

GEAC Minutes
January 9, 2008

Notes taken by Lisa Gilbert, Secretary

The Meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM at LWSD Resource Center by President Barney Kinzer

Attendees:

Barney Kinzer, Paul Meehan, Lisa Gilbert, Raj Paul, Mary Wictor, Joanne Hall, Cindy Lundvall, Sandy Malone-Long, Tali Guday, Seema Jaidka, Lakshmi Ganesan, Weinwen Liu, Andy Christensen, Arthur Jin, Krishnamurthy Ganesan, P.V. Balakrishnan, Debbie Napolitan, Jian Cao, Nameen Goli, Janine and Michael Waite, Andrew and Susan Raffman, Shanti Pudukollu, Bolong Cao, David Xu, Monika Tracy, Anita Krupowicz, Zbigmew Kurpowicz, Sanjai Bijawat, Daniel Pravat, Sergey Bykov, Kasmal Aggarwal, Peti Oryany, Surekha Murthy, Bob MacRae, Cindy Poon, C. Venkatesh, Jinbai Yin, Amy Burzynski, Mia Wall, Jingjing Wu, Gretchen Colonius, Amy Mikkelson, Sanjeev Nagvekar, Beday Evans, Julie Bruntz

1. Introduction – Barney Kinzer

Brainsports Forum will be held on January 10 at Redmond High School at 7 pm

2. Quest program update – Cindy Lundvall

Admission

- Increase in Elementary Quest applications this year; 1375 up from 1100 last year
- Testing begins January 19
- ITBS bar raised to 97% from 95%; COGAT bar the same
- 18 classes this year; 19 for next year (will add a 5/6 class at Thoreau)
- Jr. High process has begun – due date extended to Feb 4

2008/2009 Sites

- Quest and Choice schools are located on **Space Available Basis**

Einstein

- Quest has been located at Einstein for past 10 years
- Einstein currently has 18 classrooms, 3 are Quest; in 5 years will need 18-19 classrooms for neighborhood students
- Einstein needs to add 2 more classrooms next year for neighborhood students, so program will have to move to new site next year

- Currently looking at options for new site; decision by mid-Feb
- Staff prefers keeping program together, no portables
- Staff is developing transition plan, including activities for kids and parents
- Important to work with receiving school
- Quest office will commit to housing program at new location for at least 5 years, hopefully more

Alcott

- Quest program (currently 6 classrooms) will be split next year with a portion moving to the Plateau.
- Open house on the boundary change process taking place due to new school being built is being held on January 10.

Rosa Parks

- Site will not have Quest next year (currently overflow)

Questions/Responses by Cindy Lundvall

1. Can the enrollment projections and capacity for Einstein and the other schools being considered be made public?
Yes. Updated information will be provided when available.
2. The process for relocating Quest should be the same as for a boundary change. How do parents affect this change?
This would be a policy change. Can relay request to Superintendent to revisit process on how to site Quest; but this won't affect the short term relocation for Einstein.
3. Should parents bring this issue of changing policy before the School Board?
If parents bring this topic to School Board, the School Board will remand it to the cabinet (directors, including Cindy Lundvall and Superintendent)
4. Will parent input be solicited before making final decision on new site for Einstein?
No
5. Will 1/2 Rosa Parks students move with Einstein?
This will be looked at on an individual basis.

Raj Paul (GEAC VP of Advocacy) collected a list of parents interested in being part of a focus group to look at the policy of placing Quest and Choice schools on a "Space-Available Basis." Raj Paul will summarize the issues in a separate attachment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.