

**Oak Hills Elementary PTO  
February 19th @ 3pm  
Oak Hills Elementary Gym**

This PTO Meeting was used as a forum where Beaverton School District officials spoke on current topics of interest for our community. All Q&A questions have been paraphrased.

Meeting Notes prepared by Jo Salicos-Murphy

Sheila Baumgardner - Introductions

Steven Sparks, BSD Executive Administrator of Long Range Planning

Rick Puente, BSD Director of Public Safety

Joshua Gamaz, BSD Chief Facilities Officer

**\*\*\*Note: due to conflict with the March 12th boundary committee meeting, Oak Hills STEAM night has been moved to Thursday, March 5th, 2020 6-8pm \*\*\***

## **Steven Sparks, Middle School Boundaries**

The role of the Middle School Boundary Advisory Committee is to provide a recommendation to the BSD superintendent, who will make a final decision.

The Board approves a *boundary recommendation*, based on whether their established objectives have been met:

1. **New attendance boundary for yet-to-be-named Timberland middle school**
2. **Reduce Stoller attendance to appx 90% capacity**
  - All agree Stoller MS is currently overcrowded
  - However, everyone wants someone else to leave Stoller
  - Stoller attendance is currently appx 1600 students, larger than Beaverton HS, SouthRidge HS
  - Target Stoller capacity is 1000
  - Rock Creek, Springville, Findley, Jacob Wismer, and Sato are all affected by Stoller boundary decision
3. **Balance to remaining MS to the best of ability**
  - Capacities differ betw schools (ex Stoller ~1000 students, Whitford ~800 students), but class size should be in the same ballpark

**Committee can look at minor elementary school changes, but cannot address big changes**

**Mr Sparks wanted to make clear that the committee did not propose to move Oak Hills Elementary to all attend Sunset HS**

- Committee did mention what would need to happen if this were to happen. But this type of change is outside the authorization of committee decision.
- Committee can make suggestions for formation of future committees
- Committee did not move in the direction of recommending a future committee to look at all-Oak Hills to Sunset HS in future years.

**Committee's aim is to reach a final decision on recommendation before spring break. This timeline may need to be extended.**

- Once the committee has presented their recommendation, the Superintendent will keep it under review for appx 4-5 weeks. During this time he will consult with committee, and then make a decision.
- Superintendent has no obligation to accept committee recommendations, but their work is valued.

**At the Feb 13th meeting, the committee reviewed 2 maps. Next meeting will be review of ONE map, largely created from the two reviewed at last mtg.**

**A New map will be published on Friday, Feb 21. It will show all of Oak Hills, along with Bethany and Rock Creek Elems, going to Meadow Park. This map is not the final recommendation.**

- Working maps A and C are now out of date.
- On the next map to be published: Rock Creek, Bethany, Oak Hills, and Barnes, are going to Meadow park.
  - Dual immersion is a concern of committee, district may need to look at expanding that programing into other schools to provide access to programming for future Barnes students

**Committee also struggling with where to locate Summa and Options, such as RC. The decisions for these option schools are affected by other decisions in the northern BSD boundaries**

**The Boundary Review Committee is basing their decisions on the following factors:**

- Building capacity
- Student body composition,
- Access and proximity, and
- Feeder patterns

**The Committee does not base their decisions on**

- Property Values
- Emotional welfare of students
- Where people's friends are

Parents are encouraged to take the time to voice concerns in comments on the BSD website [HERE](#).

The Committee appreciates no duplicate comments. Committee does read and consider comments.

Demonstrations during committee meetings are counterproductive.

**Katie Rupp**

Read [prepared statement](#) addressing Middle School boundaries.

**Q&A with Steven Sparks**

**Q Given the walkability maps, could E Bethany Blvd up until Bronson Ck greenway end up at sunset?**

A. Yes it could, however, that would require the board to undertake a new boundary adjustment process. BSD recognizes next school year would be optimal time for any HS adjustment due to MS boundary taking effect for 2021-22.

**Q. Can you explain why there are such high numbers of inner district transfer students at Sunset High School?**

A. Inner district transfers are outside Sparks' domain. He voiced surprise they are that high, as they are hardship based. He noted that firm direction is coming to principals from District, but could not speak to why the number is that high.

**Q. Can you please clarify the current map structure being discussed? Is it true that Oak Hills and all elementaries west of Bethany are going to MS with Barnes?**

A. That is what will be indicated by the map that will be published Friday. Committee did not take up the idea of splitting Oak Hills (the proposed split of OH East to Timberland, and OH West to Five Oaks or Stoller).

**Q. Part 2- Acknowledging we are all trying to do best by our kids, doesn' the upcoming map keep the same situation of a small percentage of students matriculating into Sunset?**

A. Many people are advocating for keeping elementaries together into middle school. Fewer are advocating for keeping middle school into high school. Committee will decide for themselves what they think is the best choice for the kids.

**Q. Map C seemed to throw committee for a loop when presented at a prior meeting. It seems like BSD Transportation came in and pushed a new agenda late in the game. Can you explain why?**

A. Map C came out later because the Committee was operating with 4 phases of review. Transportation was tasked with working on access and proximity. ≈ Transportation did try to enter the conversation earlier. When the committee wanted to know what boundaries would look like with emphasis on walkability, Transportation was asked to produce Map C and the results were surprising. Transportation is one of many factors being weighed in this process.

**Q. With all of Oak Hills going to Meadow Park, that school is over capacity on all maps that have been presented. Five Oaks and Timberland are under capacity. Why are Oak Hills community's concerns not able to be heard?**

A. The Committee is hearing the concerns of the Oak Hills community. The problem is not capacity of Five Oaks and Timberland, but rather the resulting under-utilization of Meadow Park that results from all the elementaries north of 26 being directed away from Meadow.. BSD is declining population – we have hit our peak. North Bethany area is growing, but East of 217 is declining. Oak Hills Elementary population has steady growth, with a small uptick. BUT West Hills, Raleigh Park, etc are declining.

**Q. Oak Hills ALC families have been given no indication of where they will land due to boundary adjustments. Can you give us some insight?**

A. Specialized programs are handled separate and Teaching and Learning will be making those decisions. Not part of this boundary process. Specialized classrooms will be netted out of committee decisions.

**Q. The Oak Hills community is open to being split. We have suggested a carve out of the East side, Sunset-bound students. What would be the difficulty there?**

A. From a mapping perspective, it would be easy. Again, the problem is the resulting impact on Meadow Park. Timberland has capacity, but Meadow Park continue to be underutilized.

**Q. Can East side Oak Hills be routed to Timberland?**

A. Yes. See previous answers re: Meadow Park underutilization.

**Q. How likely is it that we will undergo another HS boundary change?**

- A. Pretty low chance at the moment, unless the community speaks up for it. BSD Board is not anxious to take on such a project unless it is suggested. If West View HS hits a crisis point, they will have to address boundaries. The previous boundary adjustment was not aggressive enough to address over population, so it will need to be addressed at some point in the future..

**It is likely that there will be a Summa program at Timberland. Many Meadow Park Summa students live in the Timberland area and this is likely to draw some of Meadow Park Summa students away from the school.**

**\*\*\*Note: please be sure to address email to Steven\_Sparks – not Steve Sparks!\*\*\*  
[steven\\_sparks@beaverton.k12.or.us](mailto:steven_sparks@beaverton.k12.or.us)**

## **Rick Puente from Safety**

**Rick has been the Director of Public Safety at BSD for 3yrs.**

**Sheila contacted Rick regarding an incident that occurred at the school a couple of weeks ago. Because of community support that has provided bond money, the District has been looking at some projects to address safety concerns for all our schools.**

**BSD is looking at the external and internal safety systems of schools. Human error is identified as big challenge for safety and security. We must think about how can we all work together to keep our kids safe.**

**Current district project – door locks and security cameras.**

**About 54 schools in the Beaverton School District. As they were all built at different times, there is a challenge to bring all schools to the same safety standards. Each school wants focus to be on their school, however, the Director of Public Safety needs to take an overarching view and apply an equity lens when looks at what projects to prioritize.**

Regarding the incident that occurred a few weeks ago. Rick Puente, Josh Gamas, and BSD Risk Management came and walked around Oak Hills Elementary. They identified some areas that could be addressed. Rick noted that when an incident happens, it brings concerns to the forefront and action becomes reactive.

First to be addressed will be the lack of signage to outline BSD property. This is a legality and liability concern. Law enforcement cannot act quickly to remove trespassers without clearly identified boundaries.

Internal structure – supervision,

Human aspect – see something, say something. Delay in that can impact outcome.

Cameras have been suggested, BSD thinks their signage plan will take care of it

The girls involved in the recent safety incident addressed the PTO.

Girl A - There is no one who can see if something happens at the portables. It was past 8am when they saw someone who did not belong at the school. There were no other adults around. They saw the woman on 3 separate occasions, and then reported to the principal. Girl A wishes she had said something sooner.

Girl B – Thinks security cameras will increase safety and students' feeling of security. The current school set-up does not allow for supervision.

Girl C – thinks we should install a fence or security cameras around school. She thinks the woman did not return due to police presence.

Girl D – would like security cameras to provide safety. Acknowledges they should have told a teacher sooner.

Rick addressed the girls: We always see what we should have done in hindsight re: waiting too long to report. But look at the fact that you did do it. Your voice prompted a great response. You are making effective change. You did the right thing.

BSD has a current project looking at security cameras. It should be understood that security cameras are used after the fact. There is no capacity to have them viewed in real time. Security cameras can be a deterrent, but how effective would that be?

BSD is also working to get more info from law enforcement when incidents occur.

BSD identifies a need for fencing – the school is exposed.

**Rick is with our principal to determine a course of action. BSD continues to apply equity lens to address all issues.**

**BSD is looking for opportunities to educate families and students.**

**Public Safety Office staff:**

**Basically just Rick, with some others who work on creating policy.**

**All 54 schools have current issues to be addressed**

**Rick can only spread so thin, he needs to prioritize projects.**

**Q and A with Rick Puente**

**Q. Why invest in signage vs fencing?**

A. Those projects are going hand in hand. Signage is important for liability and legal reasons. From a law enforcement perspective, there needs to be something to back up that they are not supposed to be there and give probable cause to take legal action.

**Q. When can we expect action? What should we do in the meantime?**

A. Facilities has projects under consideration. BSD has asked WA County to provide increased patrol. Parental support is key – hang out in mornings and be a presence. “Presence changes behavior”. School should talk about supervision during school day. Where are children allowed to be while outsider?

**Q. Cameras may be used after the fact. But they do provide assistance to law enforcement. If something had happened during the last incident, we would have had footage to help.**

**When will we get something to provide eyesight on the kids in the back of the school?**

A. BSD is working on temporary solutions. Other schools have similar issues. Facilities is also looking at solutions.

**Rick hopes to have an answer for a temporary solution on Friday for all schools.**

**The temporary solution being researched is a temporary camera system for all schools. A current challenge is that, due to the large size of BSD, things have been done piecemeal over the years. However, when looking at everything together, systems in place are not sustainable and consistent. Consistency**

**decreases vulnerability in increases safety. More permanent solutions are being looked at as well. It is difficult to cover 54 schools with the same needs.**

**Money for temporary solution would come from bond money.**

**Statement read from a parent of a girl involved in the recent incident.**

**Of our 54 schools, 7 have cameras outside. Newer schools have been outfitted as they were built.**

**Rick's goal is to have his temporary solution to Sheila by Friday. She will update the Oak Hills Elem community once received. Look for an update in next week's Principal newsletter.**

## **Josh Gamaz from Facilities**

**Current focus is on High Schools for implementation of security cameras. Cameras are not monitored in real time, but they do provide the ability to go back and view content.**

**No current Facilities project for elementary cameras, but hoping to get a project started.**

**Schools that have classrooms without walls or doors are also priority Facilities projects due to the safety concerns brought by those arrangements.**

### **Q. How long will it take to get camera projects completed?**

- A. First, Projects are presented to the BSD board for approval. Projects are vetted for how they address safety and security, operational effectiveness, and the community.
- Projects are all viewed through an equity lens. Schools with Free and reduced lunch tend to be addressed first.

**Cameras and fencing are current goals for all schools.**

### **Q. If the PTO is willing to provide \$ for camera, do we need to wait?**

- A. From an equity perspective, BSD cannot let one school do what all cannot. Facilities needs the District to approve funding before projects can be undertaken.



BSD wants all schools to have consistent resources – such as all schools operating with the same cameras.

Further, were the PTO to set up their own cameras on BSD property, it would create a liability situation for BSD.

**Rick will ask his powers that be, whether they can work with the PTO on a camera solution.**

**Rick was first made aware of our security issue a couple weeks ago, and is now understanding that this has been an issue for the school community for many years. He asks for more time to digest this info and look at solutions as relating to the big picture of all schools.**

**Josh Gamaz**

**After he attended the Jan PTO mtg, he looked at the possible opportunity of upgrading the currently unkempt T-ball field into a 60ft field, which would address the foul-line issue caused by moving the track behind the portable.**

**THPRD has since indicated desire to move programming to Timberland and leave Oak Hills. THPRD had expressed interest in Timberland prior to the January Oak Hills PTO meeting.**

**THPRD has not made any determinations. Josh is not trying to push them into a decision one way or the other. Fields are programmed by THPRD for specific use, adding a track complicates the program.**

**Parent question: We want the kids to be able to use their facilities year around. Kids benefit from getting energy out in winter months. Our community wants to retain the space where we come together. New schools become community fields, and are largely not affordable for nonprofit clubs and programs. Rental fees are much higher than with THPRD. How do we bring together a track that can be used all year round with facilities that can be used year round?**

**Josh Gamaz**

**THPRD has made the statement that if the track is rerouted behind the portables, it will not be safe for their programming. BSD makes final decision on how the field will be utilized..**

**To this point, all information is speculative. No actual measurements have been taken as far as moving forward with the track project.**

**Prepared Statement from Lori White**

**In the event Oak Hills upgrades the unkempt T-ball field into a 60ft field, THPRD has stated they would not program soccer field due to the subsequent overlap of the newly upgraded baseball fiend and the existing soccer field.**

**BSD does not program field use. THPRD regulated how they program the fields they maintain.**

**THPRD could not be at this mtg. They may be able to make the March 18th PTO mtg.**

**Q. Can we move the backmost portable?**

- A. We cannot remove double portable due to fluctuating enrollment and projections of growth. The only other available classroom space is used by the ALC Classrooms, which would mean relocation of that program to another school. Relocation would be very expensive and may cause additional problems with field use.

**Further Conversation on the track is postponed until the March 18th board meeting.**

**Sheila will update the community on BSD Public Safety's temporary plan once she has heard from them.**

**Next Oak Hills PTO meeting will be Wednesday, March 18th. 7pm.**

**The Oak Hills Community is encouraged to provide constructive feedback to the BSD Middle School Boundary Committee by submitting comments through their online portal. [CLICK HERE TO BE TAKEN TO THE BSD WEBSITE](#)**

**The next Middle School Boundary Committee Meeting will take place Tuesday, Feb 25th  
6:30-8:30pm at Whitford Middle School,  
7935 SW Scholls Ferry Road, Beaverton, OR 97008**