt? There is still some value to the current building. You would have to build a two-story school since acreage is limited. Save the existing gym and use for cafeteria and look at a two-story solution. A new school would require the purchase of a new property to build on and working with the city.

An architectural study would take 4-6 months

Meet with staff before summer break to get things moving.

If building new, go for a 3 section solution with enough land and electrical power and boiler size to expand if necessary.

Must look at long term needs and long term costs.

Sherman has 11.7 acres and Roosevelt 3.964 acres. Larry has had some very preliminary discussions with the City where they might be agreeable to trading some of their land adjacent to the school and moving their skating rink to another location. The acreage is unknown, however, it may be approximately two acres.

The city does have land out on Jeffers Road designated for a school in their most recent masters plan update.

Larry Sommerfeld was asked, based on his past experience with the district, how much is the cost to renovate a school and build a new school.

- Approximate major renovation would cost about \$10M
- Approximate new school cost \$16 - \$20M for building only, not property

.V. Other

- Today is Ben Nemitz's last day serving on the committee. We wish him well.
- The group would like to have one more meeting in May.
- Wendy Sue suggested a set weekday for future meetings. It was decided to be the third Thursday of each month for meetings.

.VI. Committee's Recommendation to the School Board

Mike will report to the School Board on Monday, April 18, 2016

(Long Term)

Wendy Sue made a motion to recommend to the board that an architectural study be done to determine the best course of action for either building of a new school or renovating Roosevelt.

Mike seconded.

All in favor.

(Short Term)

Wendy Sue made a motion to not change boundaries until we know what is going to happen in the long range with the architectural study. We will still monitor incoming kindergartners at Roosevelt and try keeping the numbers at fifty (50) with voluntary alternate school options.

Ben seconded.

All in favor.

.VII. Agenda for Next Meeting

Mike's Presentation to the Board
Prairie Ridge

.VIII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Next Meeting Date

May 19, 2016
Room 123B – Administration Building
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.