

March 11, 2014

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT FACILITIES PLAN HEARING REPORT
AMENDMENT NO. 1

A public hearing was held at the Clark Co. High School on March 10, 2014, at 6:00 P.M. (local time). The purpose of the public hearing was to propose an amended District Facility Plan developed by the Clark County Local Planning Committee. The Local Planning Committee (LPC) voted 15-4 in favor of the proposed amended plan and the Board voted 5-0 to approve the amendment.

There were (37) individuals in attendance. Tim Eaton Field Consultant for KSBA, served as the locally-appointed hearing officer. LPC members, board members, staff, parents and community members were present.

COMMENTS

The hearing officer called the public hearing to order. The hearing officer outlined the purpose of the hearing and the hearing procedures in accordance with 702 KAR 1:001. It was explained that those persons wishing to speak would be given the opportunity and that written statements would be accepted. All considerations will be made available to the Kentucky Board of Education via the hearing officer's report. The hearing officer read the proposed amendment to the District Facility Plan which includes; Merging seven K-5 elementary schools into four K-4 elementaries. Also merging two middle schools into one 5-6 intermediate school and establishing one 7-8 grade middle school. The 9-12 high school/Area Technology and Phoenix Academy will continue to operate the same. Under new construction, priority 1a. will be the construction of a new high school gymnasium (phase 2) and under priority 1b. will be the construction of a new preschool center.

The floor was opened to those who wished to make a statement. There were four individuals that shared comments and there were no written comments submitted. The first speaker was a teacher and member of the LPC. She commented that the closing of the four elementaries has caused turmoil in the community, but as a member of the LPC she went into the process with an open mind. The amended plan offers fairness and equity to all students at all levels, keeps the 4th graders in the elementary setting and even provides some enhanced opportunities for the 5th and 6th graders.

The second speaker was a teacher and a parent that did not like the closing of the four buildings, but does like the new configurations for accountability purposes, social reasons as well as safety reasons.

The third speaker is chairman of the board and a member of the LPC. He thanked KDE for allowing Clark County to amend the local facilities plan. He commented on his appreciation for the group that made up LPC and for their hard work. He also commented that the amended plan was voted favorable by the LPC, voted unanimous by the board and had received very little criticism in the community.

The final speaker was a principal that first wanted to applaud the LPC for putting together a proactive plan with the options that they had. He spoke of the history of the rural schools that are

closing as well as to the successes and academic rankings of those schools. He stated that consolidation and closing of rural schools is a disservice to the people in rural communities. He stated that the new plan looks at the best Clark County has to offer for the students. It offers equitable schools and new beginnings.

All four speakers urged the State Board of Education to adopt this amended facility plan for the Clark County Schools.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Amended District Facility Plan developed by the Clark County Local Planning Committee and adopted by the Clark County Board of Education be approved as the District Facility Plan for the Clark County School District. A copy of the amended plan is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Eaton – KSBA Field Consultant

cc: Tim Lucas, Architect
Planning File

Attachments: Public Hearing Agenda
Clark County School District Facility Plan