



**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10**

DATE OF MEETING: June 21, 2011

TITLE: Study of Proposed Isolated School Attendance Boundary Modifications (Only Affecting Land without Current Residents) for Purposes of Enrollment Stabilization between Walker Elementary and Donaldson Elementary Schools

BACKGROUND: Enrollment at Donaldson Elementary School has been in a steady state of decline over the course of the last several years. With a projected enrollment of just 299 FTE (full time equivalent) students for next school year (and the limited funding generated by such an enrollment level), the District’s capacity to maintain program levels at the site is being significantly impacted – particularly given the dramatic and continuing legislative cuts to the District’s budget in recent years. State budget reductions make the stabilization of Donaldson’s enrollment an imperative – to help stem further programmatic impacts to the school, its faculty and students, and its local community.

At the same time Donaldson enrollment is in decline, the enrollment at Walker Elementary School is holding relatively steady. Indeed, most classrooms at the school are currently in use throughout the day, leaving very little actual capacity for growth. The school continues to lack sufficient parking for existing parents, and playground space is near the limits of its capacity to meet current student enrollment needs. And, as the Board knows, the transportation issues at Walker continue to be of concern. Thus, stabilization of Walker enrollment (by means of controlling its growth) would be beneficial.

There is presently very little residential development pending which would impact district enrollment. There are within the Walker attendance area, however, three projects which do have potential for adding to Walker’s enrollment count.

The first of these three is a residential project currently in planning by a local developer for property located on two parcels the general location of which are shown in the attached District attendance area map as “Area 1”, but which are more specifically described in the following table:

Parcel No.	Current Owner (Per Assessor)	Legal Description
104-01-066B	Pima County	PTN S2 SE4 NW4 LYG S OF DRNGWY & ELY & WLY PTN LYG N & ADJ DRNGWY & SELY PTN SW4 NW4 LYG N OF RILLITO RIVER 10.13 AC SEC 15-13-13
104-01-104E	Riverview Ventures, LLC	NELY PTN NE4 SW4 EXC RD & EXC NWLY TRI PTN 11.21 AC SEC 15-13-13

The “Riverview East” project currently in planning for Area 1 (on the attached attendance area map will consist of townhomes and would potentially be under construction within a year. The land involved (both parcels) is currently unimproved and vacant.

The second project currently in planning is a 16 unit single family home neighborhood located on the parcel of vacant land immediately to the south of the district’s San Joaquin

Alternative School site. Shown on the attached attendance area map as "Area 2", the particular parcel of land (also currently vacant and unimproved) is more particularly described in the following table:

Parcel No.	Current Owner (Per Assessor)	Legal Description
101-12-004A	Daniel H. White	PT OF S2 NW4 NE4 SE4 & PT OF SW4 NE4 SE4 LYG NLY OF S'LY RW OF ROLLER COASTER RD & E 30' OF N2 NW4 NE4 SE4 6.15 AC SEC 9-13-13

The third project presently that will impact Walker's enrollment is an apartment project which is currently under construction. It is generally shown on the attached District attendance map as "Area 3" and is more specifically described below:

Parcel No.	Current Owner (Per Assessor)	Legal Description
104-01-381A	HSL Riverside Crossing Apartments, LLC	RIVERSIDE CROSSING BLOCK 6 EXC WLY PTN (Address: 1925 W. River Road)

The Administration is proposing consideration of changes to the existing Walker Elementary School attendance area boundaries by creation of three isolated exceptions to the current Walker boundaries. Under these isolated exceptions, the elementary school of attendance for students residing in these three areas would be Donaldson Elementary School, rather than Walker.

Adoption of these proposed boundary exceptions would help stabilize enrollment for both Walker and Donaldson in the respective directions needed. Consideration of this approach and its consequences might also include the following additional facts:

1. All affected parcels currently have no residents. Thus, the proposed boundary change does not affect existing students or parents.
2. District transportation from all three sites to Donaldson would be required.
3. Long term implications of other development affecting both Donaldson and Walker are largely unknown given current economic conditions; accordingly the long term efficacy or efficiency of this proposal has potential to change over time.
4. The proposed boundary changes do not preclude future residents from seeking open enrollment to Walker Elementary (or any other school) assuming capacity exists.

RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented for the Governing Board's initial study and discussion at this time.

INITIATED BY:



Todd A. Jaeger, Associate to the Superintendent

Date: June 15, 2011



Vicki Balentine, Ph.D., Superintendent