



# Small Schools Study

## MEETING MINUTES

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	November 29, 2007	<b>Minutes Prepared By:</b>
<b>Location:</b>	JSSC Boardroom	Sonja Ballstadt
<b>Time:</b>	3:30pm to 5:30pm	

### In Attendance

- Manny Ortega
- Kevin Hahn
- Dave Montoya
- Sonja Ballstadt
- Mike Grigg
- Evelyn Jacobi
- Sabine De Voe
- Lucin Gilliland
- Jasmine Faulkner
- Rita Brozka
- Amanda Brown
- Sam Aldern
- Bill Peisner
- Brian Carpenter
- Cathy Kipp
- David Dilley
- Karen Martin
- Brian Olver
- Melissa Vasa
- Brian Williams

### Welcome - Introductions

### Agenda & Meeting Notes

#### **Review Committee Charge:**

- Recommend cost implications to affect 2008-09 student based budgeting (SBB), the funding formula that allocates funds to schools each year.
- 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.
- Identify school sizes at which closure may be considered.

#### **Outcomes for the Meeting:**

- A. Determine the elementary and junior high school size factors to be recommended to the Student-Based Budget Committee.
  1. Committee arrives at a consensus or recommends 2 size factors.

#### **Presentation and Analysis of Elementary and Junior High Graphs – Dave Montoya and Amanda Brown**

- Handout "Combined Incremental **Elementary** Cost Graphs"
  - 4 graphs combined: Current SBB, Statistical (Nevada), Evidence (Wyoming), and Professional Judgment.
- Handout "Combined Incremental **Junior High** Cost Graphs"
  - 4 graphs combined: Current SBB, Statistical (Nevada), Evidence (Wyoming), and Professional Judgment.

### **Presentation of Recommended Size Factor – Dave Montoya and Amanda Brown**

- Handout "SBB Current Weight vs. Professional Panel Incremental Changes in Cost – **Elementary**"
  - Incremental change in cost between the current SBB weight and the professional judgment panel curve.
- Handout "SBB Weight vs. Professional Panel Incremental Changes in Cost" – Using Hybrid of Panel Discussion – **Junior High**
  - Incremental change in cost between the current SBB weight and the professional judgment panel curve.
- Both the elementary and junior high panel's curves were similar to the SBB curves.

### **Small Group Discussion**

- The committee split into 3 groups to answer 3 questions for both the elementary and junior high professional panels' curve results:
  - Do you want to see the cliffs eliminated?
  - Do you agree that it costs more to operate a small school?
  - Do you agree with the panel's curve?
- **Group #1:**
  - Elementary Curve:
    - ✓ Do you want to see cliffs eliminated? *Yes, we like the slopes. Get rid of artificial cliffs.*
    - ✓ Comment: *This graph does help with the challenge of committee charge bullet #4.*
  - Junior High Curve:
    - ✓ Do you want to see cliffs eliminated? *Cliffs reduced, eliminated. Less obvious re: point #4. Should the slope be more "smooth" – 300 to 500 (size)? Should we address advantages/disadvantages of small schools?*
- **Group #2:**
  - Elementary and Junior High Curve:
    - ✓ Do you want to see cliffs eliminated? *Yes*
    - ✓ Do you agree that it costs more to operate a small school? *Yes*
- **Group #3:**
  - Elementary Curve:
    - ✓ Do you want to see cliffs eliminated? *Yes, get rid of cliffs!*
    - ✓ Do you agree that it costs more to operate a small school? *Yes, costs increase as the school gets smaller.*
    - ✓ Do you agree with the panel's curve? *It is a starting point – would like the Student-Based Budgeting Committee to work with it then have the Small School Study Committee review again.*
    - ✓ Other comments/questions:
      - Why discrepancy for staff/\$\$?
      - Is slope appropriate? Starting point? Enough at that level?
      - Let Small School Study Committee meet again after the Student-Based Budgeting Committee reviews the curve.
      - Check on number of students per level per track.
  - Junior High Curve:
    - ✓ Do you want to see cliffs eliminated? *Yes.*
    - ✓ Do you agree that it costs more to operate a small school? *Yes it does.*
    - ✓ Do you agree with the panel's curve? *We are comfortable with it as long as we can discuss with the Student-Based Budgeting Committee and meet again after they have done their work.*
- In general, the committee would like the Student-Based Budgeting committee to take the curves and work with them and then the small school study committee would meet again.

**Next Steps:**

- Determine the elementary and junior high school size factors to be recommended to the Student-Based Budget Committee.

**Next Meeting:**

- December 6<sup>th</sup>, Blevins Junior High Media Center, 3:30pm to 5:30pm.

**Small School Study Committee Time Line**

- Dates of future meetings

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>
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 <b>(CANCELLED)</b>	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 8 <b>(NEW)</b>	3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	Poudre High School Media Center	201 Impala Dr.
November 15 <b>(CANCELLED)</b>	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 5:30 p.m.**

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