Action Item

Date:
September 19th (BOE-Action)

Agenda Item:
Reassign a portion of the Conestoga (K-6) attendance area to Kennedy K-5 and Lewis and Clark (6) to facilitate the 75 North/Highlander collaboration with Kennedy Elementary.

Building:
Conestoga Elementary and Kennedy Elementary

Proposed Action:
Central Office Staff, the administration of Kennedy Elementary, and 75 North are requesting the elementary boundaries for Conestoga Elementary and Kennedy Elementary be changed for the 2017-18 school year.

Three unit zones (320.05, 320.06, and 320.11) situated roughly between 30th street, the North Freeway, Grant Street, and Seward Street are currently zoned into the Conestoga Elementary and Lewis and Clark Middle school attendance areas would be reassigned to Kennedy Elementary for the 2017-18 school year. A portion of this area was formerly the Pleasant View housing project and will be the future location of a portion of the Highlander neighborhood. In order to accommodate the 75 North community partnership with Kennedy Elementary, the district can guarantee all current and future students in the Highlander neighborhood access to Kennedy Elementary with this boundary change.

Currently there are only 15 students living in the area recommended for reassignment and six students in grades (K-6) that will be impacted by this change. Students in the reassigned area would be allowed to remain at their current school or enroll at Kennedy. There are currently only three students enrolled at Conestoga (the current neighborhood school) for 2016-17. The Kennedy Elementary home attendance area currently feeds to both Monroe Middle and Lewis & Clark Middle. The area recommended for reassignment is currently in the Lewis & Clark home attendance area and there is no recommendation to change the Middle School for this area at this time.

Identified Need:
1. The 75 North community partnership with Kennedy Elementary would like to guarantee students who live in Highlander Neighborhood access to Kennedy Elementary as their neighborhood school.

Authority of Action:
The Board of Education must review and vote on recommended school boundary changes.

Stakeholder Groups involved in the development of the proposal:
- Student Assignment Plan Workgroup & Committee of the Board
- Kennedy Administration
- Parents (Phone calls and letters were sent to all impacted families in July of 2017)
- 75 North
**Fiscal Impact:**
There should be little financial impact for the 2017-18 school year. Currently there are only 15 students living in the area recommended for reassignment and only six students are in grades that will be impacted by this change. Students in the reassigned area would be allowed to remain at their current school or enroll at Kennedy. Any increases in student population will come as the Highlander development is constructed over the course of the next six years. If the Highlander development produces large numbers of school age children in the future, there could be impacts on staffing at Kennedy, Lewis and Clark, and Monroe.

**Next Steps:**
Once approved, information will be supplied as part of the continued community engagement effort to again inform parents in the area of the changes.

**Monitoring and Reporting Timeline:**
Research will continue to monitor the population of the area and the enrollment of students at Kennedy and Lewis & Clark to ensure any growth is accounted for in student projections, school selection, and any future decision making.

**Additional Considerations:**
The first phase of development of the Highlander neighborhood would build approximately 29 multi-family units in the reassigned area generating a small number of students. Future phases would include 36 attached residential and 57 single family homes that would likely produce more students. Using a rate of .5 to 1 student per household, the portion of the development in the area recommended for reassignment could produce as many as 5 to 9 student per grade level at full build out of 122 units. This would add 30 to 54 K-5 students to Kennedy and 15 to 27 students to Lewis and Clark 6-8.

The entire redevelopment would build a total of 221 units on both sides of 30th Street. Using a rate of .5 to 1 student per household, the entire development could produce as many as 9 to 17 student per grade level at full build out. Estimates for the total student increase as a result of the entire Highlander development range from adding 50 to 100 K-5 students to the Kennedy home attendance area and 27 to 51 students to the Lewis and Clark home attendance area. This would bring the Kennedy K-5 neighborhood population up to 372 to 423, just below and above the rated capacity of 390 (18 students/classroom). Using a stay home percentage of 85% for Kennedy, projected enrollment after the full build out of the Highlander Neighborhood could be 287 to 307 students for Kennedy Elementary. This would bring the building within range of its rated capacity and leave some room for PK sections. If the development produces more students per unit than projected or keeps more than 85% of the total neighborhood students these projections would be impacted.