



## **Attendance Areas PreK-12 Standing Committee**

March 15, 2018

3:30 - 5 p.m.

### **Welcome/Reconnect/Overview**

Co-Chair Rob McElroy, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, welcomed everyone and asked those who were not at the Feb. 22 meeting to introduce themselves.

A few minutes was spent reviewing the minutes from the Feb. 22, 2018 meeting. A motion was made by committee member Ben Goodwin to approve the minutes as written. Committee member Dustin Heaton seconded that motion and there was a unanimous vote to approve.

### **Respond to Inquiry Questions**

Rob directed everyone to the inquiry questions at the end of the [Feb. 22 meeting minutes](#). The team of Rob, Ron Cowan (Executive Director, Capital Projects and School Facilities) and Simone Sangster (Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Operations) took time to respond to those questions:

1. Yes, hypothetically, Kulshan Middle School could capture 50% of the sixth grade students coming from Silver Beach. However, this is currently not a committee recommendation. Enrollment numbers will be provided today.
2. All new schools are built with special program space. Ron will provide information at the next meeting regarding what spaces are planned, such as resource room, preschool, life skills and EBD (emotional behavior disorder). It is unknown at this time if there will be changes in the location of district programs over the next two years.
3. The district has looked at subsidized housing and generation rates, which is .57 students per subsidized housing unit.
4. This question will be addressed when looking at middle school enrollment projections.

### **Consideration Factors**

Rob shared that the district has a [policy](#) regarding attendance areas. The factors we are required to consider when looking at attendance areas are contained in a handout. The consideration factors are not in priority order and all should be considered, and it may be that one factor could contradict another.

### **Middle School Enrollment Projections**

Simone asked committee members to refer to a handout that references enrollment numbers. She noted that students in sixth and seventh grade “roll up” to the next grade in their current middle school. The enrollment numbers will be refined as circumstances of specific families are known.

The sixth grade numbers are more difficult to predict due to students coming from private school, homeschool, etc. There was a question about each middle school's capacity. That information can be provided at a future meeting.

### **Develop Middle School Scenarios**

Steve Clarke, Assistant Superintendent, Department of Teaching and Learning, shared a projected map and noted that the entire district has been mapped into tiles. Each tile lists the number of students within that tile. This information will be helpful when looking at scenarios that provide for fewer students attending Shuksan and Whatcom and more students attending Fairhaven and Kulshan. There was a question regarding whether the committee can have access to the percentages of students and how they split from elementary to middle school and from middle to high school. The goal is to work on what makes sense to lower the enrollment at Shuksan and Whatcom, although it likely will not occur for the 2018-19 school year except for voluntary moves.

Steve presented a scenario, which was followed by a second scenario presented by committee member Tommy Lingbloom. The large group was then divided into small groups to look at the scenarios that were presented, or to come up with different options that were not contained in the two scenarios presented. The smaller groups then shared the highlights from their discussions with the larger group. The team asked for a more detailed look at the scenario that combined the work of Steve and Tommy.

### **Debrief and Next Steps**

Steve shared that the planning team will provide refined numbers using the various scenarios for the next committee meeting. Rob noted that there will also be information provided at that meeting regarding the capacity at each middle school. The committee members were thanked for their time and work today.

The meeting was adjourned at 5 p.m.

### **Inquiry Questions:**

1. What percentage of students from each middle school move to each high school (or what percentage of a high school is from each middle school)?
2. What percentage of students from each elementary school move to each middle school (or what percentage of a middle school is from each elementary school)?
3. How are high school boundaries affected?
4. Has the school-age population gone down in the Fairhaven area?
5. Can we see what the numbers look like if Alderwood students fed into the Bellingham High School attendance area?