

Questions Submitted by Trustee Connie Prado

April 11, 2019

Special Called Board Meeting

Discussion and Possible Action Agenda Item #4

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Item #4

ATHENS ELEMENTARY REOPENING

As was discussed at the Budget Committee meeting, staffing can be a large part of our expenditures in the reopening of our schools, if not thoroughly examined and with creativity. **Yes staffing normally accounts for around 80% of the general fund budget.**

A brief review of staffing considerations at Athens Elementary, **teachers only:** Superintendent's Plan calls for 21 FTE's. **The "Superintendent's Plan" that was presented on Feb 13 was based on a single day in January 2019 and does not indicate the actual FTE needs at the campus. The "Superintendent's Plan" is a planning tool and not an implementation plan. Final teacher FTE recommendations will not be available until enrollments are finalized at the attending campuses.** The Budget Committee Plan calls for 14 FTE's (Core Teachers Only) transferred from Price and Carrillo Elem. The Budget Committee agrees that 1-Music Teacher, 1-PE Teacher and 1-Reading Teacher will be additionally required for Athens Elem.

The teacher section handout, for Price and Carrillo Elem. that Ms. Orozco presented to the Budget Committee was very informative. Price Elem. indicates that it has one Life Skills section. Carrillo Elem. does not indicate any kind of SPED sections. Do we have any additional SPED sections at either school? If so, what kind of SPED classes? **No, but we have students that have SPED needs that we must provide services for in a mainstream setting. This service must be provided by a SPED certified teacher. Projecting the number of required service minutes at this time is not practical until we know what students enroll and what the Individual Education Plans will require.**

If there are 311 students projected to enroll at Athens Elem, **With assumptions that have been stated when we provided the projections based on the prior attendance zones on that single day in January for the impacted campuses; Athens, Carrillo and Price.** and the average student/teacher ratio at Price is 21:1 (excluding life skills) and the average student/teacher ratio at Carrillo Elem. is 19:1; so if we establish a student/teacher ratio of 20:1 at Athens, the approx. number of core teachers that should be transferred from Price/Carrillo is more like 15-16 teachers. Would the Administration agree with this estimate? **No** If not, please

stipulate. **We staff K-4 individual classes at 22:1 not the entire campus enrollment divided by 22.**

I fully understand that student distribution in the section counts regarding Bilingual and Head Start will have an impact on the final number of teacher transfers. **Yes the enrollment distribution is a factor in staffing.**

Given the observations stated above, does the administration have any other staffing recommendations for the reopening of Athens Elem. for teacher FTE's? Does the Administration have any new staffing costs estimates for Athens Elem. (**teachers only**) since the Superintendent's plan was presented on February 13, 2019? **Final teacher FTE recommendations will not be available until we understand how many and which students will be attending the campus.**

KAZEN MIDDLE SCHOOL REOPENING

As was discussed at the Budget Committee meeting, staffing can be a large part of our expenditures in the reopening of our schools, if not thoroughly examined and with creativity. **Yes staffing normally accounts for around 80% of the general fund budget.**

A brief review of staffing considerations at Kazen Middle School, **teachers only**: Superintendent's Plan, calls for 26 FTE's. **The "Superintendent's Plan" that was presented on Feb 13 was based on a single day in January 2019 and does not indicate the actual FTE needs at the campus. The "Superintendent's Plan" is a planning tool and not an implementation plan. Final teacher FTE recommendations will not be available until we understand what students will be attending the campus.** The Budget Committee Plan calls for 14 FTE's (Core Teachers Only) transferred from Zamora and Dwight Middle Schools. The Budget Committee initially agreed that an additional elective teacher would be required for Avid, ISS, Spanish, Theatre Arts, Tech Apps, Exp Career, Reading, SPED, Band and Art. In addition to 2-PE teachers.

Upon further review, referring to the handout of the master schedule's for Zamora and Dwight Middle Schools provided by Ms. Orozco, some observations are made:

Both Zamora and Dwight Middle Schools have 8-period instructional days. **Yes** SSHS has an A-B Block Schedule. **Yes** Is there any reason that we do not have academic vertical alignment from middle school to high school? **Academic vertical alignment refers to the curriculum standards and our middle school curriculum standards are aligned to the SSHS curriculum standards.** Moak, Casey has indicated that there are sizable savings by going to an 8-period day, especially, at the high school is this true? **Moak, Casey indicated that generally there is a sizable savings by shifting to an 8-period day, but this may vary from school to school, however they have yet to conduct a study to evaluate SSHS A-B Block cost.**

There are 462 students projected to enroll at Kazen Middle School. **With assumptions that have been stated when we provided the projections based on the prior attendance zones on that single day in January for the impacted campuses; Kazen, Zamora and Dwight.** The average student/teacher ratio for Reading/ELA at Zamora (Non-Academy Classes) is approx. 26:1 and for Academy student classes it is approx. 18:1 is there a reason for the difference? **Yes enrollment to an additional middle school choice academy and scheduling.** Using a student/teacher ratio of 25:1 for the projected Kazen students, the number of core teachers that would transfer from Zamora and Dwight is closer to 18 core teachers. **The staffing need will depend on where the actual students decide to enroll.**

There are only 5-sections of AVID at Zamora and 0-sections at Dwight. **After review we show 5 sections of AVID at Zamora and 7 sections of AVID at Dwight note the student enrollment per class.** There are only 5-sections of Exploring Careers at Zamora and 5-sections of Exploring Careers at Dwight. **Yes** Wouldn't it be feasible to teach 3-sections of AVID and 3-sections of Exploring Careers at Kazen Middle School by one teacher? **Yes if the teacher has the proper certifications and training they can teach various sections.**

Except for 2-PE teachers and 1-Band teacher, couldn't we explore the same kind of pairings for the other electives in order to be more efficient, decrease staffing costs and still be responsive to student needs? **Yes, at the district level we try to be efficient and equal to all campus.**

At Zamora MS, there are at least 32 sections with 30 students or more in those classes (excluding PE & Band) is there any reason for this? **Scheduling as discussed when the information was given to you.**

At Dwight MS, there are at least 20 sections with 30 students or more in those classes (excluding PE & Band) is there any reason for this? **Scheduling as discussed when the information was given to you.**

WEST CAMPUS HIGH SCHOOL REOPENING

We are limited in submitting questions regarding staffing without the SSHS Master Schedule. Nevertheless, the following questions need to be asked for clarity and cost savings estimates:

Would School Day-Plan A at WCHS eliminate excessive busing of students to and from SSHS/WCHS and vice versa? **Without the actual number of students that will be attending both campuses and student academic schedules we are uncertain of the full busing needs.**

Since we cannot replicate CTE classes and facilities at SSHS wouldn't Plan A better serve those interested students? **We need more clarification on this question.**

Since we cannot replicate Health Science Academy classes and facilities at SSHS wouldn't Plan A better serve those interested students? **We need more clarification on this question.**

WCHS incoming 9th graders who want to participate in Athletics, Band, Dance/Cheer, ROTC & Drama/Theatre Arts could be bused back to WCHS for their core/elective courses depending on modifications to the SSHS Master Schedule and the seasonal participation of these extra-curricular activities. Is this feasible? **Effective scheduling will allow for participation in these activities.**

There may be some current SSHS 9th graders from the WCHS attendance zone who may not be interested in CTE, Health Science Academy and the extra-curricular activities. Do we know how many current SSHS 9th graders live in the WCHS Attendance Zone? **If we are to assume the future WCHS attendance zone will mirror the Shepard MS attendance zone, we could also assume that the 9th graders who attended Shepard MS would be a good starting place but we do not have the actual numbers at this time.**

There are 195 students projected to potentially attend WCHS as 9th graders for SY 2019-2020. **This projection has the assumption that all Shepard 8th graders will enroll in WCHS.** Granted, we are going to lose some students who will want to attend SSHS because of CTE, HSA or Extra-curricular activities. I believe the staff estimated around 40-50 students. **The 40-50 number of students provided was for early college and health careers we have yet to get clear numbers for CTE , athletics, or fine arts.** For planning purposes, let us say that 150 students will attend WCHS. So, approx. 6-Core teachers will transfer from SSHS. Even some of the required elective teachers will be able to transfer from SSHS. **We agree we will have to reassess staffing after we understand where the students are scheduled and enrolled.**

If the incoming 10th graders are allowed to attend WCHS with the limitations then WCHS will gain more students. In order to be cost effective and still be responsive to student needs, we would need a teacher who can split teach Eng I/ Eng II; split teach World Geography/World History; split teach Algebra I/Geometry; split teach Biology/Chemistry, etc, etc, etc. Does the administration have a different perspective on this matter? **Yes if the teacher has the proper certifications they can teach various preps within the content area.**