

Lake Shore Central School District

Elementary Attendance Committee
November 8, 2006 Meeting Minutes

Those in attendance included Kathy Bruce, Sue Ciminelli, Nancy Ells, Scott Gizzi, Angela McAvoy, Jason North, Jackie Shrader, Jill Utley and Gerry Glose.

The Committee Charge was reviewed. As the Committee moves from identifying options and pros and cons to prioritizing those options, it is important for Committee members to shift from preconceived notions to making decisions that are in the best interests of the district as a whole. The challenge will be to make decisions that are cost-effective and yet academically sound. Given the pressure the Superintendent and Board will be under to put before the district voters a budget and projected tax rate increase that is palatable, it is important to put forward strategies that could save money and yet not have a major impact on the academic program.

The October 25, 2006 meeting minutes were reviewed for accuracy. There were no adjustments.

Gerry indicated that he met with the central office administration to review the financial savings associated with each of the options. Of particular note is that if Hoag or Waugh were closed a principal position would not likely be eliminated, but would rather transfer to Brant and that principal would return to her district-wide technology duties. Further, closing either of these 2 buildings would not necessarily result in the total reduction of custodial or clerical staff at the closed building due to the need to provide additional cleaning and clerical duties at the building to which all or the majority of students would be transferred. Finally, the utility savings at Hoag are lower than what would be expected because that building is serviced by a district owned gas well, thereby significantly reducing the annual cost for natural gas.

An open letter from Glenn Molik, a music teacher in the district, was distributed to committee members. He thanked the Committee for its effort, expressed concern regarding increasing class size and supported options that would save money but not reduce teaching staff. Most of his arguments have already been included in the listing of pros and cons as developed by the Committee.

The Committee conducted a thorough review of all of the options and their related pros and cons. As a result of the discussion there were adjustments made to the list. Attached to these minutes is what should be the final list of options and their pros and cons.

Committee members took the first step to prioritize the options by completing a Forced Choice worksheet. They were also asked to tally their individual responses and to give rationale for their top choices. Gerry will administer this worksheet to the 6

Committee members that were absent and aggregate the results for the group. This summary will be presented at the next meeting and be the starting point for discussion. It will be the objective of this meeting to develop a consensus from the Committee on the option(s) that are in the best interests of the district as a whole, that is, **the plan that balances elementary enrollment, makes appropriate use of elementary buildings, is fiscally responsible, academically sound and in the best interests of the entire district.**

The next meeting is Wednesday, November 29, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. in the Senior High Media Center.