

## Summary of Community Input Meeting

September 25, 2006 – 6:30PM

Palm Beach Central High School

### Proposed changes to Middle School 02-JJ and related changes

ABC Members: Debbie Kaiser, Sandy Greenberg, Al Williams, Nancy Gribble, Carmen Campbell and Frank Hayden

Staff: Art Wittman, Mark Murray

Mr. Wittman opened the meeting at 6:35 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 would review the comments at their October 5th meeting, which is open to the public. There were speakers and written comments to the committee.

#### Speakers:

1. Debra Chavez – SAC 195B – If her student is moved from Woodlands Middle to Middle 02-JJ, will he be moved again to HS OOO in 2010? (Mr. Wittman responded that HS OOO is not scheduled to open in 2010).
2. Adrienne Shepard – SAC 156C – Eastwood. They have been in four different schools in five years. Will new middle school have a gifted program? Her younger son is in his third elementary school. They have suffered the “growing pains” of a new school too many times. Polo Park has a great gifted program and she cannot be sure the new school will be equivalent. She had a problem when going from Panther Run to Equestrian Trails ES. Enough is enough for an old established neighborhood like Eastwood. A lot of students at Polo Park are from Columbia and are using fake addresses.
3. Jose Sanchez – SAC 242. Why are boundaries not moved in a more logical way, east and west of the Turnpike? Woodlands is closer to his home and Odyssey further away. He is against proposed change from Woodlands to Odyssey.
4. Linda Smith – SAC 195B. Will the new school have a band program? Will the new school have lockers?
5. Laura Douglas – SAC 156S. Will Wellington’s Edge be provided a bus to the new school? (Mr. Wittman responded that if her home is over two miles a bus is provided. Mr. Wittman will give her question to transportation).
6. David Mills – SAC 158. he is Vice-President of Stonehaven Homeowner’s Association. They are in favor of the change.
7. Sandra Hollins – SAC 156E. She is in favor of change. Will her son be bused to Wellington Landings? (Mr. Wittman will forward her question to transportation)
8. Michelle Earl – SAC195A. She is in favor of changes. She would definitely like for her neighborhood to have this great opportunity to attend this new middle school. Will there be a bridge linking Palm Beach Ranchettes to the new middle school (pedestrian)?
9. Evelyn Sanchez – SAC 242. She is a seventh grade student at Woodlands Middle School and does not want to change to Odyssey Middle School. She likes her school, her teachers and being on the academic games teams. If she switches schools she will not be able to represent Woodlands with the teams that she has practiced with and is a part of.
10. Stephanie Sanchez – SAC 242. Her daughter (Evelyn) may not make the academic team at Odyssey and she does not want her to change schools. She is opposed to the boundary change. Her daughter attends and her son will attend Woodlands Middle School. They purchased their home with schools in mind and would greatly appreciate keeping Melrose Park (SAC 242) in the Woodlands Middle School and Park Vista High School

- boundaries. Woodlands is closer to her home and better located for her. This allows her family the opportunity to drive their children to school at times and still make it to work. They pick the children up when they stay later than the late bus leaves. Her daughter participates in academic games. Her daughter is very concerned about losing her place on the team that she has worked so hard to be part of. She works full time. Her husband and her can not provide transportation to keep her daughter at Woodlands. Her son starts at Woodlands next fall and he is looking forward to going there. Her neighbors are also against changes.
11. Donald Sanchez – SAC 242. He is in fifth grade this year. His sister is a seventh grader at Woodlands. He opposes the change. He would be at a different school than his sister and bullies may hurt him.
  12. Melanie Wallace – SAC 242. She lives closer to Woodlands than Odyssey, which does not make sense to her. She has a child that has attended Woodlands for the last three years and a child that will begin at Woodlands next year. She is opposed to the change.
  13. Sue Pfarrer – SAC 158. She is a new resident of Stonehaven. New middle school was a selling point for her. Please notify residents of affected areas when changes will be finalized.
  14. Lisa Kendrick – SAC 158. She lives behind Banyan Lakes and is in favor of the changes.
  15. Bernadette Guilbert – SAC 242. If the boundary proposal passes, will her sixth grade student be able to attend Woodlands Middle School? She is less than 10 minutes from Woodlands and Odyssey is a longer drive. There are only 61 students proposed for change. Her sixth grade son is on the baseball team at Woodlands. If he switches to Odyssey he may not make their team.
  16. Allison Douglas – SAC 195A. She is in favor of change. If her children stay at Woodlands they must cross Lake Worth Road, which is 8 lanes of traffic. Even with a crossing guard, this is not an option for her.
  17. Lisa Grenauer – SAC 158. She is in favor of changes. . Please notify residents of affected areas when changes will be finalized.
  18. Debra Bogart – SAC 242. She lives in Verona Lakes. She works in Broward County. Daughter gets home at 4:00PM. She is against the proposed change.
  19. Judy Smith – SAC195A. she and her neighbors are in favor of changes. Her girlfriend, Donna Russo, who has a son in private school is also in favor of the changes.
  20. Debbie Cioffoletti – SAC 195A. Will there be an ESE program at the new middle school?
  21. Jordan Leocal – SAC 156R. Will there be an after care program at the new middle school?
  22. Anne P. Kimmey – SAC156C. As a parent she supports move to Wellington Landings but not for her kids. Will consideration be given to assigning students with a feeder pattern, not only elementary to middle, but middle to high?
  23. Mary Sargent – SAC157. In favor of change.

Written comments:

1. Lourdes Santos, (SAC 158) Agree with the change to the new school, 02-JJ.
2. Lisa M. Roswell, (SAC 157) In favor.
3. Marion Lythgoe, (SAC 157) My child has already been moved from Melalauca to Cholee Lake, now he has started Okeeheelee and now you want to move him again. At Okeeheelee middle school his friends are there and it's hard to make new ones. Also, I have someone to take him to Okeeheelee. He is not mature enough to stay home and take the bus after I leave and go to work.
4. No Name, (SAC 156E) I'm auditioning to get into middle school of the arts if I don't get in, will I still be able to go to Wellington Landings MS? (Mr. Wittman answered her question at the meeting)
5. Lisanne Pante, (SAC 195A) I support the proposed change from Woodlands to new middle school 02-JJ. I also hope they will institute a crossing bridge for walking students, over the canal.
6. Ann Hanlon, (SAC 242) Against boundary change. Woodlands in an "A" school less than nine miles from our community, why bus to a school incurring further mileage and cost to bus system. My child will be spending longer time on bus transportation, which is already hindered.
7. Evinson Leocul, (SAC 156R) Will her son have after care program at the new school?
8. Donna Russo, (SAC 195B) I am very happy with going to the new middle school.
9. Jennifer Yohtahli, (SAC 195A) I am in favor of the new school for it would be much more convenient and closer.
10. Wendy Filowitz, (SAC 156R) Anyway for 8<sup>th</sup> graders in August to have one bus to pick up children on 441 to Polo Park?

The meeting adjourned at 7:35PM.