

2013 Attendance Area Committee
Meeting #5
August 6, 2013

Summary

The fifth meeting of the 2013 Attendance Area Committee (AAC) began at 7:00 PM. Joel Gallihue, Manager of School Planning, opened the meeting.

Staff members in attendance:

Joel Gallihue, Manager of School Planning
June Wilson, Professional and Organizational Development
Shiney John, New Middle #20 Principal
Tim Rogers, Planning Analyst
David O'Brochta, School Planning Intern

Committee members in attendance:

Lynette Bae	Bill Lewis
Jill Bauer	Zahira Meyers
Khalid Boushaba	Meredith Nash
Terri-Ann Chiu	Karen Ni
Steven Hunt	Kristin O'Connor Mazerski
Renee Kamen	

Committee members not in attendance:

Adria Graham Scott

Administrative

Committee members received a summary report and assessment of the redistricting plan they developed at the previous meeting, as well as a report of the feedback collected through the online redistricting survey between the afternoon of July 30th and the morning of August 6th. Additional documents included a memo from Mr. Gallihue, pages from the 2011 and 2012 Feasibility Studies that were relevant to middle school redistricting, and a Gilbert capacities report.

The following documents are available online:

- Meeting notes and PowerPoint from these meetings
- Online Redistricting Survey Form

Presentation

Mr. Gallihue began the meeting with a Power Point presentation that outlined procedures and expectations for the meeting. He introduced June Wilson from the Office of Professional Development, who emphasized the importance of equity of voice among other norms for group work. He also explained how the redistricting process would

continue once the AAC meetings ended, and invited committee members to attend regional meetings to assist as experienced members of the community.

The presentation then shifted focus to Plan AAC4AA. Mr. Gallihue reminded the committee of the issues they wanted to resolve at the conclusion of their previous meeting on July 30th. These issues included over-crowding of Ellicott Mills Middle School, a small feed issue involving polygon 1037, utilization of space at Folly Quarter Middle School and Clarksville Middle School, and double small feeds. These topics would serve as the agenda for the evening.

The committee started the discussion by inquiring as to why the staff had not redistricted students out of Ellicott Mills in the feasibility study to bring the school within target capacity. Mr. Gallihue explained that he was working to redistrict only regions that were necessary to open the new middle school rather than redistrict to relieve capacity issues throughout the county. With this in mind the committee discussed several alternatives that would alleviate overcrowding while avoiding frequent redistricting. These alternatives included redistricting a large number of students out of Ellicott Mills in one year to avoid multiple disturbances, investigating variable educational specifications for school buildings, using relocatables for a longer period of time, putting an addition on the building itself, instituting an open enrollment policy, and building a new middle school in the Waverly area.

Having proposed several ideas to resolve the issue of Ellicott Mills's over-crowding, members then turned their attention to the Elkridge region. The committee soon became divided, questioning whether it would be more advantageous to move polygon 1298 from Mayfield Woods Middle School to New Middle School #20 or to move polygon 1037 from Elkridge Landing Middle School to New Middle School #20. Although the two ideas differed, the goal was the same: to eliminate small feeds at the elementary school level while maintaining adequate capacity utilization at New Middle School #20, Mayfield Woods and Elkridge Landing. Trying to compromise, they also proposed moving polygons 1298 and 298 from New Middle School #20 to Mayfield Woods or moving 1043, 43, and 36 from Elkridge Landing to New Middle School #20, although they realized that the latter would also reduce capacity utilization at Elkridge Landing. In the end the group elected to move polygon 1037 into New MS #20, avoiding a small feed from Duckets Lane ES to Elkridge Landing MS. Also, polygons 1298 and 298 remain at Mayfield Woods in this plan.

Next, the group decided to address the option of moving students in and out of Clarksville Middle School, Harpers Choice Middle School and Wilde Lake Middle School in order to relieve capacity issues at Wilde Lake Middle School. Among their main concerns were concentrating FARM students at one school, causing overcrowding at Clarksville for the 2014-2015 school year, and creating small feeds. To address these concerns, members decided to move polygons 3131, 2131, and 4131 back to Wilde Lake from Clarksville. Although this created a small feed from Clemens Crossing Elementary School to Clarksville, it fixed what would have been a small feed going from Clemens Crossing to Wilde Lake – which the committee determined would be more beneficial.

Following discussion of these three key issues, the committee decided to create a new plan that would build off of Plan AAC4AA , directly addressing the issue of Ellicott Mills over-crowding using the capacity available in western schools. The group acknowledged such a plan would likely move more students. In this new plan, they proposed a sort of domino effect redistricting plan that would move students from Ellicott Mills to Dunloggin, then from Dunloggin to Patapsco MS, and from Patapsco MS to Mount View Middle School.. Specifically, they chose to move polygons 103 and 1103 from Ellicott Mills to Dunloggin and polygons 2161, 162, 1162, 160 and 1160 from Patapsco to Mount View. However, upon doing so, individuals began to realize the limitations that this kind of move would have in removing students from Ellicott Mills, including limited available capacity at Mount View MS, and the creation of small feeds from MS to HS

As the meeting drew to a close, committee members expressed that they were satisfied with their original plan AAC4AA. However, they seemed to feel that there may be some unresolved issues regarding EMMS and the Ellicott City region of the county in general.

They tested a new plan to address EMMS crowding which built off AAC4AA but was not completed. In the end the group seemed to realize that they were changing the nature and scope of the redistricting being conducted, but felt they had at least begun the discussion about how to relieve this area in the future. Some group members supported the idea of holding a future meeting in order to continue work on this idea and possibly incorporate feedback from the Regional Meetings. This meeting is not scheduled at this time. If this meeting is scheduled it will be indicated on the website and open to the public.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

There are no more meetings scheduled for the 2013 Attendance Area Committee at this time.

A presentation to the public of tentative recommendations for 2014 redistricting is scheduled for 7:30 P.M. on the following days:

September 10, 2013
September 11, 2013

Howard High School
Centennial High School

Public redistricting hearings are scheduled to begin at 7:00 P.M, followed by a public work session to begin at 7:30 P.M. on the following days:

November 5, 2013	Department of Education, Board Rooms A and B
November 7, 2013	Department of Education, Board Rooms A and B
November 12, 2013	Department of Education, Board Rooms A and B
November 14, 2013	Department of Education, Board Rooms A and B
November 19, 2013	Department of Education, Board Rooms A and B

The public is encouraged to become involved throughout this process, and to provide feedback to our staff through the online redistricting survey available on the HCPSS website.