

Dist. 205 Board of Education Workshop Mtg
June 28, 2018
6:05 pm – 10:30 pm

No Stuefen
Public: 12 Staff: 13 Press: 3
Observer: J. Dorner

President Caforio called the meeting to order and led the recitation of the pledge of allegiance. She then gave a brief overview of all community engagement opportunities:

Core Values:

- All students must learn and grow.
- We accept shared responsibility for student growth.
- We make decisions based on what is best for students.
- We are a future-focused community of learners.

Guiding Feedback:

- Neighborhood Schools
- Walk Today, Walk Tomorrow
- Lower Class Sizes
- Preserving Middle School Boundaries
- Grandfathering for Siblings
- Maintaining Property Values
- Gathering Community Input
- Provide Choice

Discussion of Boundary Adjustment Options:

A. Option “D” (with modifications): Students residing in the “pie shaped” piece south of Butterfield Road, who are currently being bussed to Jackson School, would be bussed to Edison. It also has the area east of York Rd and west of Kenmore between the train tracks and St. Charles Rd as a “choice” area allowing these families to decide between Hawthorne and Edison. This option has most elementary schools in the 80% utilization, but Lincoln is still high with over 90% utilization.

Board members said that they had heard from only two families about Option D, only one of which lived in the area.

It should also be said that no students will be moved. Once a student starts in a school, s/he will finish in the school.

Future School Boards would have the option of changing boundaries.

B. Grandfathering – Dr. Moyer suggested that any new student that enters an elementary school after construction is completed will be in the new boundary area.

Board member discussion decided that grandfathering should be set up so that when a house is purchased in a boundary area, it stays in the boundary area until the house is sold/repurchased.

C. No Boundary Changes:

- Would be unable to have all day kindergarten (ADK) at neighborhood schools.
- Inability to balance/lower class size.
- Additions at elementary schools – This would be tight to add onto these land-locked schools.

D. Capacity = # of Classrooms X 25(students). In this plan wouldn't need to change any middle school boundaries.

School	2017-18 Capacity	Option Capacity	Enrolled Utilization	Option D Mod Est. Utilization
Edison	425	600	69.4%	63.2%
Emerson	525	525	84.8%	84.6%
Field	450	500	93.6%	86.6%
Fischer	550	550	80.7%	84.2%
Hawthorne	600	600	82.0%	76.5%
Jackson	475	475	91.2%	76.6%
Jefferson	450	450	87.1%	83.3%
Lincoln	550	600	99.8%	92.3%

Concerns about Fischer not having enough space were questioned. Dr. Moyer said that as the Dual Language program progresses into future years, classrooms will be used differently, so they may not be as short on room as some fear. He did suggest adding a classroom next to the stage for music. Also, the number of those who may want to participate in dual language is unknown.

Mrs. Caforio asked if there could be more capacity at Jackson? Dr. Moyer said that 3 more classrooms could be built at Jackson.

Dr. Moyer hoped to get the “boundaries” off the table tonight. The Board came to a consensus that option D modified was acceptable (but if

needed in the future, it may be a different boundary change).

Accelerated Facilities Timeline: Considered Option 5 –

To speed up the ADK and safe and secure entrances, it would cost an additional \$10/year in taxes for a \$500,000 home. (\$160 rather than \$150 annually). This would put the ADK start at 2022 and safe and secure entrances at 2020. This option would have the Board take \$1,000,000 out of reserves to be used BEFORE a referendum could/would pass for going forward with the design process.

The Board took this option off the table.

All Day Kindergarten: Lots of discussion was had on a Kindergarten Center. This issue has come back because community members do not want to have boundary adjustments.

Board member Collins offered a suggestion (as to having a fruitful discussion) to, for instance, have D205 make a trade with the Park District for the baseball field near Edison in trade for Van Voorst Park next to Jefferson. Have Edison become a K Center and add on to Jefferson for those Edison older students who would be displaced. Dr. Moyer said that if about 600 Kindergarten students were enrolled at an addition at Edison, busing and individual family transportation would be a huge strain on the area. Dr. Moyer also stated there aren't many Kindergarten centers of this enrollment size.

Mr. Collins also noted that ADK is an economic decision: he would like Chicago families moving out to the western suburbs, to consider Elmhurst as well as Glen Ellyn and Wheaton.

D205 would choose to offer ADK, but would charge tuition (perhaps \$3500 annually). Some on the Board accepted this, with the ability to reduce the cost for those families that would benefit from ADK. Other Board members are advocating for no tuition. To offer a “free” ADK, it would cost an additional \$1,000,000 annually.

Mrs. Caforio suggested having ADK at some of the local schools, not all of them. Mrs. Ebner also said she has heard some community members support north, south and central K centers.

“Shouldn't there be a plan before building?” was asked by Board

member Blum.

Dr. Moyer said that if the Board is suggesting that to have ADK and no boundary changes and looking at smaller additions and less money spent, then having a referendum on the November ballot would be off the table.

A Board member asked if there was the possibility to have ADK second semester next year at some schools? Dr. Moyer said yes, but would be an equity issue.

The ADK tuition will be discussed at a later date.

New vs. Renovated Field Elementary School: The cost of building a new Field vs. renovating Field is an additional \$7.4 million. Consensus of the Board was to build a new Field.

Questions were asked why Field is not being built/re-built as a 4-section school. Dr. Moyer suggested that Field “didn’t need” it and it couldn’t handle any more students.

It could be a three-story school and be a 4-section school.

There was talk about building a structure with a roof that would allow for another level at a later date. The construction management professional said that there are many school districts do put on a roof which can hold another floor, but he has not heard of any actually going ahead with this type of project.

Facility Options 1-4: Dr. Moyer asked if the Board was comfortable testing (in a phone survey) for the “future-ready” options (options 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b)? Consensus was yes.

Telephone Poll?/Next Steps? The Board had been talking through most of the meeting to do another phone poll. The timing is:

- June 29 – July 6 constructing poll
- July 14 Poll in the field (takes 3 -5 days)
- Aug. 6 – 9 present data to D205 Board
- Cost \$22,500 (initial poll was \$17,500)
- 300 respondents using both landlines and cell phones.

Dr. Harrell expressed concern about families not paying attention to this issue. Ms. Sutter replied that the survey takers would continue until they

received 300 responses.

Communication professional Marcia Sutter asked about directional questions:

- Narrow down options (compare options 3B and 4B)
- Bus to ADK?
- New vs. renovated Field
- Tax sensitivity
- Viability of ADK
- Test ballot language
- ADK – neighborhood schools vs. K Center (although Dr. Moyer expressed discomfort with K Center.)
- Incorporate ADK and boundary changes
- Tuition component for ADK

Public Comment:

Two parents from the Jefferson area spoke against option C on boundary changes.

Superintendent's Agenda:

Approval of Telephone Poll by Strategies 360: New Executive Director of Communications/Public Relations, Bev Redmond, stated that the new poll would cost \$5,000 more than the previous one. It is because of its being summer as well as the timeframe to get this completed quickly. Mr. Blum insisted on negotiating to hopefully reduce this amount. Dr. Harrell stated that it is due to the Board's need to gather information quickly that the price is so much higher. The motion was carried 5 yes, 1 present (Harrell) and 1 absent (Stuefen).