

Monroe County Community School Corporation
Secondary School Realignment Task Force
October 12, 2005

The Secondary School Realignment Task Force met at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 12, 2005, in Room 105 at the Administration Center, 315 E. North Drive, Bloomington.

Karin St. John, chair, referred to copies of e-mail messages that had been received on the web site. Task Force members had received the text of these messages electronically.

Re-cap Issues Raised at Public Hearings – Noting that the School Board had held public hearings on September 27 and September 28 and that public input was received at the regular Board meeting on October 11, Task Force members reviewed issues raised at these meetings, including:

1. Grandfather Clause – Addresses options for students already attending a particular school. Historically, the Board has ‘grandfathered’ but the Board has not decided. (Expect the Board to make that determination when a plan is chosen.)
2. South State Road 446 – Concerned about mileage to Tri-North and BHS North and would rather go to Jackson Creek/North or Jackson Creek/South
3. Hyde Park/Kensington – Concerned about distance and travel obstacles to Tri-North. Some would rather go Jackson Creek/North or Jackson Creek/South.
4. Several people indicated don’t mind going to North but not to Tri-North (younger students can’t drive, long bus ride, parent time and energy to transport and participate, etc.)
5. Hyde Park/Kensington and SR 446 – Some concerned that areas north of them go to South (that would be Elm Heights/College Avenue/3rd Street/College Mall Road/Moores Pike area)
6. Some parents from Grandview don’t want to go to North – most go to South and identify with South
7. Parents concerned about gas costs (including buses and their cars)
8. NOTE: in area where going to Jackson Creek/North, more buses must go into the area. Probably reducing bus costs to have students going to Jackson Creek/South or Tri-North/North.
9. Some consider neighborhood school concept – ex: can ride bike to school
10. Length of bus ride – 446 corridor, earliest bus starts at 6:15 a.m. and arrives at 7:45 or 7:50 a.m. From the furthest point, the ride is 15 to 20 minutes less to South.

It was noted that 20 people spoke at the October 11 Board meeting.

Task Force members reviewed various options to address concerns raised by parents, with a goal to keep as many students together as possible as they move through grade levels. They reviewed areas within 1.5 miles of middle schools and high schools. Possible solutions for all of the above and variations of concerns raised at meetings were discussed, including student flow, resulting enrollments, etc.

Vote to Change Recommendation: Following extended discussion and consideration of various options, the Task Force agreed to recommend that #5 be eliminated (move 32 students along 446 (Binford) to Tri-North from Jackson Creek) and that 64 students be moved from North to South along Hwy 446 south of Moores Pike/Lampkins Ridge. The other recommendations would remain as previously stated. Thus, the new recommendation to be proposed to the Board would be:

1. Move 15 students from Basswood, Oakdale, et al (ARL) from Jackson Creek to Tri-North.
2. Move 5 students from Cory Lane/Anna Lee Lane (FAI) from Jackson Creek to Tri-North.
3. Move 12 students from Walnut Street Pike/Schact Road (CLE) from Jackson Creek to Batchelor.
4. Move 52 students from the area bounded by Sare Road, Moores Pike, Smith Road and Rogers Road (BIN) from Jackson Creek to Tri-North.

5. Move 282 students from the area along Highway 45 west (all of Grandview district) from South to North.
6. Move 41 students (LAK) to Jackson Creek from Batchelor.
7. Move 64 students from North to South along Hwy 446 south of Moores Pike/Lampkins Ridge

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Next Meetings:

- (1) Presentation to School Board in Work Session on Tuesday, October 18, 2005 – 7:00 p.m. – Room 105 at the Administration Center
- (2) School Board Public Hearing – Tuesday, October 25, 2005 – 7:00 pm. – Room 105 at the Administration Center
- (3) Task Force meeting – Thursday, October 27, 2005 – 6:30 p.m. – Room 105 at the Administration Center

Present: Margaret Baechtold, Berit Brewer, John Carter, Bob Courtney, Naomi Funkhouser, Criss Beyers, Andrea Mobley, Deb McMillian, Greg Otter, Danny Shields, Mike Shipman, Debbie Shoup, Karin St. John, Michelle Sims, Martha Street

J.Tupper, Recorder