

Redistricting Committee Community Forum Minutes
Thursday, September 6, 2018 – 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
1555 Georgetown Rd.

Members present: Heather Bell, Molly Dabney, Ray Daniels, Lisa Smith, Chris Woodall, Julie Wright, Myron Thompson and Steve Hill

Community and staff present: Manny Caulk, Stephanie Spires, Daryl Love, Elizabeth Dodd, Cindy Newkirk, Jennifer Cunningham, Alan Weinstein and Sherry Price

VETERANS PARK REDISTRICTING COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING 5:30 p.m.

Steve welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance and voice. He also brought to everyone's attention that after considering current enrollment the **Veteran's Park plan had been tabled**. He said with the kindergarten and first grade numbers trending down, the committee decided to table Scenario A.

Steve then gave the group the process and background of how the committee came to the rezoning plan that was tabled.

Community members were welcomed to speak their comments and concerns.

Communication about the redistricting meetings was not sent in a timely manner. The postponement of the August 30th meeting was not as much notice as we usually have due to looking at the beginning of the school year numbers. We needed to take time and review those numbers. Steve apologized and stated communication was sent several different ways during this process.

- Emails sent to all affected families
- Date, time and location of meetings were posted on FCPS.net
- Letters went to those who we had no email address for
- An all call message was sent
- Herald Leader published several articles regarding rezoning that had dates included in the articles

What about future growth of this year? With the first graders and kindergarten numbers trending down, it appears this year we will be alright. Next year we will review if need be.

Would students who have already been moved before be grandfathered? Our current grandfathering option is 5th graders and siblings are allowed to stay until 5th grader moves on to the next grade level.

Steve thanked the group for their attendance and comments.

ATHENS BOONESBORO ELEMENATRY (ABE) REDISTRICTING COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING 7:00 p.m.

Steve again welcomed the Athens-Boonesboro community members. Steve displayed the process, background information and maps of Scenario E and explained how the committee came to this scenario.

Community comments and concerns were expressed.

What about children who has been redistricted twice in 4 years? Steve explained the grandfather option and said he would certainly apply that if the numbers would allow it.

My child is within walking distance of ACE but not to ABE where he is being redistricted. The areas in closest proximity to ABE were ultimately chosen by the committee. The main objectives were to fill the new school with 500-550 students and to help with the overcrowding at ACE. The committee considered moving many different study groups and Scenario E was the most logical.

We did not have proper communication about the redistricting. Steve apologized and reviewed the ways meetings were advertised.

- 2 emails notifications
- 1 text message
- 1 phone call blitz
- Website link at FCPS.net
- Utilization of the district calendar for important meeting dates
- Herald Leader articles over the last 3 months

Will there be more than one road entrance to ABE? At this time there is only one but we will have conversation with Urban County Government about that possibility.

Why was the Chilesburg neighborhood split? The committee looked at many scenarios of students in close proximity to the new school and the areas that would relieve some overcrowding at ACE. Steve reminded the group there has to be a fine balance so that too many students aren't pulled from ACE but enough to fill the new school. Pulling too few students from ACE will leave them overcrowded and not enough students to ABE. The committee also looked at transportation routes and natural tree and street lines.

A community member mentioned the proposed bicycle trail and pedestrian walk through behind area 272b. That proposal is unfunded at this time so that walk through can't be considered for use when ABE is completed.

Will there be an opportunity for afterschool care at the new school? That is a question for the staff at the new school. The principal position has been posted but the decision not made yet.

What way will you communicate in the future? We will email, text, phone call and send hard copy letter if necessary. The FCPS.net website will be updated of any future meetings or changes.

Steve thanked everyone for attending the meeting and being engaged and involved parents.

The meetings adjourned at 8:23 p.m.