

Local Planning Committee
July 16, 2007
IAKSS Building

Members present: Jim Duncan, Todd Johnson, Bill Wallace, Scott Winkler, Matt Thompson, Kathy Hillyard, Becky Sagan, Bob Joice, Steve Kay, Kari Kirchner, Mike Wlosinski and Mary Browning.

Meeting called to order 4:37 p.m.

Everyone introduced themselves.

Minutes were reviewed, Jim Duncan made a motion to approve the minutes, Kathy Hillyard seconded. Motion passed by consensus.

Bill Wallace gave an update on the elementary schools under construction: William Wells Brown Elementary is nearly 18% complete; Liberty Elementary 22% complete; and Sandersville Elementary 20% complete. The Red Tailed Hawk nest will be removed from Liberty Road School soon so that the site can be completely cleared.

Question: *Is being done to address the leaking at BSHS?* Bill responded that the contractor and maintenance people had been up on the roof and had identified at least 8 places where the roof was leaking and they were working on solutions. *Is the district or the district's insurance was paying the cost of repairs?* The contractor's insurance will pay.

Will the current pace of progress were going to be sustained in relation to the new buildings? Bill replied that typically the only way to determine progress is through the submission of pay applications, true progress is much more difficult to determine. At the current pace, the schools should open on schedule.

Bob Joice presented maps showing areas of diversity with relation to race and ethnicity, socio economic status and free and reduced lunch numbers.

Question: *How much do we anticipate those numbers having changed since '04?* Bob replied that the district has not paid much attention since then, but it seems to be more diverse. Veterans Park, Rosa Parks and Booker T. Washington seem somewhat extreme, but the rest seem to relate well to the area of town they are in.

Bob also shared a map with vacant residential land – there is not much land that could be developed in the south end of the county. There is a fair bit of land in the north and east ends of town. FCPS projections include this. The district expects that there will be more diversity as the undeveloped areas grow. At the middle school level, there is a big difference in the SES between Beaumont and Leestown Middle Schools, as well as total enrollment numbers, but the rest of the district is fairly even. The schools with the least enrollment – Leestown, Winburn, Bryan Station, LTMS show available capacity. Edythe J. Hayes show they are above capacity. There is a lot of capacity in middle schools, mostly on the north end of town – with the exception of Tates Creek (on the south end). Middle School ethnicity – all schools have some ethnic diversity.

Is there any way to break down between students leaving the school and coming into the school and what percentage is out of area versus magnet locations? Is it roughly the same, going in are magnet or NCLB students. Students can leave a school for a variety of reasons.

Elementary – graphic shows crowding five years ago and approx. ten years ago. After building Rosa Parks and Veteran’s Park the resulting overcrowding along the Nicholasville Road corridor has been essentially the same. The big difference being that there were a number of portables that were moved off of elementary campuses.

Question: *In the areas that are still overcrowded now, do we have more children per household still in those areas or do newer developments have more?* There may be a little bit of growth in the south end, but because there are no longer parcels to develop, over the next 15 years there could be a gradual or even steep decline.

Currently, significantly underutilized schools are Mary Todd, Booker T. Washington, Johnson and Tates Creek Elementary. There are a number that are not fully utilized, but they have more students in them than 5 years ago. There will be a need to build a new school along the I-75 corridor, there should be plans to build a school in that area, but it will not be needed in the next 6 years. We may be able to enlarge Clays Mill by 150 and that would help eliminate issues in that area.

Bob reviewed the projection numbers. There has been a gradual increase in elementary numbers which will eventually impact middle and high school. There are nine cluster areas which approximate a middle school boundary. Actual enrollment and projection numbers for the next 5 years along with capacity at each school were shared with the group.

Question: *Are there any schools that are trending down?* Generally yes, we haven’t looked at it carefully. *Are they related geographically?* Clearly, they are on the North side of town, but further review is needed.

Question: *The one school that jumps out is Tates Creek High school, why is that one going down?* We do our projections based on middle school enrollment. The trends have been going down both at Southern Middle and Tates Creek Middle, whether that is aging of the neighborhood or some other factor that makes those areas unattractive. I do assume that there will be redistricting from Henry Clay to Tates Creek. It might be that once the IB program at Tates Creek takes off, we won’t need to redistrict.

Additionally, there may be a time in the next couple of years that we will have four year olds in our schools. We have capacity for that, but if that should not happen, we may have an issue.

Bob also shared the capacity document for the elementary schools that takes into account early start, needs for FRYSCs, art rooms, science rooms, etc. It also sees to it that older buildings have enough space for resource rooms. The capacities have been adjusted to allow for those additions.

John Kiser presented on transportation. New transportation scheduled is hoped to allow the district to deploy all of their resources at the same time in an efficient manner. The district continues to search for drivers and anticipate being ready on the first day of school. Transportation covers 285 square miles, 7,600 bus stops, 1,080 bus routes, 26,000 eligible riders, 15,000 miles per day, 54 schools supported, and 2,500 gallons of diesel fuel are used per day. There are two bus terminals one at Liberty Road, one at Springhill Drive. The district owns 250 busses and 150 support vehicles. There are 450 employees with a total payroll of over \$7.5

million and the annual budget is \$11 million (with a full complement of employees). The district does about 30,000 student rides per day.

Because the district has purchased larger busses in the last three budget cycles they have been able to deal with the slight increase in ridership and the downturn in available bus drivers.

Policy considerations: students are eligible to ride a bus if they live more than a mile from the school. The cost per student increases due to the inclusion of monitors on busses. Programs that increase the cost: Student continuation program, any district wide program (magnet programs, gifted and talented, ESL programs), NCLB.

Question: *Is the district utilizing any sort of environmental impact measures?* We are currently piloting a bio-diesel project.

You have 29,000 eligible riders, what are eligible riders? The students who live more than a mile from their home school.

In looking to move the bus facility, what is the estimated cost of moving the facility in terms of the underground fuel tank? We would simply close them up, there would be costs involved, but we will not close one and put another in the ground. The tank will be closed, the site will be cleaned up and we will go to an above ground system at the new site.

Mary commented that a relationship exists between transportation and facilities, the committee will need to consider cost and demographics. Are we building schools where children live so they can walk or are we building where transportation will be added? It is one of the things that KDE asks us to consider when we discuss location of school sites.

Lars Finneseth presented on project proposals - From time to time entities identify needs at schools, things such as playground, field houses, storage houses, etc. A lot of times the district is not in a position to finance the need and has not identified it as a need. The district has been trying to streamline the process for those who want to do the work and it is easier for district staff to monitor and work with the group to get the projects done.

There are different kinds of projects we deal with things like wall removals for double size classrooms. Those projects most commonly come with no funding identified. Other projects like band towers require an architect stamp, as well as a BG1. We need to capture all of these projects in order to be able to document what sorts of projects we have going on out there.

Why would the LPC doing this? First it is an opportunity for the LPC to review what sorts of requests there are out there and for the LPC to see what sorts of requests are being made so that those that are common theme requests could be considered as part of the facilities planning process for all schools.

It was decided that the LPC would review only, not approve project proposals to streamline the amount of time a project would be in the planning stages.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: September 17, Bryan Station Middle School