

**Local Planning Committee
STEAM Academy
August 31, 2016**

Members present: Adam Kirk, Brian McIntyre, Julane Mullins, Tracy Curtis, Lars Finneseth, Lynn Schentrup, Jessica Floyd, Dal Harper, Bari Douglas, Killian Timoney, Melissa Bacon, LaMonte Nowlin, Brandi Peacher, Sharon Mofield-Boswell, Myron Thompson; Staff members: Bill Wallace, Debbie Boian, Linda Dawahare.

Killian called the committee meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Reminded everyone to review meeting minutes, 1. Tates Creek Minutes – Correct names Bari Douglas, Sharon Boswell, Eades to Eaton. We are not aware on second page. Jessica Floyd was not listed as being present. Brandi Peacher made a motion to approve with corrections, Dal harper seconded approved by consensus of those present at meeting.

Meeting minutes at Dunbar HS. Peacher not Preacher. Meeting start time was at 5:30. Schentrup spelled wrong. Bari Douglas not Douglass. Motion to approve with changes made by Bari Douglas, second Sharon Mofield-Boswell. Approved by consensus of those present with Dal Harper abstaining as he was not present at the meeting.

Killian introduced Marcus Dobbs from Transportation.

Marcus shared data from transportation – student ridership has increased over 20% since 2010. As student enrollment grows so the number of students that are transported grow as well. District transports more in afternoon than in morning (approximately 18,000) with 16,000 in morning.

Liberty Road building was built in 1962, only additions have been larger bathroom facilities. Would need 307 parking spaces at Liberty for monitors and drivers that work out of Liberty Garage can be accommodated. Facility is land locked so overflow parks in neighborhood on the street. Miles Point is smaller of two terminals, with a cab company on one side and a flood plain on the other side. Need 169 spaces for monitors and drivers, have 144.

Transportation needs another terminal for expansion once the new high school opens. Alternatives include parking busses at a high school or have drivers take them home. Lextran just moved and has an empty facility that would give FCPS room for growth. New high school will not have a lot of walkers – it is almost like BSHS or Dunbar (in terms of walkability), so the District may have to increase the total number of busses next year.

Bay space is limited to keep the levels of work equal for mechanics at both locations.

Questions: *An increase in students – are there areas that grow faster or more?* It is a general consensus, we had changes to the attendance boundaries for elementary this year, high school and middle school will change next year. There are areas where we are experiencing growth, such as the Hamburg area, and other areas that have grown out.

Myron - There was a push during the redistricting process to get back to neighborhood schools and eliminate the continuation plan. This shifted students around and created some overcrowding on some routes.

There was discussion of route ride times that are 35-40 minutes because of number of students on the bus.

Questions: What about the allotment of busses, can we keep extra busses or have a formula or ratio for keeping extra busses around? We can, however the longer a bus is kept, the higher the cost of maintenance.

Students that live within a mile of the school are they required to walk? They are deemed to be walkers. Some schools do not have safe walking paths so students ride busses.

How is the site selected for a school? Availability is the main criteria. Elementary and middle schools we are working with developers, but with a high school you find yourself with higher profile land because you have to go where there is the acreage. We need approximately 50 acres of land for a high school.

What is the philosophy of building up instead of out? In large metropolitan areas there is no problem with that. The magazines are full of examples of schools built on a half block of space. In our regulations the assumption is that there is 15 acres of available land to put a school for 640 students. There will be a day of where we don't have acreage to put those on. Harrison is an example. The closest we built new in downtown is William Wells Brown, we were able to get property in the development plan. *Who's regulations?* Department of Education. Minimum of 5 acres and 1 acre for each 100 students you have in the school. We typically look for 15 acres because of parking etc. *These regulations the same for Lexington, Louisville and all others as well?* All 173 districts yes. If we were to do another Ashland, Harrison, Maxwell, etc. we would have to go to KDE to get a waiver.

We are not the only city struggling with this? Yes, Louisville is. This is an issue that cuts across the whole education landscape not just facilities (instruction, staffing, etc.).

Can our system petition for another standard? I think there is a way, if we found a need right now to say that we need to serve a small community of students with a need downtown. It would be a waiver process with the state board of education. There would not be a need to change the regulation, because they have included a waiver process to address the extreme cases.

Our current superintendent recognizes the need to have a lobby presence in Frankfort and has moved to put that in place.

What is the cost of a bus? Last year \$106,000 each. *How many do we look for?* We typically propose to purchase 20 busses each year. When we have older busses, we sell them off and use the proceeds as a resource to purchase others. The capacity of each bus is set by the manufacturer and does not take into account size of student and behavior. Special needs busses are around the same cost because there are medical needs that need to be added as well as air conditioning. Additionally, depending on where we build STEAM we will need to facilitate with transportation getting students back and forth to campus. That will impact amount of time the students can spend on campus.

Bus driver demographics: 469 employees, 250 to 275 are 50 or older. There are a number of drivers 70 or older. The percentage of ridership on regular routes, 47-48%. In Jefferson County it is 70% because of how the attendance areas are set up.

Turned the meeting back over to the chair, Killian announced the next meeting. September 7, Eastside Technical Center.

Dal made a motion to adjourn, Tracy Curtis seconded. Meeting adjourned 6:36 p.m.