



# Boundary Steering and Review Committee Meeting Minutes

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	November 12, 2007	<b>Minutes Prepared By:</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Boardroom	Sarah Siple
<b>Time:</b>	5:00 – 7:30 p.m.	
<b>Approved:</b>	Approved by Steering Committee December 6	

## IN ATTENDANCE

### **Steering Committee**

- Joe Ahlbrandt
- Amy Bibbey
- Shannon Bingham
- Jay Bustos
- Tommi Sue Cox
- Deon Davis
- Tom Lopez
- Char Micek
- Kellie Nuber
- George Osborn
- Manny Ortega
- Nancy Ozzello
- Judson Rhoads
- John Rohrbaugh
- Jim Sarchet
- Sarah Siple
- Jim Sprowell
- Ric Thompson
- Andrea Tribelhorn

### **Review Committee (Administration)**

- Bauder - Brian Carpenter
- Beattie - Sam Aldern
- Blevins - Bryan Davis
- Dunn - Evelyn Jacobi
- Eyestone - Lisa R. Rossi
- Fort Collins - Mark Eversole
- Fossil Ridge - Dierdre Cook
- Irish - Guillermo Medina
- Johnson - Will Allen
- Lab - Stephen Bergen
- Leshner - Thomas Dodd
- Lincoln - Monique Flickinger
- Linton - Marsha Gustafson
- Livermore - Patrick Kind
- McGraw - Bob Kulovany
- Moore - Amy Smith
- ODea - Ann Alfonso
- Poudre - Sandra Lundt
- Putnam - Steve Apodaca
- Red Feather - Patrick Kind
- Riffenburgh - Marc Ryby
- Rocky Mountain - Wayne Modellmog
- Tavelli - Dan Lawler
- Traut - Mark Wertheimer
- Wellington - Michael Martin
- Werner - Hayden Camp
- Zach - Kim Nohava

### **Review Committee (Parents/Community)**

- Bacon - David Johnson
- Bauder - Tricia Kob
- Beattie - Sabine DeVoe
- Eyestone - Anne Pierick
- Irish - Maria Ortiz
- Johnson - Chris Conradson
- Kruse - Lynne Klingelsmith
- Lab - Jennifer Sunderland
- Laurel - Kate Malers
- Linton - Denis Apodaca
- McGraw - Reenie Terjak
- ODea - Debbie Goodwin
- Putnam - Erin Hall
- Rice - Shawn Brann
- Riffenburgh - Deb DeLuca-Forzley
- Shepardson - Kristin Stolte
- Tavelli - Marla Maxey
- Werner - Lisa Brose
- Zach - Anna Dickerson
- Blevins - Karen Kaminski
- Kinard - Sandy Dahlberg
- Kinard - Keith Bainer
- Fort Collins - Mark Cummings
- Fossil - Renee Haynes
- Poudre - Kelly Haferman

## AGENDA AND MEETING NOTES

### ❖ **ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

- Steering Committee Approved Boundary Steering Committee November 1<sup>st</sup> Minutes
  - Posted at: [http://www.psdschools.org/documentlibrary/downloads/Superintendent\\_Office/Initiatives\\_07-08/Boundary\\_Changes/Boundary\\_Committee\\_Minutes/Boundary\\_Committee\\_Minutes\\_11-01-2007.pdf](http://www.psdschools.org/documentlibrary/downloads/Superintendent_Office/Initiatives_07-08/Boundary_Changes/Boundary_Committee_Minutes/Boundary_Committee_Minutes_11-01-2007.pdf)

❖ **Welcome, Introductions and Explanation of Agenda (Jim Sarchet)**

❖ **Boundary Process Overview (Jim Sarchet)**

▪ **Frequently Asked Questions**

• ***Why do we have to change boundaries and why is it a constant process?***

- Analyzing Poudre School District's boundaries is a constant process because of some of the following issues:
  - Neighborhoods tend to age out over a 17 year period
  - Neighborhood grow and change
  - Opening of schools
  - Balancing enrollment in schools

• ***Would boundaries have changed without grade reconfiguration?***

- Yes. Poudre School District would be looking to balance enrollment for the high schools. Grade configuration adds to the process and adds to the complexity but regardless of grade configuration we would still be looking at boundaries changes.

• ***I am an Elementary or Junior High representative; why am I here?***

- The District will be working to balance high school enrollment by modifying high school boundaries first but issues that effect elementary and junior high boundaries like feeders are being taken into consideration. The next steps of the boundary process will be to look at Elementary and Junior High boundaries.

• ***I am a Review Committee representative; what is my role?***

- The Steering Committee will complete a majority of the analysis and will present selected scenarios to the Review Committee.
- The Review Committee is made up of representatives from each school and will be expected to review and comment on the scenarios to the Steering Committee.

▪ **Overview of the Boundary Process/Timeline**

<b>Aug. 2007:</b>	Staff and demographer develop possible high school scenarios, using current and projected enrollment data and trends.
<b>Sept. – Oct. 2007:</b>	Steering Committee reviews, discusses, and modifies preliminary scenarios.
<b>Nov. – Feb. 2008:</b>	Steering Committee narrows scenarios and presents recommendations to Review Committee for discussion and input.
<b>Jan. – Feb. 2008:</b>	Steering Committee begins forming a boundary recommendation.
<b>Early-Mar. 2008:</b>	Committee members, principals and school representatives review preliminary scenarios with community at public input meetings at each high school location.
<b>Mid-Mar. – Apr. 2008:</b>	Steering Committee uses school community and Review Committee feedback to update and propose scenarios.
<b>May 2008:</b>	Steering Committee finalizes recommendation given input; final recommended scenarios presented to Superintendent who approves final scenarios.
<b>June – July 2008:</b>	Families of students impacted are informed about boundary changes.
<b>Fall 2009:</b>	Boundary changes are implemented.

▪ **Current Mission**

- To Better Balance High School Enrollment

o **Guiding Principles**

**Boundary Guiding Principles**

1. Balance individual school enrollments in relation to individual school capacities throughout the District and provide for optional or choice programs in schools
  - A. Balance enrollment and adjust for district-wide optional or choice programs
  - B. Work to establish contiguous boundaries
  - C. Consider balance of socio-economic and at-risk status of students
  - D. Consider school of choice and its affects when developing boundary scenarios and balancing enrollment
2. Accommodate projected student population growth and/or decline
3. Provide efficient use of bus transportation and minimize bus ride times for students
4. Strive for efficient and effective use of instructional facilities with all of our school sites
5. Align feeders in conjunction with proposed grade reconfiguration  
Develop incremental steps to align select feeder systems and phase in moves to limit the number of students impacted

o **School of Choice Policy and idea of "Parity"**

PSD's School Choice program allows families to select the school that best meets their child's educational needs. Parents may register their child to attend a school outside their neighborhood attendance area on a space-available basis. Round-trip transportation is the responsibility of parents.

**School Choice Priority Order**

School Choice students are accepted in the following priority order:

- Students who reside within the attendance area of the neighborhood school they wish to attend
- Currently enrolled students and students who wish to continue attending a program that spans different grade levels and schools (such as a Core Knowledge or IB program)
- New student applicants who reside in the district who are siblings of a currently enrolled student and who live at the same residence as the currently enrolled student
- Children of school employees who reside in the district
- New student applicants who reside in the district and are not siblings of a currently enrolled student living at the same residence or the child of a school employee
- New student applicants who reside outside the district who are siblings of a currently enrolled student and who live at the same residence as the currently enrolled student
- Children of school employees who reside outside the district
- New student applicants who reside outside the district and are not siblings of a currently enrolled student living at the same residence or the child of a school employee

❖ **The Steering Committee Process (Sarah Siple)**

- o Scenarios (*There have been 18 scenarios thus far*)
  - Scenario proposal
  - Graphic of scenario is created
  - Pros and cons
  - Quantitative Evaluation (using current data, trends, and projections)
  - Discussion throughout
  - Steering Committee votes (scale 1 to 3) to reduce number of scenarios
  - Proposal of additional scenarios

❖ **Considerations for Boundary Moves (Kellie Nuber)**

- **Optimal Capacities of Schools (85%)**
  - Fort Collins: 1772
  - Fossil Ridge: 1862
  - Poudre: 1811
  - Rocky: 1836
- Due to scheduling, differences in buildings, and other factors some schools can hold more than optimal capacity
- **Population Growth/Decline**
  - Population growth within the district are:
    - Along I-25/Timnath
    - Southeast Fort Collins
    - Wellington areas
  - Areas of population decline:
    - Central areas
    - CSU student rentals
  - Population growth and/or decline in current high School boundary areas
    - Fort Collins very little or no growth
    - Fossil Ridge has a lot of potential growth in the future
    - Poudre has some decline and some growth
    - Rocky has no growth opportunity
- **Weakening Diversity**
  - Some schools are more diverse than others
- **Transportation**
  - Distance and time
  - Longer to drive East/West than North/South
  - At the HS level the students are driving and how far would they be driving along the interstate
- **Feeders**
  - How the elementary schools feed to junior high and junior high schools feed to high schools
  - A direct feeder is preferred so teachers can better collaborate
  - It isn't possible to have perfect feeders throughout the entire district because of factors such as student enrollment fluctuations
- Minimizing Student Movement

❖ **Overview of Past Scenarios Issues (Kellie Nuber)**

- Past scenarios that were voted as not feasible were discussed
- Some of the reasons for deeming an area as not an optimal boundary move are breaking feeders, moving boundary areas from a high school with declining growth, moving students from one full school to another full school, crossing College Avenue

❖ **Summary of High School Thoughts and Concerns**

At the November 1<sup>st</sup> Steering Committee meeting representatives of each high school were given an opportunity to discuss items of concern, etc. The following is a summary of those comments:

- **Fort Collins High School (Joe Ahlbrandt)**
  - Fort Collins representatives expressed concern related to the future placement of a 5<sup>th</sup> high school and how a new high school could affect current and/or future Fort Collins High School boundaries, resulting in another reduction of student enrollment similar to what happened when Fossil Ridge opened. In the mission to balance high school enrollment Fort Collins High School would like to modify boundaries in order to acquire a growth area(s).
- **Fossil Ridge High School (Andrea Tribelhorn)**
  - Fossil Ridge High School opened in 2004 with around 475 students, since that time student enrollment has increased and will continue to grow in the future but it is uncertain how quickly that growth will take place. Fossil Ridge administration has expressed that they are comfortable being a "smaller" high school, currently around 1100 students, but if they are going to continue to grow they would like to have boundary areas that would allow the high school to reach student enrollment similar to some of the other high schools.

- **Poudre High School (George Osborne)**
  - Poudre High School's primary concerns are to accommodate a 9th grade class as a result of grade reconfiguration, as well as to preserve the intent and integrity of two PSD Programs--The International Baccalaureate Program and the Newcomer Academy-- which are housed at Poudre High School. Poudre would not be able to successfully accomplish this endeavor given no boundary modifications; therefore some Poudre boundaries need to move in order to reduce overall student enrollment.
- **Rocky Mountain High School (Tom Lopez)**
  - Rocky's concern is that they are land-locked given their current boundaries and there is no opportunity for growth in the future; therefore, the student population in Rocky's current boundary areas will decrease steadily over the next several years. Rocky would like to use the current PSD School of Choice policy to reduce student enrollment in order to accommodate the 9<sup>th</sup> grade class coming as a result of grade configuration and not modify their boundary areas.
- **Other Issues (Jim Sarchet)**
  - The Steering Committee is in agreement that the least amount of movement in order to meet the goal of better balancing high school enrollment is most appealing.
    - It is not desirable to move a boundary area now in order to better balance enrollment knowing the boundary would most likely have to be moved again in a few years to re-balance enrollment.
  - A point made was that each high school has a unique optimal capacity and each high school is able to accommodate a different number of students due to scheduling, usable space and other factors; this has to be taken into consideration with analyzing boundary scenarios.
- **Overview of the Current Scenarios – Handouts (Kellie Nuber)**
  - Maps of current high school boundaries, as well as four current scenarios (A thru D) were presented
  - **Note that the scenarios presented were not the “final” scenarios.** There could be revisions or additional scenarios as the committees review projected student enrollments.
- **Next Steps (Sarah Siple)**
  - The next Steering Committee meeting is December 6<sup>th</sup>
  - The next Review Committee meeting is February 13<sup>th</sup>
  - Community meetings are scheduled at each high school March 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>
- **Questions, discussion and opportunity to propose additional scenarios (Group)**
  - Comments, ideas and scenarios can also be e-mailed to Sarah Siple ([ssiple@psdschools.org](mailto:ssiple@psdschools.org))

#### **FOR ADDITIONAL BOUNDARY INFORMATION**

- <http://www.psdschools.org/psdinfo/leadership/majorinitiatives/boundarychanges.aspx>
- <http://www.psdschools.org/schools/boundarymaps.aspx>
- Contact Sarah Siple at [ssiple@psdschools.org](mailto:ssiple@psdschools.org) or 490-3501

\*\*\*Meeting ended at 7:30 p.m. \*\*\*