



Boundary Adjustment Committee Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

FACILITATORS:

Mark Anderson
Craig Numata

Phil Crocker

Harium Martin-Morris

ATTENDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chris Barton

Ginny Kleman

Lindsey Shaw

Brent Christensen

Lacie Magin

Julie Shepard

Kristin Day

Kathleen Murray

Bryan Schutz

Aaron Dingfield

Amber O'Conner

Rod Tamura

Cassidy Doohan

Megan Read

Gary Teale

Corina Fletcher

Keith Reilly

Jamie Traeger

Katrina Hawker

Peter Richter

Amanda Young

ATTENDING BOARD AND STAFF MEMBERS:

Andee Atwood

Jerrall Haynes

Beth Nye

Heather Bybee

Shawn Jordan

Jeremy Ochse

Cindy Coleman

Nikki Lockwood

Joe Phipps

Kale Colyar

Steph Lundberg

Clint Price

Steve Fisk

Matt McFarland

Ryan Rowe

Greg Forsyth

Theresa Meyer

Adam Swinyard

Dr. Anderson welcomed everyone to the first Boundary Adjustment Committee meeting for the 2020-21 school year with a reminder of the group's mission to study attendance boundary adjustments needed to accommodate the new middle schools, and make a recommendation to the School Board. He shared SPS staff changes:

- Dr. Adam Swinyard, Superintendent of Spokane Public Schools replaced Dr. Redinger
- Heather Bybee, Chief Academic Officer, assuming many of Dr. Swinyard's former roles
- Cindy Coleman, Chief Finance and Business Services Officer, assuming many of Dr. Linda McDermott's former roles
- Clint Price, Executive Director of Elementary Schools replacing Jennifer Keck
- Ryan Rowe, Fiscal Analysis/Data Reporting, will phase in for Craig Numata who was named Budget Director
- Sandra Jarrard, Director of Community Relations, replacing Brian Coddington
- Nikki Lockwood, School Board Member in place of Kevin Morrison

Dr. Swinyard addressed the committee and expressed his appreciation for the difficult work they have done, and will continue to do to accomplish the mission of boundary changes to better serve the students of Spokane as we move to a 6-8 grade middle school format. He reiterated his appreciation for community partners like them to make thoughtful decisions even through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Phil Crocker reviewed the protocol for Zoom meetings and reminded the committee of the guidelines from the School Board to consider when discussing different mapping scenarios:

- Communication
- Diversity
- Legacy/grandfathering solutions
- Neighborhoods
- School Quality
- Transportation

Phil reviewed the work accomplished by the committee from its inception in January 2020 through June of 2020. The committee made a great deal of progress with middle schools and high schools, ending with an overwhelming majority agreeing to one map to move forward with to evaluate elementary boundaries. Discussion will continue to cross-over between all educational levels to complete the process.

Craig Numata shared statistics for multiple scenarios with their effect on demographics such as enrollment numbers, free/reduced levels, race/diversity, and special education. There are multiple variables to consider with each feeder pattern/scenario.

Phil arranged break-out groups to discuss how the committee's selected starting map aligns or does not align with the Boundary guidelines. Some observations from the breakout sessions include:

- Some schools would have a significant increase in enrollment – possibly over their physical capacity
- Some schools would have a significant decrease – there is a need to balance student population with school capacity.
- English Language Learners and Special Education populations appear consistent
- Free/Reduced population distributions are similar to the existing boundaries
- Transportation – the committee generally supports moving the west hills students to north schools to reduce distance at the elementary and middle levels
- A few elementary schools split into multiple middle and high schools
- North Central has a high number of free/reduced students and the committee would like to try to achieve some balance. They would like to explore any potential for this when designing elementary feeder patterns.
- The River Run area has multiple factors that are still problematic and will need to be addressed in coming meetings
- In the west end of South Hill the demographics, specifically free and reduced lunch populations, remain unbalanced
- The District may need to reach out to the city Planning Department for their projections on housing developments in different areas.

Phil said they would get the statistical documents into Basecamp prior to the next scheduled meetings to preview if desired. We will also allow more time for discussion in breakout groups at the upcoming meetings.

The meetings for the rest of 2020 are scheduled for: October 29, November 19, and December 10th. In January, we plan to start meeting twice a month.

Mark ended the meeting at 7:58 p.m.