



Long Range Planning Committee  
Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017  
Meeting Minutes

Voting Members

X	Caryn Becker	X	Brad Geiger	X	Kati Knisley		
X	Laura Jensen	X	Anthony Wilemon	X	Bob Binder		
X	Cindy Barnard	X	Rudy Lukez	X	Todd Warnke		
X	Chris Williams	X	Joyce Mirezni	X	Nicole Bolger		
X	Karen Zimmerman	X	Stephanie Stanley	X	Steven Franger		
X	Kay Dry	X	Michelle Major				

Non-Voting Members

X	Richard Cosgrove	⌋	Shavon Caldwell	⌋	Thomas Mc Millen	X	Meghann Silverthorn
X	Kurt Wolter						

X indicates attendance, ⌋ = notification, ⊗ = no notification

**Call to Order**

Long Range Planning Committee Chair Brad Geiger called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

**Review and Approval of February 2017 Minutes**

LRPC Chair Brad Geiger asked for any objections or additions to the February 2017 LRPC minutes. None were made. Move to approve the February minutes. Seconded. Motion passes.

**Capacity Review and Analysis Report**

LRPC Chair Brad Geiger facilitated a discussion on staff’s 2016-17 Capacity Review and Analysis Report. The following general observations, recommendations and questions were discussed by members:

- Surprised by the level of under-utilization that exists. We know this affects site based budgets but have also learned by speaking with staff and parents that low enrollment can impact programming as well, i.e. athletics, arts, etc.
- Communicate that there are no plans to consolidate or repurpose schools but that it is a tool that’s being reviewed

LRPC members discussed in great detail the type of data and analysis that is needed to determine why over and under utilization is occurring before the committee is able to make any type of recommendations. Among others, the data and analyses identified as needed were:

- Choice data
  - How many students are choosing a school other than their neighborhood school? What proportion of these students are choosing another neighborhood school vs. a charter school?
  - Where specifically are students that choose a school other than their neighborhood school going?
  - How many students are choosing to go out of district? Which districts are they choosing?
- Parent questionnaire/survey regarding why they chose the school they open enrolled into
  - Caveat: this would likely require Board approval and coordination with DAC and site leadership.
- The “critical mass” for each school. What is the minimum enrollment each school needs to function/operate
- Correlation between choice and school performance/rating
- Correlation between choice and capital needs/condition and age of facility
- Typical/average distance a student will travel to their school of choice
- The utilization rate at which an over capacity schools become a safety concern

- Charter saturation point. This is good information for neighborhood schools as well as new charter applicants.
- Correlation between choice and socio-economic indicators (for example, free and reduced lunch)
- School culture, staff turnover and, teacher satisfaction
- Community perception of schools, i.e. which schools are perceived as undesirable and why
  - Social media effect could also be analyzed. How does social media perpetuate certain perceptions and the image of neighborhoods and the neighborhood school
- Number of eligible students residing in each attendance area and feeder, i.e. is population balanced?
- Special programs impact on choice, ex.) Discovery's draw at different locations
- Impact of charter enrollment on HS enrollment, ex.) Including charter schools there are 12 schools feeding into Chaparral HS and only 3 feeding into Ponderosa
- Correlation between choice and home affordability
- Fickle factor-what's the average/typical time a student changes schools. Does this differ between neighborhood and charters
- Best practices for adjusting boundaries. Analyze how other school districts do this.

LRPC then discussed what the timeline and process should be for gathering this data and performing the analysis needed to make capacity recommendations. The following observations, recommendations, and questions were discussed by members:

- Need a long timeline to look deeper into programming (this is not our expertise) and also for communication and outreach on these topics
- If Planning cannot begin this work until after publishing the Master Capital Plan (June 2017) then we are probably looking at Fall of 2017.
- It would be worthwhile to look into outsourcing portions of this. There are firms that specialize in data science and advanced visualizations that can do this very quickly
  - This would require members and staff to collectively develop a scope of work, RFQ, and estimated cost. Also need to determine how to fund
  - Would also require firm up front decisions on data points, structure of database, and queries and analysis desired

Other general comments from LRPC members on the topic included:

- We can actually view this as an opportunity to incorporate amazing programming in these underutilized facilities
- PK-12, DAC, and SACs can serve as a resource to understand some of the "soft data" points we've discussed
- We really need to fully understand the effect of choice. We can balance enrollment all we want through boundary adjustments but does this actually accomplish anything with the degree and culture of choice at DCSD?
- Also need to consider the relation between open enrollment and impact on a school's SBB. Because dollars are so low are schools incentivized to accept open enrollment beyond the capacity that exists?
  - Ex.) Schools can fund mobile moves out of the site based budget if it's for programming rather than capacity
- The committee performed an analysis that found 95% of students go to their neighborhood school or a charter located in their neighborhood school. We have a starting point for this conversation.

LRPC members ended the discussion by agreeing that an exploration of why over and under utilization is occurring is the committee's next big project. Members agreed that boundaries do matter and that they should be reviewed in the months moving forward. As a starting point, members requested data on the number of eligible students residing in each attendance area to identify if student population is balanced. From that point members would then like to develop a scope of work to be completed over the summer. Members would also like to identify what work can be performed by staff and what would need to be outsourced. Discussions on the possibility of outsourcing can be continued in the months ahead. Anyone who is interested in participating on the capacity review subcommittee should e-mail LRPC Chair Brad Geiger.

### **2017-18 School Year Priorities**

LRPC Chair Brad Geiger requested input from members on what the priorities should be for the 2017-18 school year. Other than analyzing capacity and utilization, members also suggested that the following be prioritized:

- Outreach
- Sterling Ranch (data tracking, steering committee, opportunity to master plan)
- Additional metrics to understand the dynamics of charter schools

### **Joint Subcommittee and MCP Outreach Subcommittee Update**

Joint subcommittee members had no updates at this time. They are currently putting together a resolution to present to the Board of Education regarding funding issues. When a final resolution is completed this will be communicated to LRPC members.

**LRPC Membership**

Brad Geiger informed members that after 11 years of service LRPC member Kay Dry resigned. The committee currently has openings in all feeders and areas of the District and is in need of additional members. Brad Geiger reminded members to please continue to recruit.

**Other**

LRPC member Kati Knisley will be taking a leave of absence. Kati has been essential in performing needed coordination with the Finance Oversight Committee and in serving as part of the Charter Application Review Team. If any LRPC members are interested and willing in assisting in taking this role on while she is away they should reach out to LRPC Chair Brad Geiger or directly to Kati Knisley (contact information on Planning & Construction website).

**Board of Education Capital Update:**

Board of Education President Meghann Silverthorn discussed the proposed election with members and informed everyone that she's received a lot of feedback from the community. Some of that feedback has indicated fear that the statewide election will draw those who vote no on everything. Board members will need to discuss and weigh these factors when deciding on a potential ballot initiative. She stated that she was looking forward to seeing the joint subcommittee's recommendations and that any additional information such as this is very helpful in determining a future course of action. Director Silverthorn briefly discussed the Gallagher amendment with members and agreed that more education and outreach is needed as many members of the public don't understand the impact of Gallagher on school finance.

**Adjourn**

Move to adjourn the meeting. Seconded. All ayes. Motion passes to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm.