

EDUCATION TASK FORCE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 29, 2020

Chair Klug called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Chair Klug, Vice Chair Cheryl Alligood, Adam Reback, Carrie Browne, Julie Ross, Ivan Rosa, Douglas Crane, Garret Watson, Senior Planner and Staff liaison, and David Kemp, Principal Planner.

Chair Klug opened the floor to public comment. There was none.

Member Browne moved to approve the minutes from the October 23, 2019 Education Task Force meeting. It was seconded by Member Reback. The minutes were passed unanimously.

Ms. Colleen Iannitti and Ms. Nicole Daly gave presentations on Jupiter High School and Jupiter Elementary, respectively. They covered school capacity, construction projects, and programs at both schools.

The Task Force members had the following questions for Ms. Iannitti:

How do the construction projects help with capacity?

Answer: It will result in school capacity near 100 percent. The intent is not to provide for more students than what currently attend the schools.

Does the state still look at capacity at less than 105 percent as comfortable?

Answer: Yes. The state looks at the district as a whole. Some schools are over capacity and some are under capacity, but in the states eyes, there is enough space.

Do you do any address verification?

Answer: Yes. The District will send information to the principals for follow-up.

Can the high schools be rezoned to shift kids to Dwyer?

Answer: Yes, but it is not a popular thing to do.

Does the construction project at Jupiter High School remove the agriculture program?

Answer: No, it is just being moved.

How is the school providing access to curriculum?

Answer: Jupiter High School uses academies to help kids find their interests and build smaller communities.

What's the school's rank?

Answer: It been an A school for a while.

Is there anything we can do to help stop vaping?

Answer: They are trying to create a program to help coach kids off of vaping.

Why is there only one lunch and is it an issue?

Answer: Kids would skip with two lunches to be with friends. They moved lunch to a later time when most kids go home. During the first two weeks the lunch lines are long, but after that it starts to settle down.

Will the new modular class rooms have a covered walkway?

Answer: Yes. Covers will be provided.

What will the impact be on the practice fields that are being converted to a parking lot?

Answer: The practice field will be going away, but they have asked the lawn crew to mow the retention pond low so it can be used in dry season.

The Task Force members had the following questions for Ms. Daly:

What is the percentage of Spanish and English speakers at the school?

Answer: There are a mixture of dialects and languages at the school, so dual language programs are provided.

Who is meeting with the school to discuss modular classrooms?

Answer: Dave Dolan

Who manages the fundraising efforts for the auditorium?

Answer: There is a group called "Save the Stage" and the school is trying to partner with the Maltz Theatre.

Do you think students will attend Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK)?

Answer: Yes, the summer program they ran was very successful.

Is the only reason you don't offer VPK because of space?

Answer: Yes. Jupiter Middle and Jupiter High have hosted summer programs which have been successful.

Mr. Watson gave a staff update on aftercare at the West Jupiter Community Center aftercare and the Palm Beach County School District's estimate number of kids from the Alton development in Palm Beach Gardens.

The Task Force discussed the school principal questionnaire. Some changes to the questionnaire were discussed for next time. The Task Force noted that staffing looked like the main issue and scholarship need was lower than anticipated.

The Task Force discussed the formulation of their recommendation. How to help increase staffing for camps and aftercare and enhancing curriculum for aftercare were discussed. Advocating for legislative changes related to funding and overcrowded schools was discussed. The Task Force wanted to know the district's current legislative priorities. Public information was also discussed as an issue. The Task Force asked how the Town can help with messaging and ensuring correct information. The Task Force discussed timing for the recommendation before the end of summer.

The Task Force discussed gaps in service on days when school is closed and during summer. The group discussed how the Town could partner with the school district to provide space for

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camps. The group also discussed how schools may partner to meet the community's needs, such as space to provide a Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten program at the high school.

The Task Force chose March 18th, 2020 as their next meeting date.

ADJOURN:

Chair Klug adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Garret Watson, Staff Liaison

Ben Klug, CHAIR

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