



Long Range Planning Committee  
Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
Meeting Minutes

Voting Members

X	Caryn Becker	X	Brad Geiger	]	Kati Knisley		
X	Laura Jensen	X	Nicole Bolger	X	Bob Binder		
X	Cindy Barnard	]	Rudy Lukez	⊗	Todd Warnke		
⊗	Chris Williams	X	Joyce Mirenzi				
X	Karen Zimmerman	]	Stephanie Stanley				
X	Steven Franger	X	Michelle Major				

Non-Voting Members

X	Richard Cosgrove	X	Shavon Caldwell	]	Thomas Mc Millen	]	Meghann Silverthorn
X	Gautam Sethi						

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.

**Welcome and Discussion from Ponderosa High School Principal**

Ponderosa High School Principal David Haggerty welcomed the committee and provided input on the unique challenges facing Ponderosa HS regarding enrollment, capacity, and capital needs. Some of the issues and considerations regarding Ponderosa’s enrollment, capacity, and facility needs were the following:

- Choice = competition. Need to consider how to give schools the tools to compete on an equitable and even playing field. Items to take into consideration:
  - Boundaries and eligible enrollment for a school/equitable enrollment
  - School location, i.e. the convenience factor (how far students and parents are willing to drive and accessibility to major thoroughfares)
  - Programming and course offerings. Even though Ponderosa has lower enrollment and thus less per pupil dollars they still have to offer all the same programming as Legend or Chaparral in order to compete. With Ponderosa’s low enrollment this often results in teachers having to teach more courses than their counterparts at other high schools.
- Suggest four alternatives that would provide a more equitable state and enhance student potential at Ponderosa HS. They are:
  - Provide additional funding
  - Increase teacher pay
  - Change attendance/feeder boundaries to balance eligible student population
  - Change the bell schedule
    - Incentivize though offering a shorter school day
- Currently, new furniture is Ponderosa’s top capital need. Lower enrollment results in less money to invest in the facility. Difficult to compete when other high schools in the region are able to do this.
- Ideal enrollment for Ponderosa would be 1,600-1,800 students. This enrollment would provide teachers with a preferred teaching load and schedule.

Franktown Elementary School Principal Mark Herrel was also present and asked to comment on Franktown Elementary's unique challenges and considerations regarding enrollment, capacity, and facility needs. Some of the issues and considerations Mr. Herrel had regarding Franktown were:

- While Franktown is full at the moment there are still concerns with low enrollment sometime in the future. We've all seen this happen (aging out of a community → declining enrollment) and want admin to be cognizant and aware of the potential under-enrollment in the future when considering capacity relief alternatives for Franktown.
- There is a lot of misunderstanding amongst the community regarding the Cobblestone development and where those kids will feed into. The perception that there will definitely be a school there in the future exists. Would advocate for increased engagement and education on this topic.
- I commend the Planning & Construction staff on their mobile request and move process. It went seamlessly for us.

LRPC members had the following considerations and comments on the topic of Ponderosa and Franktown's enrollment and facility concerns:

- The data on how enrollment follows special programming (culinary, baccalaureate program, etc.) likely exists. Suggest reviewing the most in demand programming for students in your region and consider replicating.
- Could incentivize enrollment through subsidizing of transportation costs.
- The access to transportation in this region (i.e. a more rural area in comparison to the rest of the district) is extremely important, especially for lower grades. Should definitely consider this in any capacity analysis we do.
- New and shiny facility naturally attracts enrollment. Although capital needs that are considered aesthetic are considered the lowest priority this may be something to consider investing in.
- Offer sports that are not offered at neighboring high schools.
- Suggest that staff review status of Anthology development. Ponderosa feeder was originally boundaries to allow for this planned growth but should this still be the case if that development is not anticipated anytime soon.

### **Review and Approval of August Minutes**

LRPC Chair Brad Geiger asked for any objections or additions to the August LRPC meeting minutes. None were made. Michelle Major moves to approve. Caryn Becker seconds. Motion passes.

### **Capacity Analysis**

Planning Manager Shavon Caldwell noted that the subcommittee was unable to identify a time to meet in August and had decided to delay the kick-off meeting until September. She noted that the subcommittee would be able to report back to the committee after their September kick-off meeting. LRPC members had the below additional comments, questions, and considerations on the planned capacity analysis project:

- Should we consider the use of underutilized space by charter schools as part of this analysis?
- Consider the region's water situation when projecting growth areas.
- Should we just select one planning area as a "pilot" and move forward?
- What is the ultimate outcome? A report to the Board of Education?
- Is this more of a data collection and building of a data library exercise? Perhaps we don't even suggest alternatives at this point but focus more on answering all the questions we have that data and analysis can answer.
- This has a lot of moving parts and I'm still not hearing consensus on anything. Maybe the first step is drafting a process, setting criteria and objectives for a potential boundary change.
- I see it happening as more of an exploratory process. Think we should start pulling data sets and evaluating and trends will present themselves. Let the data and data findings guide the process.

Planning Manager Shavon Caldwell agreed to identify which planning area has the largest variance in eligible enrollment vs. facility capacity. It was agreed that this data could be compiled and shared with the committee before the October meeting.

### **Charter Request for Sites and Facilities**

LRPC Chair Brad Geiger noted that while he appreciated the opportunity to provide input on the request for the Eastridge site, he was concerned with the rushed, unorganized, and ambiguous nature of LRPC's role in this process. Planning Director Rich Cosgrove acknowledged the concern and noted that staff is currently working on a timeline, process, and rubric for these types of requests. Mr. Cosgrove informed the committee that a draft timeline and process would be presented at the next meeting and requested input on the rubric. Input from committee members was as follows:

- A consultant created a guide/checklist for siting schools. Find this and use as a basis for all site criteria and considerations
- Ensure applicants are ready and have done all their due diligence. It was obvious that there was limited knowledge about the site on the request for Eastridge. This is concerning when so little is known about the site and the neighborhood.

- I know that charters cannot provide finalized/accurate enrollment info at the time of the land request. However, definitely need to understand their target audience, their marketing approach, where enrollment will be coming from, and how they intend to draw enrollment.
- Whether or not the applicant's programming is considered a need of the district should be a heavily weighted criteria.
- I didn't feel like I had the necessary data and information to make an informed vote. The applicant needs to be aware that approval is dependent on the level of due diligence that has been done.
- Would like to know the alternative sites an applicant is looking at as part of the review process.
- Suggest creating a template or standard form that guides applicants on all the data that will be needed to evaluate the request.
- DPS co-locates charters. Should we reach out to them for information and assistance?
- Some of the issues that are being discussed are the primary focus of some of the other authorizing authorities on these types of request. We may want to focus on those topics and items that are within our purview.
- Need rules and process for public comment on these types of agenda items. Important to involve and offer opportunity for comment to general public but also be cognizant of what committee needs in order to take care of business during the meeting.
  - Written comment or web based feedback form?

**Outreach:**

LRPC member Caryn Becker briefed the committee on current outreach efforts. She informed everyone that currently, the subcommittee's preferred approach for outreach is to tag onto already scheduled feeder forums. She informed the group that the DAC will be having a forum on September 27<sup>th</sup> and that the LRPC is on the agenda to present on capital needs.

**Other:**

LRPC Chairman Brad Geiger reminded members that the student liaison position is still vacant. Planning Manager Shavon Caldwell volunteered to get the committee on the next Student Advisory Group meeting to present and recruit. Brad Geiger will update the group on this topic at the October meeting.

Planning Manager Shavon Caldwell requested input on a potential cancellation policy in response to recent confusion about subcommittee meeting status. The group agreed that a 24 hour cancellation policy will be observed moving forward.

**Adjourn:**

Motion to adjourn. Seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm