



3497 North Ammon Road, Idaho Falls, Idaho, 83401 ♦ (208) 525-4400 ♦ Fax (208) 529-0104 ♦ www.d93schools.org

Dr. Charles J. Shackett, Superintendent

Marjean McConnell, Deputy Superintendent

Scott Woolstenhulme, Assistant Superintendent

Community Information Meeting

May 1, 2018

7:00 PM

Sandcreek Middle School Cafeteria

2955 E Owen St, Ammon, ID

I. Call to Order

Chairman Paul Jenkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Amy Landers	present
Chad Dance	absent, arrived at 7:28 p.m.
Greg Calder	present
Scott Lynch	present
Paul Jenkins	present

III. Welcome Visitors and Delegations

Those in attendance were Deputy Superintendent Marjean McConnell, Assistant Superintendent Scott Woolstenhulme, Director of Instruction & Learning Jason Lords, Energy Education Specialist Don Trauntvein, Community Relations and Communications Phil Campbell, D93News Samantha Williams, Food Services Supervisor Heather Plain, Hillview Principal Dr. Elise Saffle, Tiebreaker Principal Kent Patterson, Ammon Principal John Murdoch, and Board Clerk Mary Hansen.

IV. District Boundary Presentations – Scott Woolstenhulme

Mr. Woolstenhulme informed the Board and those present the reasons for boundary changes were to equalize school enrollment numbers, balance staffing, building capacity. According to the survey sent to patrons and parents in the spring of 2017, responders indicated the best way to deal with growth in order of preference was to change boundaries and build new schools; using modular trailers was last on the list. It is highly probable that over 100 new homes will soon be occupied in the Iona boundaries and in the Woodland Hills area many new subdivisions are being built.

A. **Proposal 1:** Move Iona Elementary students in the East Falls Brook area to Tiebreaker Elementary – The last time the Falls Brook area was moved due to a boundary change was 8 years ago and created an island for Iona Elementary boundaries. By moving Falls Brook to Tiebreaker will create a continuous boundary. The preschool held currently in Tiebreaker will be moved to Falls Valley.

B. **Proposal 2A:** Move Woodland Hills Elementary students west of Ammon Road to Hillview Elementary – This option will move students from overcrowded classrooms at Woodland Hills and help fill staffing needs at Hillview. It will create an island for the Hillview boundaries.

C. **Proposal 2B:** Move Woodland Hills Elementary students west of Ammon Road to Ammon Elementary and move Ammon Elementary students north of 25th Street to Hillview Elementary – This option will create a continuous boundary for the Woodland Hills neighborhood with Ammon Elementary; however, it will reduce the funding for the Title One program, teachers and paraprofessionals from Ammon Elementary.

V. Public Input

Patron input comments:

- Community/neighborhood schools are important
- Proposal 2A will keep boundaries more secure since it is not likely to grow
- Cannot plan school boundaries around local church boundaries; religious talk is not appropriate in this discussion
- Postpone changes until next year
- Repurpose Ammon Elementary
- Good intervention programs at Hillview
- Students can be isolated and separated from other students when bussed in from outlying areas Scott Lynch

- Large classrooms are not ideal; educational standpoint is more important than boundary changes
- Current Tiebreaker students move on to Sandcreek MS and Falls Brooks students will move on to Rocky Mountain MS
- Students are resilient to change; change is a part of life
- Don't create islands
- Computer lab at Woodland Hills is used during the winter months when moving the computer cart in the weather is not possible
- Hillview will welcome new students from Woodland Hills
- Boundary changes need to happen
- Move grades K-3 first, let grades 4-6 remain at the school
- What are the safety concerns of trailers at Hillview?
- Response to emails requested
- Social economics status is different between the area north of 25th and the Brookside neighborhood; students on the north need stability and students on the south will have more opportunity to interact
- Growth will continue and new elementary schools will need to be built

District input:

- Minimum of 7 years between changes for elementary age students; long term boundary changes
- Focusing on what's best for kids; moving less students is best
- New subdivisions being built in the Woodland Hills area will bring more students
- Ammon has been updated to meet state safety codes and with wireless access and can be repurposed after the district quits growing
- Ammon is not ADA compliant. Students with need of those provisions will be enrolled in other district elementary schools
- Target enrollment per elementary is 500 students; however, with the growth in the area, it increases to 650 students
- Counselors and support programs are available in all schools to help students who need help with changes
- Students will experience changes when moving to middle school and then to high school
- Two trailers can be placed at both Ammon and Hillview
- If current students remain at Woodland Hills, the computer lab will need to be closed and used as a classroom
- It's important now to focus on changes prepare for next year's growth
- Ammon's staff will remain stable, excepting if the Title One program is revoked, teachers and paraprofessionals will be re-located
- All students are valued; all are important
- Open enrollment is available for any student to attend another school outside of their attendance area; open enrollment is determined by the building principal and available classroom space
- To make a boundary change or not – That is the question
- Splitting families between two different schools will be hard on the transportation department; double bussing is not possible
- Campus walls can be placed around the trailers and safety gates will be installed at Hillview Elementary
- It is difficult to determine the number of new students who will be living in the new subdivisions; estimate 2.2 per household

Review of the elementary boundary change proprieties:

- Meet identified enrollment targets
- Use of available space
- Zone neighborhoods close to schools
- Design boundary changes for a minimum of seven years
- Balance social economic targets
- Make continuous boundaries as much as practicable
- Align elementary schools with middle and high school boundaries

Marjean McConnell personally thanked the Board for their time and effort in behalf of the District, providing true community service.

VI. Adjournment

Chairman Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

MOTION: Chad Dance moved to adjourn. Amy Landers seconded. The vote was 5 in favor with 0 opposed and 0 abstentions. Motion carried.

APPROVED: _____ ATTESTED: _____
 Chairman Clerk

Date: _____