

## Long Term Facilities Planning Committee (LTFPC)

Minutes-March 29, 2010 meeting 3:00 pm

Present: Peter Horoschak  
Richard D'Agostino  
Robert Bushell  
William Sangster  
Nancy Plumb  
Gerry Habershaw  
William McCaffrey  
William Justras  
John Livsey  
David Testa  
Catherine Bonang

Resource Members present: Leonard Flood, Dennis Mullen, Dianne Silvia

The Warwick Teachers Union and WISE Union expressed to the Superintendent that it was in the best interest of their members to observe Committee meetings, but not participate as voting members of the Committee.

Mark Carruolo, Director of Planning and Management for the City of Warwick and a representative from the Airport Management Corporation will be asked to attend and answer questions from Committee members.

The School Committee anticipates recommendations from this Committee for the possible consolidation of additional schools, without compromising the education of WPS students.

LTFPC members can access presentation and minutes on First Class, Icon: LTFPC minutes and presentation will be posted on the Warwick school website: [www.warwickschools.org](http://www.warwickschools.org)

Email process will be setup by Dianne Silvia to share information, questions or comments between Committee members. Goal is to identify additional data which might be helpful to the Committee and assist with making final recommendations. Email questions or comments to: [LTFPC@warwickschools.org](mailto:LTFPC@warwickschools.org)

Recommendations of this Committee will give full consideration of declining enrollment and cost effectiveness, but most importantly the focus will be on maintaining an exemplary Pre-K thru 12 education program.

Superintendent's comments and Director's presentation followed. (See attached.)

Criteria was discussed for judging the various proposals which will be presented: Goals for facility planning, NESDEC enrollment projections, actual enrollment change and projected enrollment change.

FYE 2010 – state aid to education was cut by \$1 million. FYE 2011 state aid reduction is expected to be an additional \$1.3 million. Local aid amount remains unknown at this time. The Regents proposed funding formula project calculations of state aid on a per pupil basis.

Savings from SY 2008-2009 school closures of Potowomut, Rhodes and Drum Rock is \$2,315,008 (Drum Rock converted to Early Childhood Center)

Savings from SY 2009-2010 school closure of Greene Elementary School is \$861,550

3 year (FYE 2009-2011) cumulative savings of school closures is \$9,048,124

Savings (FYE 2008---FYE 2010) for return of special education students to the Warwick district is \$6,801,743

Current and projected elementary and secondary enrollment, to include students with IEP's at each school, provided to the Committee by Mr. Bushell, Mr. Sangster and Dr. D'Agostino. (See attached.)

NESDEC report of Warwick historical enrollment for PreK-12: 1999---12,193 students; 2009---10,482 students

NESDEC projected enrollment PreK-12 2009-2019; (*based on data through SY 2009-10*) 2009---10,482 students; 2019---9,215 students. If the proposed funding formula is enacted, state aid will be reduced on a per pupil basis.

Weighting of students with Individualized Educational Plan (IEP's) is from an agreement between Administration and WTU, July 1980. Agreement was amended on August 2000 and in use today. Numeric value assigned to student with IEP is 1.5 or 2.0. Students with no IEP has a numeric value of 1.0. Students receiving resource or supportive services receive 1.5 weighted value. Students requiring intensive services receive 2.0 weighted value. All junior high school students with IEP's receive a 2.0 weighted value

Schools maintain a weighted building average of no more than 25.5 students per class with a classroom limit of 28 weighted students. Some classes, especially at the secondary level, due to content and nature of instruction, are assigned considerably less than 28 students.

The Warwick Public School district screens 30% of the preschool population between ages 3-5. Federal and State mandates require districts to screen 80% of preschool population.

Additional factors important to consider for further consolidation of schools: transportation costs, returning special education students to the district, need for adequate space to provide therapy (i.e., OT/PT, speech), increasing population of preschoolers, Future considerations: program needs, class size, itinerant rooms and instructional areas.

Four organizational options, to include number of schools and grade configuration, were discussed. (1) Current School Organization; (2) A Middle School Organization; (3) A Two Feeder Area; and (4) A Primary/Intermediate/Secondary Organization (See attached.) If a Committee member has another option they would like discussed, they were asked to provide it at the next meeting or through the email account that Dianne Silvia is setting up which would allow other members to review before discussion at next LTFPC meeting.

Next LTFPC meeting: Monday, April 26, 2010; Warwick School Administration Building, 3:00 – 5:00 pm