



Elementary Redistricting Committee **AGENDA and MINUTES**

Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2020; 6:00 PM

Location: Via Zoom

Attendees: Elena Mack, David O'Donnell (Co-Chairs) **Members:** Jason Gerhart, Todd Hippauf, Laura Hottenstein, Tiziana Jones, Bobbie Keller, Jennifer Klady, Roberta Marie Rogers, James Zepp **Alternates:** Toni Becker, Susan Gable, Tera Remick

Administration: Nancianne Edwards, Assistant Superintendent; Wayne McCullough, Consultant; Eric Thompson, Principal SGC; Zach Garger, Acting Principal Pfaff; Zach Schoch, Chief Operating Officer

Unable to Attend: Angela Cassel, Christina Harmonosky, Rachel Davish, Glen Iosue

Committee Goal: Charge to the Elementary Reassignment Options Committee

The Committee is charged to (1) Develop options for the grade level configuration and redistricting of elementary (or K-6) students to be implemented at the start of the 2021-22 school year (2) Evaluate those options based on impact on academic program, impact on students and families, cost-effectiveness, efficiency, impact on facilities (including the future use of Quakertown Elementary and the Sixth Grade Center), requirement for construction, renovations, or modular classrooms, impact on transportation, impact on personnel savings, and other criteria as the committee deems appropriate. (3) Report its findings, decision matrix, and recommendations to the Board no later than January 31, 2021.

Meeting Objectives:

- Get to Know the Committee
- Consultant and Co-Chairs for the Committee
- Develop Committee Norms
- Begin Data Review

Schedule [120 mins]

Time	Mins.	Activity
6:00- 6:30 pm	30	Committee Member Introductions (N. Edwards) <i>Each member and alternate introduced themselves and shared a short bio about themselves.</i> <i>Nancianne also introduced PASBO Consultant Wayne McCullough, who will be supporting the committee's work</i>
6:30- 6:35 pm	5	Leadership of the Committee (N. Edwards) Members of the committee who had volunteered to co-lead talked last week, and David O'Donnell and Elena Mack will be the co-chairs of the committee. Going forward, David, Elena, Wayne, and Nancianne will meet to finalize and agenda and prepare for each committee meeting
6:35 - 6:50 pm	15	Develop Committee Norms (David and Elena) Committee members asked for the committee to establish norms - below are some suggestions from prior community committees for discussion, additions, and changes: Start on time, end on time Respectful discussion Share transparently Be open minded in considering various options Public Comment time at end of each meeting <i>Commitment - read materials and be prepared for meetings and discussion.</i> <i>Actively participate - participation of all committee members - everyone's voice is important</i> <i>Reassess Norms as needed</i>
6:50 - 7:20 pm	30	Begin Data Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilities <i>Ms. Edwards suggested everyone look in Team Drive to discuss the documents to make sure everyone understands the documents. She further explained how building capacities are calculated in different ways - i.e., sq. footage/practical spaces for students and how many can fit in those spaces/specialty areas (Learning Support and ELL - smaller spaces)</i> <i>PDE requires calculations in a specific way.</i> <i>Capacity means different things and depends on the definition and purpose.</i>

		<p><i>Mr. Hippauf asked if there is a percentage of capacity that can be looked at for each building? Mr. McCullough advised that trends through PA and PDE never want to hit 100% at any time; elementary 90%; MS - 85%; HS at 80% would be bursting at seams. We will get the actual data. Mr. Hippauf inquired if that goes hand-and-hand with class size as well.? PDE uses 30 students which is not realistic.</i></p> <p><i>What are the actual number of general classrooms available and compare to enrollment in a building so rooms are not repurposed.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Schoch shared the 5-year capital improvement plan. Ms. Edwards explained that the Facilities Committee set up a few years ago helped update many of our buildings. With the exception of QE, the oldest building without renovations is Trumbauersville.</i></p> <p><i>Mrs. Rogers wanted to know if there were any plans in the works to renovate QE. Obstacles of QE footprint is limited and the ability for expansion. Departmentalization and bubbles of students makes it difficult to provide in a 2 section deep school.</i></p> <p><i>It was requested if maps of the schools could be placed in the Team Drive. Ms. Edwards explained that if they were placed in the drive, they could not be shared publicly due to safety reasons.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enrollment Projections <p><i>New birth statistics for 2019 should be available soon and we will update the projected enrollment document currently in drive and do actual projections. Projections are usually good for five years. Live births is the starting point for projections. Since the early 2000's, birth rates have dropped significantly. Ms. Edwards explained how enrollments are calculated (live birth ratio five years prior; five year average identifies trends, not blips (events). There are several different methodologies to use to calculate.</i></p> <p><i>Pandemic is blip which may become a trend or not (lost 100 students due to private, homeschooling, charter). Is this a one year situation only or will many of those students return after the pandemic? It was requested to receive numbers as to how many students left the district from each elementary school, SCG, SMS, and SHS.</i></p> <p><i>Most elementary classes are around 300 students. The SGC had 420 students in 19-20 and 353 (378 before privates/charter school withdrawals) in</i></p>
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		<p>20-21. These lower class sizes in the elementary grades will reduce the pressure on the middle and high school levels over the next few years.</p> <p>Mr. McCullough and Ms. Edwards discussed progression ratios - # students in prior year / current year to tell how many students in K will enroll in first grade, etc. Most grades ratio are one meaning the same stay for each grade from year-to-year; sixth grade is above 1 (students who go to private school K-5 and then enroll in the SGC); 9th grade increases (move from private school). Mr. McCullough emphasized that the progression ratio will project the best data. He stated there is a temptation to look out 10 years; however, experience shows that 5 years is what can be projected with the most accuracy. A progression ratio of 1 is a good indicator of a community being very satisfied with its schools.</p> <p>Mr. Zepp requested if the enrollment numbers for each building instead of capacity could be added to the Team Drive. Mr. Gerhart further requested enrollments from the past few years Ms. Edwards explained the documents which would be uploaded also breaks down into specialized programs. What are the actual number of general classrooms available and compare to enrollment in a building so rooms are not repurposed.</p> <p>Mrs. Rogers inquired about cross-over populations. Mrs. Pelone, of Pupil Services, could be invited to a meeting to explain those areas and how those classes are combined. ELL is in every building; Life Skills at Pfaff, Intensive Learning support at Richland. A Pre-K class has been designated for Neidig through the IU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other Team Drive Documents
7:30 - 7:45 pm	15	<p>Identify guest experts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilities Curriculum/Grade Level Configuration and Educational Program? Equity? QE History? Other? <p>Mr. O'Donnell asked the Committee who else they would like to hear from. Mrs. Gable suggested the building principals give their perspective. Mrs. Rogers asked Mr. Thompson for his perspective. Each year brings different challenges on how a building is used.</p> <p>Mr. Gerhart - tours of QE & SGC and maybe all buildings were suggested. It</p>

		<p><i>was decided to prioritize QE & SGC because these buildings will potentially affect all the other buildings. Mr. Hippauf suggested having an engineer accompany on the building tours. Possibly do the first tour on October 21. Prior to tour determine what they are specifically looking to see.</i></p>
7:45 - 8:00 pm	15	<p>Public Comment</p> <p><i>Mr. Spear shared a portion of the Schrader report with suggested class sizes.</i></p>
		<p>Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 (or October 21st)</p> <p><i>Draft Topic:</i></p> <p>Determine Methodology and Key Decision Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Determining Decision Criteria ● Determining Grade Level Configuration(s) ● Determining Building Usage Options for Selected Configuration(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Class sizes, equity ● Evaluation of Decision Criteria for Each Option ● Determining Attendance Boundaries and Assignment Map <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Travel time ● Other options - use of survey(s)? <p><i>Mr. O'Donnell, Mrs. Mack, Mr. McCullough, and Ms. Edwards will meet prior to October 14 and discuss the next agenda.</i></p> <p><i>The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.</i></p>