

## Summary of Community Input Meeting

September 18, 2006 - 6:30 p.m. - Tradewinds Middle School

### Proposed changes from Diamond View Elementary to Starlight Cove & Indian Pines Elementary

ABC Members: Virginia Farace, Debbie Kaiser, Al Williams, Nellie Titcomb, Sandy Greenberg

Staff: Art Wittman, Mark Murray

Mr. Wittman opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. He introduced the ABC members and explained the purpose of the meeting. He outlined the remaining boundary process. He indicated that the ABC will review the comments at their September 21<sup>st</sup> meeting, which is open to the public. Mr. Wittman explained the criteria for proposing the changes and the criteria in Policy 5.01. There were three speakers and one parent who submitted written comments to the committee.

#### Speakers:

1. Mr. Holt – SAC 210E

He is totally against this move. He lives less than 3 minutes from his child's current school (Diamond View). The proposed change will extend that by 15 minutes (with good traffic). His child has attended Diamond View since kindergarten (4 years). His child is in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. She has attended the same after care program for the length of time she has attended Diamond View. The after care will not pick his daughter up at the school suggested. This change will not only affect his child who is well known by first name by the entire staff at her current school, but it will affect us him and his wife as parents by pressuring them to change the aftercare program they have trusted for four years.

He stated that special arrangements were made this year for the aftercare to pick up at Diamond View. Eight students were signed up for aftercare at the beginning of the school year. Now there are two students. He also does not understand why they are not assigned to Heritage, which is closer than Diamond View. Mr. Holt stated that they do not use the bus.

2. Mr. Peavy – SAC 210E

He is a single parent and the neighbor of Mr. Holt. He was looking for a good school for his son. He is satisfied with the performance at Diamond View. He is appalled that there are not more parents at the community input meeting. He works on 45<sup>th</sup> Street and has to pick his son up. It is a major burden to get down I-95. He is considering after care programs. His father, who passed away recently did help with care. Moving schools is not a good idea for academic reasons and social status. Son will not be with established friends. Son does not use the bus. He enjoys going to Diamond View. Mr. Peavy wonders if there are exceptions. Son is in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

3. Mr. Lopez – SAC 210E

He has two students at Diamond View, a kindergartener and a child in third grade. His kids enjoy school. Why does ABC want to ship to another school? His wife volunteers at Diamond View and he provides supplies. It would be an inconvenience for him.

#### Written comment:

Mrs. Suarez – SAC 210E

She would like to keep her children at Diamond View. She has a fourth grade students and a first grader at Diamond View. She has four children and drive s to three different schools to take them. He kids do not use the school bus. She feels that it is to the children's benefit to stay in the same school. They already have their friends and it would really hurt their grades and overall performance.

The ABC members and staff waited until 7:00 p.m. to allow for any late arrivals. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.