Long Range Advisory Committee

MINUTES
Monday, May 22, 2023
5:30 - 7:30 PM

Se ofrece traducción de los materiales de la reunión a español por pedido. Por favor comunicarse con bvsd.operations@bvsd.org.

Committee Members in Attendance: Brian Lewandowski, Cheryl Meyers, Dan Ryan, Dawn DiMedio, Della Smith, Gavan Goodrich, Gordo Byrn, Jade Mercer, Jamillah Richmond, Jeff Anderson, Jim Topping, Josh Baldner, Kate Stricklan, Trish De Fries, Vanessa Hetzel, Yvette Salas

Staff Members in Attendance: Rob Price, Glen Segrue, Susan Cousins, Jean Sturm, Robbyn Fernandez, Lora De La Cruz

I. Welcome

Rob Price welcomed the committee and turned it over to Yvette Salas who opened the meeting and discussed the committee governance items.

II. Public Comment

No members of the public were present.

III. Committee Governance

A. Upcoming Important Dates
   - June 13 | Committee recommendations presented to Board
   - September | Committee will reconvene

B. The Mar. 20 minutes were approved by the group.

C. Committee Communication – No comments from the committee were shared.

D. Staff and the chair and co-chair provided an recap of the May 16 worksession with the Board (presentation/link to video)

   Salaz and Jeff Anderson joined staff at the May 16 work session where the team gave a presentation that provided context for the District's declining enrollment, and an overview of the work of the committee as well as the group's draft recommendations. Notes from the worksession were shared with the committee prior to the meeting.

IV. Discussion

Committee members discussed the worksession and shared their own thoughts:

- The Board thinks it is an issue of attracting kids, but the issue is a lack of kids.
- Nomenclature of Tier 1 and Tier 2 could be a problem; maybe change it to a 1-step process or start the year of study in step 1.

- Maybe marketing could help; need to be providing these services.
- Unless something unexpected happens, the District will close schools in the next decade.
- Need to get away from implying small schools are lesser or bad.
- This is really solving a cost inefficiency problem.
- Committee members suggested changing the term Tier 1 to Advisory and Tier 2 to Community Engagement to reduce the stigma and anxiety of the "small school designation."
- Committee members noted the Board was asking for systemic approaches - OE policy, boundary study, polling.
- The district should try to obtain data about why families are choosing private and homeschool options.
- Exit interviews for families leaving the district would be helpful, as would reasons for why families make OE choices.
- Communication will be needed for a successful rollout to the community and schools before locations are designated as Tier 1/Advisory.

Staff informed the committee that Board members expressed interest in continuing to use the expertise from the LRAC, which will be particularly helpful as several Board members will be finishing their terms.

V. Additional Public Comment (if necessary)

No additional public comments were made.

VI. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.