

**CITIZEN PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**March 2, 2009**  
**MEETING NOTES**

**General Meeting**

Laura Barnes-Johnson, CPC Chair, welcomed everyone and introduced Gary Noble, Edmonds School Board, who was visiting this evening.

Laura introduced Barb Lloyd, Director of Food Services, and Jo Callaghan, Manager Psychology and Counseling, who provided presentations on their services.

**Food Service** - Barb described our USDA Summer Feeding Program, which is similar to the national school lunch and breakfast program. Qualifying schools are any schools that have greater than 50% free and reduced lunch populations. If there are any activities at such a school in the summer, the district must offer free meals at that school. The summer school site offers free breakfast and lunch to community members and all students participating in summer school, during the summer school program dates (4 weeks in July). The meals are advertised locally in a variety of ways. Meals are offered to any children ages 1 – 19. The summer school location for 2009 has not yet been determined.

**Student Services** – Jo introduced her colleagues who shared information on their roles in the district:

Nancy Parle – Elementary Psychologist  
Jonna Stewart – Elementary Counselor  
Jody Jones – School Psychologist  
Kate Eschen – School Psychologist

Nancy described the role of the school psychologist (as separate from school counselors). There are several steps to go through before a student is given specialized instruction.

Step 1) Pre-referral for Special Education  
Step 2) Referral – either the teacher or parent can request an evaluation  
Step 3) Evaluation – only done with parent permission  
Step 4) Specialized Instruction – student is placed on an Individual Education Plan (IEP)

Jonna described the role of the elementary school counselor. The service model is similar to a triangle, serving the school community at large, attending to students with regular needs and finally focusing on students with an immediate high need.

Jody spoke about the role of counselors in middle and high schools. The school counseling staff is different at the secondary level. Many staff share the role of both school psychologist and behavior specialist in order to have a full position at the school every day (1 FTE).

Kate discussed the importance of assessment – new evaluations, re-evaluations and transition planning for post-school success. The number one goal of the entire department is to keep kids in school.

Jo Callaghan and her colleagues answered a number of questions on their department and the services offered. Laura thanked them for their insightful presentation.

### **Transportation Recommendation 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

Darylyn Phraner, chair of the transportation subcommittee, reviewed the transportation recommendation. The recommendation is as follows:

**Proposed Recommendations for CPC  
From the Transportation Subcommittee  
March 3, 2009**

*- Second Reading-*

The CPC Transportation Subcommittee is recommending that the following measures be implemented by the Edmonds School District #15 to bring the costs of transporting choice students to and from Maplewood or Madrona in line with the costs per student of neighborhood schools.

The committee noted the disparity in costs between choice and neighborhood schools is for two reasons: the number of students riding in the morning (which generates state funding) and the average distance a bus travels in student transit.

To reduce this discrepancy, the subcommittee recommends that the following measures be implemented for the 2009-2010 school year:

- 1. Increase ridership.** As part of a district wide effort to increase ridership, the subcommittee wants to increase morning ridership. We would like to “market” the advantage of riding the bus in the morning. Not negating the board mandate to study choice schools, a district wide marketing plan is of greater benefit than focusing only on choice schools. Still, the committee recommends that the district work with the choice parent groups and the Community Relations Department as they work to market bus ridership with all schools. The committee mentioned that information ought to be available at the district fair, open houses, curriculum nights and in parent publications (postcards, first day packets, etc.) Specific mention was made of creating a multi-year plan with a target to begin in the spring of 2009 and the fall of 2010.
  
- 2. Moving stops for Maplewood K-8 outside of the one-mile radius.** There are a number of elementary schools that serve as collection stops for students to be picked up for Maplewood. A number of these stops are within the one-mile radius and we get no revenue to transport these students to school. By moving these collection stops outside of the one-mile radius, the district can use state funds to cover the costs of transporting the students at those stops. The subcommittee recommends that stops be moved for the 2009-2010 school year and also recommends continued review of stops district-wide that fall within the one-mile radius of each school. The financial impact of this recommendation is estimated to be a savings of \$23,945 for 2009-2010.

**3. Consolidating stops.** The committee is also recommending that the transportation department consider reducing student collection stops to save additional funds.

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| New revenue expected by moving the stops outside the 1-radius mile:   | \$23,945 |
| New revenue expected by moving stops and increasing ridership by 10%: | \$39,320 |
| New revenue expected by moving stops and increasing ridership by 25%: | \$60,626 |

Total number of student riding the bus in 2008-2009:

Madrona = 252 (38%); Maplewood= 157 (34.7%)

Enrollment in 2008-2009 as of 2-05-09: Madrona = 664; Maplewood = 452

The committee also discussed the issue of charging fees for choice transportation if the above measures do not result in bringing the costs in line. This option might have the same complexity as in the food service program. Therefore, the board may want to consider this option at a time in the future, only if necessary.

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Discussion followed. The student count for bus ridership is averaged over the week. The CPC will work on educating parents at choice schools to the need for higher bus ridership on the count week. A clarification was made that the increase in ridership totals were cumulative, not separate from each other.

Brian Furby moved that the recommendation be accepted. Ken Bogle seconded. Motion passed.

### **Subcommittee Work**

The Education subcommittee met following the general meeting. No reports were given this evening.

### **Announcements:**

Our next CPC meeting will be held on Monday, April 6, 2009.