
Rethink and Redesign Community Meeting – FAA October 20, 2023

Meeting starts at 5:30 p.m. silence your phones please

Dr. Hernandez opens meeting, translation is available. Thank you for coming out to hear our information. Will hear from different members of the task force. How it was created and how they got chosen. Board Secretary Joseph Guerra and is a member of the task force. Michael Valdez is another trustee and will be joining us. Dr. Mario Longoria is a co-chair of the task force.

As you are listening to everything today. Remember the work we are doing all has the implementation for the best of our students. The purpose is to better position ourselves, to keep Edgewood's spirit alive. I have always heard the pride in the Westside. Everyone knows the stories in the district, but it is also important hear individuals' stories. We are asking to put your phones are silent, you will have time to for you to ask questions, but you will have 2 minutes.

Martinez – we started the task force because we have a lot of declining enrollments and start talking about the future for our students. The composition was for our principals to choose a staff member and a parent from the campus. We also have a community member that was nominated from each trustee. We also have 3 members, Santoyo, Espinosa, and Guerra that represent the board of trustees. We asked for someone who has knowledge. Members to be balanced for the campus and what is going to sustain the district for years. Insight for the district that you may see from other districts. Responsibility, know that everything we do, everything has a price. Respect, everyone has different opinions and please be respectful.

These are the committee members – the presentation will be posted online as well.

Basurto – why we rethink and redesign now? Review of the history of the district and the enrollment.

Miller – review of task force recommendation questions.

Basurto – there are 11 ideas/recommendations. Please don't think we are doing all 11, some are counter to each other. Some of them is that the ideas do go against each other. Review of recommendations. We are here to hear your input and your thoughts. We are going to take feedback, gather it and take it back to the task force so they can make better decisions for the facility committee and take back to the board.

Miller – please come up to one of the two mics.

1. David Perez – I'm a senior at Fine Arts and on the teen board. What are the logistics to bring Wrenn to Fine Arts? A lot of our classrooms are rarely being used. Will we have enough classes for the teachers? If there is Wrenn coming over, do we have the room.
 - a. thank you, any chance, that we make will be determined based on capacity. It would really be an option for middle school students for them to choose what path they choose. It could be any students from any of the middle schools. – when we started with this process, we had problems with retaining our teachers, nationwide, know that we will retain our staff. Moving the students means the teachers too. – appreciate that we are hearing from students.
2. Lisa Owens – my kids have about 2 ½ years. My kids were laughing cause bringing the Wrenn students coming to fine arts. What seniors are going to kiss 6th graders. How is the school going to manage and keep them separate? Who is responsible?

- a. the district and campus will be responsible for that. Yes, that is a concern. Would expect some degree of separation.
3. Malik - 10th grade – I'm a new student, concern about bringing Wrenn. What if they are really interested and the enrollment increases, and we don't have room?
 - a. it will be by choice for Fine Arts.
4. Aggie – part of the task force and a community member, feel like we are rushing this. We also I the process of getting the voucher program. We will not be going to have a choice but move our students, we will not have money. Understand about putting Fine Arts Academy as 6th – 12. This campus was designed for a 6th through 12th campus. My daughter graduated from here. She was interested in the arts, and it did work. You will not have the children together. We have different sections of the campus. One point we had DAEP, there are different programs. Wrenn is already designed as an art school. Those kids will have a choice.
5. Freshman, on the teen board – if you are combining Wrenn and Burleson, and Fine Arts Academy, will they be offered the same indorsements as us
 - a. Would not be the same. They would be doing the things they needed to do so not the same as you
6. Perez – maybe a school for just military. Some may benefit from military 6th – 12th. Some don't want to go college but the military.
 - a. I think that's what re-align is about.
7. Samantha Torres – sophomore – concern, will the Wrenn students get along with Fine Arts
8. That would be up to the Fine Arts students to set an example The students that come here would need to want to come here by choice. – if this recommendation is taken forward, there is no way that we would be able to put a high school student and a middle school student in the same class. They have to take different courses. Ms curriculum for MS and HS for HS.
9. Pena – concern HBG, WISE, and LBJ, I live closer to Gardendale, I go to HBG and now Loma, too far for us, I might as well go to a charter – the task force has to think about these things. We understand there is an elementary service in that area – the kids get traumatized
10. Carmena Gallegos – Perales, Brentwood, and JFK and 21st year in Edgewood. I understand the difficulties, saw the numbers and Stafford, if education is vital for head start and all, the foundation for our littles. This is what our kiddos need. As teachers, we worked day and now to bring education for out littles. If you have been to our campuses at the head start, they have developed playground for them. They also get social emotional skills.
11. Patricia – creating a new central office, does that include PD? I like where it is as it is more centralized.
12. Raul – why is only Wrenn coming here. Ther are parents from all over that want to bring their kids here
 - a. They can, as we start recruiting for the next school year, any 6th grade student can come here or any of the other programs. All students in Edgewood can make that choice.
13. Maria Santos – what happens to the students for athletics and if they move from Wrenn, as we make these decisions we have to think of transportation. She also asked about choice and middle schoolers
 - a. We also have a STEM and we also have Gus and the all-girls and all boys schools. At Fine Arts we currently don't have athletics and will not change. She asked when things would be implemented. We expect this will be a multiyear plan. This may be a 5-year plan.
14. Wils the community serve on the task, will there be new buildings. Other districts provide a break down, will we get something similar?
 - a. We will have a 5th task force meeting and we will post all these meetings. The repurposing of the buildings but it was not of this task force to review them. There is a possibility for reuse. We did have a slide for viewing of each campus to get the building back in shape. Also, we may have other costs for operations. We also have current costs for current of day to day.
One of the slides stated ascetics – that is called curb appeal.
15. Jordan – Fine Arts students, will middle school and high school travel together?
 - a. we have a master schedule that we do every year. That determine the bell schedule and where you locate those particular classrooms. That process is a long process. That will be worked if that recommendation is selected.
16. Moses – will there be other programs if you bring another campus. If you bring another school over, will you have enough teachers to help with 504 or spec ed.

- a. The numbers of teachers will be portioned to the number of teachers that need to be served so yes that includes students with IEP. You can provide programs as the school grows.
17. Maria – wise student, 4th grade, play sports, will he continue to be able to play if he comes to Fine Arts?
 - a. We currently don't have sports at Fine Arts and don't have it in the plans to have sports.
18. Elizabeth art teacher at wise, how many students will be in the classroom – kinder through 4th 22-1, 5th grade 25-1, pk or head start 20-1. What happens if there is a lack of teachers, and they need to merge.
 - a. This is the reality in the country right now and consolidating.
19. Villanueva (student) – I am a student at Brentwood and went to WISE, they are the best schools
20. Gardendale – my kids started in kinder and is in 2nd grade now. As the little ones get along together but the older ones tend to be more emotional attached and get attention from the teachers. Was there consideration of the emotional and social when they ask us to move?
 - a. that is why we created GELP, we understand that they needed a different kind of treatment and love.
21. Sophia (student) and I go to Gardendale.
22. Melody Herrera – concerns I've heard, we don't want to traumatize our students, need to slow down, need to give the public time to hear and give feedback. Understand the enrollment is declining over the years. For these suggestions, who is doing the work to figure out what will be done. Have we gotten student feedback? Need to reach out to the students and families. Reach out at the campus level and not just the community meetings. Data person, when can we see this presentation, want to see the per pupil spending?
23. Fine Arts to accept all the students, no – how many kids are coming? Asked about the room sizes, we are not going to cramp 30 students. There are a lot of things we have to explore. She also asked about the cafeteria, and they will look at that.
24. Brentwood 6th grader, if we come here, do we have to wear uniforms.
 - a. No
25. Patricia Mata – 2 grandchildren, 1 at las and 1 at Cisneros. Combining? How would that work?
 - a. Would still keep the structure of the school and keep them separate but keep on the same campus.
26. Jason Fonseca – my daughter is a student at Las Palmas and my 4 years would attend next year. Supt town hall, you were a single father, and one thing was to bring an all-girl campus. Surprised me to see Las Palmas and Cisneros would be impacted. Have we thought about opening an open house? So, the parents can see what those campuses have to offer. Las Palmas is creating that sisterhood.
27. Lead innovative teacher at WISE, appreciate the options. The advertising is important. This year we have a community center open. We have a lot to offer.
28. Crystal Gonzalez and my son comes to fine arts, does that mean the kids would move or stay. My son comes here from JFK and loves Cosmo.
 - a. If any recommendation is decided or put forward and we have to think of that. Programs would be moved to other campuses; we would not get rid of them.
29. Mary jane Sanchez – sad to keep seeing the district – grandson is at Wrenn. If the decision would to come over here, would he still be able to do athletics with Brentwood or Gus?
 - a. We offer students to participate in athletics in the schools they are in, there is transportation after school but may not be able to attend the athletic period.
30. Community member – would like to see Edgewood get more involved in trades. In NISD, they have students how to be a plumber. Not all kids want to be a high scholar, some students want to be entrepreneur, some make more than teachers.
31. Rick Alonso – district 5 – thank you all for coming and voicing your op. at SAISD some of the charter schools firing at the students for those who are closing. Warn Edgewood to get out there and to the community and parents. Are these materials translated? Is there an effort for those who don't have internet?
 - a. Task force member Aggie has been vocal, and we are still using that as a means of communication and messenger.
32. Teacher at Las Palmas – truly believe in our message, including boys will devalue our message.
33. Equity study, what is the district doing about student recruitment/ vouchers.