

Minutes of the
Flexible Boundary Committee Meeting
7 April 2010
L.J. Hauser Jr. High School

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. The following individuals were in attendance:

Committee members

Jennifer Leimberer, Board of Education Member (Chair)
Mary T. Stimming, Board of Education Member
Karen Magee, Blythe Park representative
Greg Nessinger, Central representative

Participating Members of the Public

Michelle Backus, Blythe Park
Catherine Lemon, Blythe Park and Hauser
Elizabeth Fragoso de Dvorak, Hollywood

2. Public Comment/Statement

There were no Public Comments.

3. Review and Approve 25 March 2010 Minutes

The Minutes of the 25 March 2010 Meeting were approved with no amendments.

4. Initial Public Responses to Committee Draft Recommendations

Karen Magee recently described the current thinking of the Flexible Boundary Committee to the Executive Board of Blythe's PTA. Following her report, Board members Catherine Lemon and Michelle Backus offered to share their members' response with the FB Committee.

Mrs. Lemon and Mrs. Backus offered the following observations and questions:

- What does planning ahead in March for anticipated September enrollment accomplish?
- Is leaving "space" within grade sections fair? Perhaps not necessary at all schools; only Ames?
- Giving more weight to proximity is good; but if it only minimizes the disruption the FB policy causes, why bother?
- Moving to a "Zone/Target" system just switches who is most affected by the FB Policy. Now is "unfair" to families in the center of town.
- Agree that proximity should matter, but why then not make a "real change" and consider fixed attendance boundaries?
- What about other radical options: shifting boundaries? Expanding Blythe? Will Board consider radical solutions?
- Standard parent and realtor expectation is fixed attendance boundaries; uncertainty and problems bred by FB policy are a problem within this community.

Approved by Committee on May 12, 2010

Greg Nessinger reported that the Central PTA offered some similar reactions. Central also expressed reluctance to hold one Kindergarten information night for the entire district due to prior experience with this model.

5. Committee Response

The Committee thanked Mrs. Lemon and Mrs. Backus for taking time to attend the meeting and share the sentiments from the Blythe Executive Board. These will be taken under serious advisement.

There was consensus to remove from the policy recommendations any reference to building "space" into the March section projections. This is a matter best left to administration implementation planning.

6. Next Meeting and Tasks

The next meeting of the Flexible Boundary Committee will be on 12 May 2010 at Hauser.

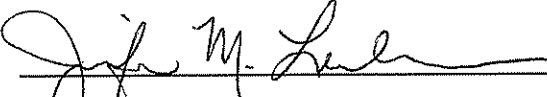
Future tasks:

- Jennifer Leimberer and Mary Stimming will meet with Superintendent Lamberson to discuss the FB Committee's work.
- Re-categorize "Recommendations" into such topics as Processes for Student Placement, Class Size Management, Recommendations for Registration/Communication for the Public, etc.
- Prepare Fall Presentations for the Public and the Board (over summer).

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.


Mary T. Stimming, Recorder


Jennifer M. Leimberer, Committee Chair