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TO: Supt. Debra Bowers
 FROM: Lynae A. Schoen 
 DATE: November 20, 2009

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COMM. NO: 092038

SUBJECT: Independent School District #283 St. Louis Park Schools
 November 18, 2009 **Advisory Committee** Meeting Minutes

Attendants:

Clarence Pollock, Assistant Principal SH
 Tami Reynolds, District Office
 John Blackburn
 Frank Johnson, PH
 Kevin Jones, PAT
 Rob Metz, SH
 Paul Jennings, Grandparent
 Andra Roethler, Parent
 Linda Saveraid, Community Education Director
 Marty Stillman, Parent
 Gerry Lee Lukaska, PSI Principal
 Corey Maslowski, SL Principal
 Les Bork, JH Principal
 Michelle Bryant, PH/PAT
 Linda Ell-Egemeier, Parent
 Freida Bailey, Principal CM
 Chris Holden, PSI Parent
 Linnea Swenson Tellekson, District Office
 Mike Nordean, PAT
 Shelly Nielsen, Aquila Principal
 Jason Boll, JH Assistant Principal
 Amy Burns, Parent
 Debra Bowers, Superintendent
 Bob Laney, Assistant Superintendent
 Scott McQueen, Wold Architects and Engineers
 Lynae Schoen, Wold Architects and Engineers
 Paul Aplikowski, Wold Architects and Engineers

The following is a brief summary of the meeting discussion.

Discussion Topics:

- A. Wold distributed the options packet, reviewed the contents and walked through the detail of each option:
1. 9-12/7-8/4-6/K-3 "Out of Eliot/Lenox"
 2. 9-12/6-8/K-5 "Move 6th Grade Up"



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3. 8-12/5-7/K-4 "Try 8-12"
 4. 7-12/5-6/K-4 "7-12"
 5. 7-12/4-6/PK-3 "Three to Three"
 6. 7-12/3-6/PK-2 "No Boundaries"
 7. 9-12/6-8/(1) 4-5/(2) K-3 "Combine Earlier"
 8. 9-12/5-8/(3) PreK-4's "Jr. High Addition"
 9. K. Center/1-4's/5/6-8/9-12 "K Center"
 10. K-5/K-6 "(2) Elems. @ Central"
 11. PSI K-3/PSI 4-6 + 4-6/7-12 "Split PSI"
 12. Immersion at each Elem "Disperse PSI"
 13. K-8/9-12 "K-8"
- B. A committee member offered an option:
1. (4) K-5 Elem./6-8/9-12
 2. District office stays as is.
 3. Central becomes leased/Adult Ed./other (it will be near the future light rail)
- C. Another committee member offered an option:
1. Pre-school dispersed to elementary sites
 2. PSI teamed with another elementary in one building
 3. Kids Place at each elementary.
 4. 18-21 Transitions to H.S.
 5. Move District Office elsewhere
 6. ELL to H.S.
 7. It might be ideal to have opportunities for older kids to teach younger kids.
 8. Pair preschool with 9th grade (?) 9th grade with H.S.
- D. A group member asked about bussing and boundaries. The District has 2 boundaries now. Some options go to 3 boundaries. Bussing costs and opportunities/challenges are being studied at this time by a transportation consultant.
- E. If State funds all day kindergarten...is this factored into options? These numbers are being tested regarding available capacity. There might be a little less capacity.
- F. Another committee member comments and option: If we leave the H.S. at 9-12, are we efficient enough? There needs to be other programming moved into this building to utilize the large amount of square footage that is/will be available. We need to keep in mind the following:
1. Each students educational need
 2. Demographics/equity (test scores, etc.)
 3. 7-12/4-6/(3) PK-3/no more PSI...disperse into all schools (we are doing it anyways with I.B.)
 - a. Lenox as is with the District office at this site.
 - b. Divest only of (1) elem. and Eliot.
- G. It was requested to have a copy of the District Mission Statement posted at the next Advisory Committee meetings (Supt. Bowers will provide).
- H. Some options have K-4 or K-5...What does this mean?
1. PSI would be the same grade configuration as the non-immersion schools. The School Board appears to support this general discussion/opinion.
- I. A community member comment: Put Pre-School and Kindergarten in the High School.



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- J. A community member comment: Discuss dual Immersion in lieu of Spanish only at P.S.I.
- K. Superintendent Bowers provided an overview of possible approximate operational cost savings for consideration:
 - Close 1 Elem save \$350,000
 - Close Eliot save \$130,000
 - Close Lenox save \$150,000
 - Close Central save \$500,000
- L. Small Group Analysis
 - 1. Educational Group
 - a. Discussed individual research.
 - b. Approach was to remove options as discussion progressed.
 - c. 7-12 model is not a strong option (if 7/8 grades were separated might be okay)
 - d. 7-12 organization might have some resource benefits, but rates "low" with this group.
 - e. Immersion program should stay true Immersion and not dispersed
 - f. In regards to preschool programming, there are pros and cons to both centralized vs. decentralized.
 - g. K-8 model might create schools that are too large. However, there is positive literature on this concept.
 - h. Less transitions for students are better.
 - i. Kindergarten Center is not favorable. This would be an additional transition.
 - 2. Cost Benefits Group
 - a. "No Boundaries" option
 - 1) Pros: Staff Efficiencies, demographics, specialists aren't traveling as much, fewer buildings = less transition.
 - 2) Cons: Security, athletic field access, supervision, funding for additions/remodels.
 - b. "Dispersed PSI"
 - 1) Pros: Could expand Immersion enrollment, save on bussing, Income opportunities, closes two buildings, Jr. High is 6-8, major construction is not required, staffing efficiencies
 - 2) Cons: P.S.I. population might be too small to be efficient, program changes with mixed building
 - c. "6th Grade Up"
 - 1) Pro: Fewer transitions
 - 3. Equity Group
 - a. General Comment: PSI enrollment policy must change to allow for equity.
 - b. All 7-12 models are rated "low" due to creating fewer opportunities for H.S. kids due to sharing facilities.
 - c. Top Option: Jr. High Addition
 - 1) (3) K-4's. Transition from 4th to 5th grade is important.
 - d. "Out of Lenox/Eliot" – out due to no change
 - e. "6th Grade Up"
 - f. "8-12" – out due to odd configuration



Independent School District #283 St. Louis Park Schools
November 18, 2009 **Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**
Page Four

MINNESOTA
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- g. "7-12" – out
- h. "Three to Three" – out
- i. "No Boundaries" – out
- j. "Combine Earlier" – 4/5 (Yuck!)
- k. "K. Center" – Segregated PSI K?
 - 1) More transitions, no savings?

Next Meetings: December 2, 2009 @ 6:30-8:30 p.m.
December 9, 2009 (?) 6:30-8:30 p.m.

cc: Attendants

DP/ISD_283/092038/min/11-18-09