

MINUTES: Meeting of the Monona Grove Board of Education, Ad Hoc Committee to Study Grade Configuration for Grades 4K-8 in the Monona Grove School District, held on Tuesday, January 6, 2009, Glacial Drumlin School, Starting at 6:05 P.M.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Margaret Breunig-Clark, Susan Fox, Kristin Frederickson, Craig Gerlach, Jennifer Jindrich, Lisa Jones, Emily Klinger, Vicki Kieler, Jeff Knight, Jill List, Jason McCutchin, Jennifer Pickel, Ann Schroeder, Lisa Stangler, Renee Tennant

- I. Opening of Meeting – Craig Gerlach, Chair
- II. Declaration of Public Notice – acknowledged
- III. Approval of Minutes of November 18, 2008, Meeting

Ann Schroeder moved approval of the minutes of the November 18, 2008, meeting. Jeff Knight seconded and the motion carried.

IV. Clarify Issues

Discussion continued regarding issues facing the Monona Grove School District as it relates to grade configuration for grades 4K-8. The following list of issues were discussed and agreed on by the Committee:

1. Buildings
 - TP/CG are overcapacity but functional
 - Glacial Drumlin is near capacity
 - Maywood is under capacity
 - Winnequah is under capacity
2. Revenue limits/funding
3. Student transportation
4. Staff shared between buildings – "windshield time"
5. Duplicating 6th grade programs at two sites
 - Ineffective use of resources of 6th grade programming
6. Number of building transitions
7. Different schedules for 6th Grade at Winnequah and 5th grade at Glacial Drumlin
8. Neighborhood Schools – maintain
9. Parental involvement – maintain, ease and access
10. Uniting both communities
11. Grade configurations in each building/transitions

Discussion was held regarding staffing issues. Craig Gerlach stated this discussion regarding staffing issues is not a concern of this Committee but rather is governed by Board of Education through Class Size Guidelines Policy and implemented administratively.

V. Review Data

Craig Gerlach reviewed data information that was included in the Committee packet for this meeting. Susan Fox and Jason McCutchin also distributed additional data information.

VI. Clarify Solutions

Discussion continued regarding solutions as defined and approved by the Committee. The following list of solutions shows all items discussed and those agreed by the Committee to be dropped which are reflected by being crossed out:

1. ~~Make sixth grade district wide an elementary program~~
2. ~~Have 4K-4 schools in Monona and Cottage Grove~~
3. Bring all sixth graders together in one building at Glacial Drumlin
4. Bring all 4th and 5th graders in district to Winnequah School
5. Add on to Cottage Grove and/or Taylor Prairie
6. ~~Build another elementary school in Cottage Grove~~
7. Add modular units to Cottage Grove and Taylor Prairie
8. Keep 4K-8th grade in own community, Monona 7th & 8th grade to Winnequah
9. ~~District magnet/charter school in Monona~~
10. 4K-5th grade elementary buildings (Taylor Prairie, Cottage Grove, Winnequah); 6th – 8th grade at Glacial Drumlin; 9th – 12th grades at Monona Grove High School. (Would need to add on to Cottage Grove & Taylor Prairie)
11. Consolidate Maywood and Winnequah at Winnequah
12. ~~Sell Nichols and Maywood to pay for enlarging Cottage Grove & Taylor Prairie~~
13. 4K-3rd grade elementary buildings (Maywood, Taylor Prairie, Cottage Grove) all 4th – 5th grade at Winnequah and all 6th – 8th grade at Glacial Drumlin
14. ~~Add on to Taylor Prairie (4K-2nd grade at Taylor Prairie) 3rd – 5th grades at Cottage Grove, District wide 6th – 8th grade at Glacial Drumlin~~
15. ~~Move 4 k out of Taylor Prairie and move to off site or Monona~~
16. Find additional site for district 4K students
17. ~~Bus kids only outside 2 mile area and /or charge riders~~
18. Elementary boundaries district wide rather than community wide
19. ~~TP 4K-1st grade (Cottage Grove students), Cottage Grove 2nd – 3rd grade (Cottage Grove students), Winnequah 4th grade (Monona students), 5th & 6th grade district wide at Winnequah, Glacial Drumlin 7th – 8th grade all students and 2nd – 4th grade from Cottage Grove, and Maywood 4K-3rd grade (Monona Students)~~
20. District wide buildings – 4K-1st grade

Further discussion on solutions will continue at the next Committee meeting.

VII. Committee Members Public Communication

Craig Gerlach stated Committee meetings would be taped beginning with the next meeting to be held on January 28th, 2009, at the District Office. Discussion was held on dissemination of materials and getting information to the public.

VIII. Review Committee Meeting Schedule & Define Agenda

Craig Gerlach stated he would like to discuss community involvement at the next meeting. He stated he would also like to discuss the pro's and con's of the solutions and possible reduce the list to five or six items.

Meeting schedule was discussed. Craig suggested the following dates to be considered by the Committee: January 27th, 2009, February 10th and 24th, 2009, and March 3rd and 17th, 2009. Further discussion of these dates will be held at the next Committee meeting.

IX. Adjournment

Jason McCutchin moved that the meeting be adjourned. Jennifer Pickel seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 P.M.