

Boundary Advisory Committee (BAC)

Meeting Summary

June 13, 2019

<u>Committee Members in Attendance</u>	<u>Staff Members in Attendance</u>
Andy Anderson	Melissa Laursen
Laura Arellano	Beth Wilson
Joel Bergh	
Erika Boyd	
Ronnie Burt	
Sharla DeMedeiros	
Meghan Dougherty	
Lindsay Fitzpatrick	
Michael Herschenfeld	
Elizabeth Kalbacher	
Jennifer Littlefield	
Melanie Plowman	
Eric Ramos	
John Rocha	<u>Visitors</u>
Reedy Spigner III	See attached list
Valerie Tyler	
Emily Vitris	
Patricia Williams	

I. Call to order

Meeting was called to order at 5:42 PM.

II. Public Comment

- *Kiker ES stakeholder* – Kiker parent; the 75-115% of capacity is just a target, not a rule or law; there is an opportunity for AISD to gross \$200,000 by offering Pre-K tuition and lessen bus service; the district should open up the new SW ES to transfers the first year it opens.
- *Menchaca ES stakeholder* – Hillcrest resident; wants a fair, objective and transparent process; the scenario that involves moving Hillcrest students also involves moving Olympic Heights students and should not be supported due to the number of kids being moved; could not walk to Kocurek; all students would need to be bussed and would not provide any relief to transportation; the Hillcrest neighborhood has been working to raise additional money to support the new Menchaca Elementary; the Hillcrest community would only get to attend the new school for one semester and then would have to move.

- *Kiker ES stakeholders* – Kiker parent and two students; lives in South Bay area; moved to Circle C for Kiker and its dyslexia program; concerned that the street is being split up and that more busses would need to be added; concern over crossing SH-45; can the district guarantee that students who live north of SH-45 would be able to stay at the new school if it fills up; wants to stay at Kiker; boundary plan is taking students away from their friends; students are learning a lot of Kiker and want to stay; learned how to read at Kiker.
- *Cowan ES stakeholder* – Cowan parent; Sendera resident; at the last meeting the BAC recommended Plan 9, even though Plan 13 scored higher; if the BAC would have followed their guidelines, they should have chosen Plan 13 which scored higher; the BAC needs to stick to its criteria and follow its guidelines; do not rip apart the Sendera neighborhood; supports Plan 13 to keep the Sendera neighborhood together.
- *Cowan ES stakeholder* – Cowan parent; Sendera resident; students in the Bella Vista Apartments can easily walk to Boone; while the students who live in Sendera would have to cross Copana which is dangerous as it is an extremely busy road; BAC should recommend Plan 13.
- *Kiker ES stakeholder* – Kiker parent; over 350 signatures from Back Bay/South Bay area to stay at Kiker; does not understand why the Back Bay/South Bay section of Kiker is being considered for the school, self-contained areas should be considered instead; why were other elementary schools in the area considered; all other options need to be considered before splitting up a street; consider the kids' lives and how the families will have to cope with the change.
- *Baranoff ES stakeholder* – Shady Hollow resident; do not split up Shady Hollow; do not use the creek as the boundary line; concerned about transportation.
- *Baranoff ES stakeholder* – Shady Hollow resident; has lived in Shady Hollow for 25 years; do not split up the neighborhood as friends are on the swim team, girl scouts and cub scouts together; families will be heartbroken with a boundary change; keep the neighborhood together.
- *Kiker ES stakeholder* – Kiker parent; son is excited to be a Kiker Biker next year; keep the community together; do not split up South Bay and Back Bay from Kiker; the Avana neighborhood will fill up the school; neighborhoods north of SH-45 should stay at Kiker; do not crush the kids dreams of becoming Kiker Bikers.

III. Approval of minutes

The May 29 minutes were approved as presented.

IV. Discussion of attendance area for the new southwest elementary school and other associated boundary changes in the region, which may include Baranoff, Boone, Cowan, Kiker and Kocurek, Menchaca and Mills

Beth Wilson, Executive Director of Planning, reviewed the rating guidelines with the committee. The committee had a lengthy discussion about two items in the guidelines.

#1 - Highest score is the preferred map. If there is a tie – then the map with the highest primary criteria becomes the preferred map.

Members wanted the flexibility of discussing multiple maps, and not automatically approve the highest ranking map, as there may be exceptions and good explanations on to why a lower scored map could be the preferred option. The highest ranking map should be the starting point for discussion, but it should not necessarily be the final map.

#2 - If a receiving school is projected to be over 115% of its permanent capacity in year 3 – then do not score the scenario, as it results in overcrowding at the receiving school;

Members discussed whether all plans should be rated, regardless if the projected percent of capacity of a receiving school was over 115%. There was discussion that only one receiving school was projected to be over 115% of its capacity, and that was due to transfers into the school. The BAC recommended that all plans be rated.

BAC recommended to remove the following statements from the guidelines:

- **If a receiving school is projected to be over 115% of its permanent capacity in year 3 – then do not score the scenario, as it results in overcrowding at the receiving school**
- **Existing Schools: Do not rate = Above 115% (if it is a receiving school)**

BAC recommended to remove “Highest score is the preferred map. If there is a tie – then the map with the highest primary criteria becomes the preferred map” and replace with “The maps with the highest scores will be the starting point for BAC discussion.”

Four boundary scenarios to provide relief to Kiker Elementary and Baranoff Elementary with a new Southwest Elementary School were discussed:

- Plan A – Greyrock Ridge, Avana, and the portion of Circle C that is south of Back Bay to the new Southwest Elementary School
- Plan B – Greyrock Ridge, Avana, and the portion of Circle C that is south of South Bay to the new Southwest Elementary School
- Plan C – Greyrock Ridge, Avana, and the portion of Circle C that is south of South Bay to the new Southwest Elementary School; and Circle C North to Mills Elementary School
- Plan D – Greyrock Ridge, and Avana to the new Southwest Elementary School; and Circle C North to Mills Elementary School

BAC members had a lengthy discussion about the boundary maps, projected enrollments and populations, and transportation. The preliminary average ratings for the maps were also discussed.

BAC comments and questions included:

- Why isn't there a boundary scenario to send only Greyrock Ridge and Avana to the new school (without sending the Circle C North portion of Kiker to Mills)?
- If the BAC is only considering population projections for the new Southwest Elementary, then do not show enrollment data.
- Concern from several members that Map D does not open up the new school with enough students; projections indicate it would open at a population of 70% (below the 75% target utilization).
- Do not like splitting up the Circle C neighborhood; concerned about the families that are impacted by these scenarios.
- Maps A and B are concerning because of the safety aspect.
- The school changes process could address the projected population of 70% for Plan D by adding a program at the new school that would make it desirable for transfers. There are no dual language programs available in southwest Austin and families have been requesting it. There could also be opportunities for public/private partnerships – and the new school could be a model program.
- More families with children will move to Avana because it is more affordable than Circle C.
- Concern that the projections for Avana are too low, and that the demographer is under-estimating the number of students that will come from the development.
- Is getting the new school to 75% worth splitting up the Circle C community? Is it worth losing walkability to Kiker?
- Cannot rely on future decisions around programming – need to fill the new school more than 70%.
- Cannot make decisions on “what if's”; rather the BAC needs to rely on the data that is available.
- Portables can be unsafe, it is more than about the safety of busses and cars.
- Plan A opens up the new school with too many students.
- Annual enrollment projections have been very accurate in the past, and there is very limited opportunity for new development in the area.
- The undeveloped land in the area cannot be developed due to restrictions on the property.
- There are other factors besides walkability that are considered.
- Plan D meets the secondary criteria, but it does not meet the primary criteria – need to get the numbers where they need to be; supports Plan B.
- Cannot take a recommendation to the board that is below 75% of projected capacity.
- The committee needs to decide what is best for the entire district.
- To relieve Kiker, need to either send students from Circle C North to Mills or send students north of SH-45 to the new school, and we cannot open up the new school at 70%.
- Do we want to risk opening up the new school at 70% or split up a community?

BAC recommended Plan B [Greyrock Ridge, Avana, and the portion of Circle C that is south of South Bay to the new Southwest Elementary School] as its preliminary plan to present to the community (14-3)

V. Wrap-Up

Future BAC Meeting Dates – June 18 and July 23
BAC Community Open Houses – July 18 and July 20

VI. Adjourn (8:57 PM)

BOUNDARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

VISITOR SIGN-IN SHEET

June 13, 2019

	NAME	SCHOOL AFFILIATION
1.	Jennifer Archambeault	Kiker
2.	Supni Alperin	Cowan
3.	Liam Dohn	Kiker
4.	Ashley Fryer	Kiker
5.	Hilary Pittman	Cowan
6.	Kelly Dohn	Kiker
7.	Loren Vaughn	Kiker
8.	Michael Sinclair	Baranoff
9.	Jacob Youngblood	Baranoff
10.	Vikki Goodwin	Baranoff
11.	David Lear	Baranoff
12.	Joe Hoffer	Monroe
13.	Erica Katz	mills
14.	Rick Wetsa	Kiker
15.	Lora Davis	Cowan

BOUNDARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

VISITOR SIGN-IN SHEET

June 13, 2019

	NAME	SCHOOL AFFILIATION
1.	Shaun Bodah	Baranoff
2.	Candice Hopps	Baranoff
3.	Jennifer Kratky	Baranoff
4.	Cody Lancaster	Baranoff
5.	Christy Redden	Baranoff
6.	Greg Allen	Kiker
7.	Troy Baker	Kiker
8.	Collette Ford	Baranoff
9.	LARRY COVERT	KIKER
10.	Amanda Burrier	Baranoff
11.	Gary Gentry	KIKER
12.	LETICIA SMITH	COWAN
13.	Rachael Torres	Baranoff
14.		
15.		