

CITIZEN PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
February 2, 2009
MEETING NOTES

Subcommittee Work

The Education and Transportation subcommittees met separately from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
The Boundaries and Enrollment Subcommittee met from 7:00 – 7:30 p.m.

General Meeting

Laura Barnes-Johnson, CPC Chair, welcomed everyone and introduced Susan Phillips, Edmonds School Board member and thanked Susan for bringing refreshments for us this evening.

Subcommittee Reports

Education – *Co Chairs, Jason Strayer (absent) and Lisa Speer*

- Progress Reporting: Lisa Speer reported that the EEA would like to continue looking at workload concerns regarding the progress reporting schedule. Middle schools are discussing the rationale behind being on a semester vs. trimester schedule (we currently have both). The district is still looking at the timing of conferences and progress reports. Lisa Speer and Mary Larson will attend the next meeting with the district and EEA on these issues.
- English Language Learners (ELL): We currently have 1,930 ELL students in Edmonds School District. The district is looking at how we can better serve these students and will be running parent focus groups in the coming months to gather input on how to better meet their needs.
- District Improvement Plan: Tony gave an overview of the plan which will be presented later in this meeting.

Boundaries & Enrollment – *Chair, Kate Shelby Martin*

Kate Shelby Martin reported that Ellen Kahan provided an update on the status of the transition work for the closure of Woodway Elementary for 2009-2010. There are many areas being addressed, including staffing assignments, moving (both sending and receiving schools), library book distribution, technology issues, student placement, etc.

Transportation – *Chair, Darylyn Phraner (absent)*

Mark Dillan provided a copy of the Transportation Subcommittee's recommendation for a first reading. The committee recommends the following measures to be implemented by

Edmonds School District to bring the costs of transporting choice school students in line with the costs per student of neighborhood schools:

- Increase ridership
- Move stops for Maplewood K-8 outside of the school's one-mile radius
- Consolidate stops

Discussion followed. The subcommittee did meet with parent groups at both Madrona School and Maplewood K-8 to gather input from them. Mark reminded everyone that transportation funding is a complicated, dynamic issue and that this recommendation is just one aspect. A full version of the recommendation, along with a revenue analysis, will be available after the second reading and vote at our next meeting.

Presentation: District Improvement Plan

Tony Byrd, Assistant Superintendent – Teaching & Learning, provided a look at “How Edmonds School District is Responding to Gaps in Achievement”. Tony provided a working draft of the Edmonds School District Improvement Plan and a feedback form to fill out after the presentation. The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) act mandates student improvement each year, called Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). By 2014, all students must be 100% adequate in all areas. If a school and/or district falls behind in AYP, they are in “Step 1” and must develop an Improvement Plan for implementation the following year. The district is currently in Step 1, along with every other district in the state of Washington with over 4,000 students.

There has been discussion by the new Superintendent of Public Instruction, Randy Dorn, about replacing the WASL with another standardized test. Tony reiterated that there will continue to be some form of a state assessment, as required by NCLB, but it will likely be different than the current WASL for 09-10.

Tony explained that the District Improvement Plan is designed to meet the following goals:

- To differentiate support and expectations based on school and student needs.
- To allow for funding and resource decisions that align with the model of differentiated support.
- To continue our district and school focus on the creation of environments that are consistent with student learning and inclusive for all students and families.
- To provide the tools that school teams need to respond to AYP issues at the school and district levels.

Teams consisting of administrators, teachers and support staff at each building are looking at their school WASL data and tracking areas for improvement both at a building level and also down to identifying each individual student in need of focused support.

Announcements:

Our next CPC meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, 2009.