Des Moines Public Schools
Superintendent’s Facility Advisory Committee

Meeting date:
April 12, 2012 at 6:00 PM
Central Campus Multi Purpose Room, 1800 Grand Avenue

Members Present:           Members Absent:
Marvin Alexander           Brian Clark
Paul Krause               Burch LaPrade
Kent Mauck                Lowell Long
Meredith Mauro            Twyla Woods
Kris Cooper               
Ed Linebach
Susie Rider               
Joel Doyle

DMPS Staff Present:       
Bill Good
Bryce Amos
Tom Ahart
Connie Baker

Bill Good presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding potential district boundary changes and the history of when boundaries have been changed. The “schools of choice”, terminology Bill uses, are schools that may have an application from anywhere in the district without open enrollment approval and also have currently a ¼ mile boundary; they do not have district transportation; and they do have individual policies and procedures. The discussion on boundaries for these areas concluded with the group requesting information on how increasing the ¼ mile to ‘up to one mile’ would impact the neighboring schools without adverse effects.

Feeder systems – a review of the current high school and middle school boundaries and proposed boundaries were displayed using Google Earth showing where there could be changes within the high school and middle school boundaries to improve the flow of students into the appropriate high school. The one challenging middle school area is Weeks which would be divided between Lincoln and East HS.

S. Rider asked ‘why’ there are choice schools— shouldn’t all schools have the same criteria? Bill explained that these schools were in place and they have a more traditional curriculum. Bryce explained the open enrollment and talked a little about SINA (schools in need of assistance) guidelines and district transportation is a factor in placing the students requesting transfers under this criteria. It was further explained that the IB Program at Goodrell will not be going to Central Academy.

The initial boundary change focus is the middle and high schools.
Boundary considerations for elementary will be:
Edmunds is doubling in size and will be a year round school
Cowles 2013 will have additional elementary classrooms
Moulton change to K-5 from K-8
Evaluate the potential of a new school possibly on the south side
Take time to see the secondary changes and then review elementary

Grandfathering would be an option.

Boundary review (see attachment)

The proposed timeline is as follows:

2012
April – Review by superintendents, Facilities Advisory Committee
April – board workshop
May – community conversations
June/July - board actions
August -Provide information at school registrations

2013
August– implementation of changes

In the next few days, Bill Good will be sending information to the committee for review via email (per request by members). (Google doc. overlay of boundaries has been sent 4.13.12). Emailing results of the affect of ½ versus 1 mile (or up to 1 mile) boundary for choice schools. Should we increase ‘schools of choice’ to include IB programs?

Work on developing the May schedule to get with schools (community) with information.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for May 10, 6:00 p.m. Location to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Baker