



# dialogue)))

## Area 6 and 7 Impacted Schools Engagement Session Notes Group B Schools (Alexander Ferguson, Glenbrook, Glendale and Richmond) – Feb. 7, 2018

Below you will find all comments provided in the survey as they were written. Comments have not been edited for spelling, grammar, sentence structure or otherwise. Comments have been edited to ensure anonymity. We also edited or omitted abusive, discriminatory and otherwise inappropriate comments.

### What are the opportunities for the proposed scenario?

- More predictable student enrollment
- Changes are inline with their goals & decision making criteria
- Makes it easy to know where to send your child
- Balance of enrollment
- Your school community resides in close proximity
- Potentially increasing enrollment in underutilized schools
- Good with fixed boundaries generally speaking
- Questionable where long distance from school (eg. Currie Barracks) make optional Jennie Elliot?
- Improve perception and programming for other schools
- Create sustainable numbers w/i four schools
- Balances populations
- Boost population in some schools boosts funding – gives potential to expand programming
- Balances population
- Richmond has on-site daycare for kindergarten
- Richmond has new Principal
- Growth and development opportunity for Glendale and Richmond school
- Boost enrollement at Richmond school
- “Advertising” in community newsletter to show what schools have to offer
- Diversity
- Keep elementary students together for JH
- Spread enrollment equitably
- Walk zones
- Put ‘rules’ for selection of extra ‘seats’
- Advertise the proposed scenario in community newsletter, websites, facebook pages so parents not currently in CBE get notice & can comment



# dialogue)))

- Make schools more attractive to parents in the boundaries instead of just “forcing the boundaries”. Principals need more resourcing for marketing/extra curricular

## What are the challenges for the proposed scenario?

- Timing – these proposed changes are happening after families have already registered for the 2018/2019 school year. I understand the purpose of drawing the boundaries, but if our family had found out that this was in the works, we would have spent more time investigating other options. AF is close our house, but we are designated to a school that is many block further away. If we have to drive to school, we would have looked at other schools that were driving distance as well. Also after school care has already been paid for & changes for other after school may not be possible.
- Families entering kindergarten in Sept 2019 were not engaged in initial consultation, they had no way to learn & engage. Most were informed this week!
- Principals did not communicate plans, timing.
  - Did they know?
- Implementation dates are not aligned with registration dates.
- There are 100+ families in limbo, this creates huge knock on effects including
  - before/after school care (and cost)
  - planning of work schedules
  - potential home relocation
- The fix is 1. align boundary changes with 2019-2020 registration, and 2. clearly communicate this asap, so families can plan
- Overall enrollment change does impact funding for schools
- Developers taking advantage
- No incentive to keep improving to attract enrollment
- Fewer students means fewer specialty teaching positions (like Ed Assistants)
- How often will boundaries need to be redrawn
- Parents already enrolled in current programs at AF are forced to change. Allowing this decision to be implemented 1-2 years later (provided the announcement is made soon) would aid with concerns
- Changes impacting already enrolled students (kindergarten) would negatively impact family plans
  - suggest grand-fathering already registered kindergarten schools
- Live in Currie Barracks, concerned about distance to Glenbrook



# dialogue)))

- Lack of representation & discussion for Glenbrook school area
- Is it possible to have a separate discussion for Glenbrook and other schools east and south (Jennie Elliott, Altadore, etc)
- Poor timing – decision should be made prior to registration occurring
- Kindergarten registration has already happened. Families have already made decisions & financial commitments such as childcare based on where they are registered
- Lack of flexibility/choice
- Ability to only register for 1 school at a time
- Getting to schools when living near boundaries
- Transportation to Glenbrook school for Currie Barracks
- Transportation
- Walkability in Glenbrook is insane!
- Long term sustainability of Alexander Ferguson
- Proposed timeline is not fair for students registered in kindergarten in 2018/2019
- How to communicate what schools have to offer (Richmond programs)
- What happens if 4 impacted schools reach capacity?
- Either push back these changes to 2019-2020 school year OR “Grandfather” & acknowledge pre registrations for 2018-2019
- Programming not nec equitable
- K students 2019-20 not 2018-19
- Continue to allow Principals discretionary attendance
- Children in the same community are not going to the same school. Boundaries don’t align to city. See challenge
- Timing (registration has already happened, before & after care already signed up)

## Are there any other considerations for this scenario?

- Implement final scenario in 2019 or later to offer appropriate opportunities for incoming students within optional boundaries to plan accordingly
- Possibly expanding AF boundary
- I’m biased, because I’m not in the option area, but I think this should be implemented sooner rather than later. The issues voiced re; timing will be the same for CBE parents next year
- Continue to allow principal’s discretion for out of area students
- Currie Barracks is a long way from Glenbrook school
- A mail out to all residences would be useful for families not in the CBE system



# *dialogue)))*

- Currie Barracks is not going to contribute much more population in the next 10 years. How does this factor into the boundary for Glenbrook? And impact to the small population of students from Currie Barracks?
- Optional boundary for Currie Barracks (?) given distance from Glenbrook
- Currie Barracks is not going to densify at the advertised rate, so will not populate Glenbrook



## Participant Evaluation Summary – Area 6 and 7 Impacted Schools Group B

Central Memorial High School – Feb. 7, 2018

Alexander Ferguson, Glenbrook, Glendale and Richmond schools

Number of participants in attendance: 28

Number of evaluations completed: 17

### **1) I was encouraged to share my thoughts and/or feedback during this engagement.**

**17 Agree    0 Somewhat Agree    0 Somewhat Disagree    0 Disagree    0 Not Applicable**

### **2) I was able to ask questions and learn about the opportunity for input/feedback prior to my participation in this engagement.**

**11 Agree    5 Somewhat Agree    0 Somewhat Disagree    1 Disagree    0 Not Applicable**

### **3) I had the information I needed to participate in a meaningful way.**

**11 Agree    6 Somewhat Agree    0 Somewhat Disagree    0 Disagree    0 Not Applicable**

### **4) I was able to provide input on the best way for me to share my thoughts and ideas.**

**14 Agree    3 Somewhat Agree    0 Somewhat Disagree    0 Disagree    0 Not Applicable**

### **5) I clearly understand all of the factors being considered in the decision-making process and which of these factors I can and cannot influence.**

**11 Agree    6 Somewhat Agree    0 Somewhat Disagree    0 Disagree    0 Not Applicable**

### **6) My input was documented as part of the engagement process.**

**13 Agree    4 Somewhat Agree    0 Somewhat Disagree    0 Disagree    0 Not Applicable**

- You say it will be but not till early Mar.

### **7) What did you like most about this engagement?**

**Comment: 16      No Comment: 1**

- In person, active dialogue with parties.
- Opp to ask Qs
- Hearing various perspectives, learning about the 4 different schools
- Representative from all parts of CBE attended, helped with understanding of situation
- I liked the ability to post online questions as a way to keep order. I also liked the fact that the decisions are “not set in stone”
- Fair process

# *dialogue)))*

- Hearing what other families concerns were
- The group of parents I sat with were great & we had a good discussion. The CBE staff were wonderful
- That CBE is trying to engage community
- Table discussions. Explanation of process from decision makers
- The CBE reps, their diverse areas of expertise, & their ability to stay calm in the face of negativity
- The groups mixing up so each marital partner could be with a new group
- Open table discussion & presentation
- Structure and the various CBE attendees
- Well organized. All comments & questions were heard
- Group discussion / Q&A

## **8) What did you like least about this engagement?**

**Comment: 8      No Comment: 9**

- CBE staff should have conversations outside of the room if necessary, e.g. Q&A was hard to hear due to talk at back of room by CBE reps.
- More Q&A time would be great. No notice for families not in CBE system.
- I think the communication or advance notice was lacking. Next time more notice through school/parent council.
- Not enough notice about their meeting. I received the email yesterday & had to quickly arrange childcare. There were people who could not attend because of this.
- N/A
- Weather. Parents unawareness of CBE policies and realities of teaching.
- Would have been nice to have a copy of all slides/email after?
- Not enough time for questions.