



Small Schools Study

MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting:	September 13, 2007	Minutes Prepared By:
Location:	JSSC Boardroom	Sonja Ballstadt
Time:	3:30pm to 5:00pm	

In Attendance

- Manny Ortega
- Kevin Hahn
- Dave Montoya
- Sonja Ballstadt
- Karen Martin
- Evelyn Jacobi
- Sabine De Voe
- Brian Williams
- Lucin Gilliland
- Mark Eversole
- Bryce Hach
- Sandra Lundt
- Carmen Carmack
- Cathy Kipp
- Leslie Shaner
- David Dilley
- Mike Grigg
- Jasmine Faulkner
- Sarah Belleau
- Brian Carpenter
- Brian Olver
- Justin Silverstein
- Amanda Brown
- Katie Zwetzig
- Sam Aldern
- Bill Peisner
- Mike McCarthy
- Kathy Hix
- Melissa Vasa

Welcome & Introductions

Agenda & Meeting Notes

Review Objectives:

- Analyze different size schools for program offerings, scheduling implications and cost ramifications.
- Determine consistencies and what essential classes can be offered through the analysis of prototypical models.
- Recommend cost implications to affect 2008-09 student based budgeting (SBB), the funding formula that allocates funds to schools each year.
- Identify school sizes at which closure may be considered.

Outcomes for the Meeting:

- Understand the use of the three pronged approach as applied to school size (prototypical) models:
 1. Evidence Based Approach
 2. Nevada expenditure data
 3. Professional Judgment Panels
- Review current research on resources important to have in good schools (Evidence Based Approach).
- Review school level expenditure data from the state of Nevada.
- Identify the implications of the above information on the school size factors within student based budgeting.

Focus for this Meeting:

- First bullet for "Outcomes for the Meeting":
 - Understand the use of the three pronged approach as applied to school size (prototypical) models:
 1. Evidence Based Approach
 2. Nevada expenditure data
 3. Professional Judgment Panel

Augenblick, Palaich, & Associates – Justin Silverstein & Amanda Brown

- Questions to answer:
 - Is there a cost difference for schools based on size?
 - Are the weights in the Student-Based Budgeting correct?
 - Are the weights feasible in current structure if we do something different?
 - "Size Weight" with student-based budgeting.
- "Equity" across all schools.
- Where we are now – "Current Weights" Handout
 - Study to smooth out cliffs, reduce inequities of old formula
 - How does this affect each school?
- "Smooth Current Weights" handout - smooth out cliffs
- Suggestion for committee to look at first 2 tiers.
- Three approaches that Poudre School District will use:
 1. Evidence Based Approach
 - Rules to create Poudre School District ratios
 - Graphs will be provided for next meeting.
 - "Summary of Wyoming Recalibration Recommendations" handout.
 2. Nevada expenditure data (statistical approach)
 - Available data on expenditures per pupil correlated with school size.
 - 17 districts
 - "Nevada Weights" handout – trend is in right direction, highest weight in smallest schools.
 - Their weights include operations and staff expenditures.
 - Poudre School District expenditures will be different from Nevada's, in that we do not include operations in Student Based Budgeting. The goal is to compare ratio differences.
 3. Professional Judgment Panel
 - Team of educators (9 people for Elementary and 9 people for Junior High).
 - Four administrators/five teachers (specials).
 - What it takes on a resource level to provide the essential classes at all levels (core & whole child).
 - Panel will build a number of schools at different enrollments.
 - Next week's meeting; the committee will provide input on who should be on the panel.
 - Professional Judgment Panel will be held in October.
 - Small School Study committee and Professional Judgment Panel will receive an outline of the process and Poudre School District will layout essential education requirements.
 - "Bench Standard" – Professional Judgment Panel would define (equity).
 - "Model School Sizes" handout will be used for all three approaches.
- Four curves to be produced and reviewed for how they relate to each other:
 1. Augenblick, Palaich & Associates - Poudre School District current curve
 2. Poudre School District's Professional Judgment Panel's curve
 3. Evidence Based Approach curve
 4. Nevada expenditure data curve

5. Possible "break even" curve

Next Meeting:

- Thursday, September 20th, 3:30pm to 5:30pm at Poudre High School (201 Impala Dr.) in the Media Center.
 - Identify potential principals & teachers to participate on Professional Judgment Panels
 - Discuss information related to essential classes at the elementary and junior high levels.

Small School Study Committee Time Line

- Dates of future meetings

Date	Time	Location	Address
September 13	3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	JSSC Boardroom	2407 LaPorte Ave.
September 20	3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	Poudre High School Media Center	201 Impala Dr.
October 11	3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	Bauder Elementary Media Center	2345 W. Prospect
October 25	3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	JSSC Boardroom	2407 LaPorte Ave.
November 15	3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	JSSC Boardroom	2407 LaPorte Ave.
November 29	3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	JSSC Boardroom	2407 LaPorte Ave.
December 6	3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	Blevins Junior High Media Center	2102 Taft Hill Rd.
December 13	3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	JSSC Boardroom	2407 LaPorte Ave.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

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