

Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC)

Minutes

January 25, 2021

Zoom Virtual Meeting - (4:30 pm – 6:00 pm)

Members in Attendance:

Mike Behary	Jodi Johnson	Lindsey Swingrover	Scott Maben
Michael Brewer	Michelle Johnson	Donald Walters	Katie Ebner
Constance Bond	Teresa Kaiser	Brian Waddell	Jeff Voeller
Carrie Frank	Michael Lindquist	Mary Wolfinger	Pam Westberg
Shane Grady	Sarah McCracken	<i>School Board Liaison:</i>	<i>Guest:</i>
Christina Harris	Stephanie Quagliana	Rebecca Smith	Jennifer Brumley
Nancy Hart	Trina Scott	<i>District Staff Liaison:</i>	Samuel Wolkenhauer
Caleb Hurley	Heather Somers	Steve Cook	Jerry Anderson

Members not able to attend: David Brandi, Kimberly Judd, Marie Nail, Mary Jaglois Orr, Jay Prickett, Jeneane Prince and Matthew Rakes.

Call the Meeting to Order: Chair, Don Walters opened the meeting at 4:35 pm.

Approval of the Agenda: Motion by Michelle Johnson to approve the agenda, second by Constance Bond. Members voted 15-0 and unanimously approved the agenda.

Approval of December 14, 2020 Minutes: Motion by Constance Bond to approve the December 14, 2020 minutes, second by Shane Grady. Members voted 15-0 and unanimously approved the December 14, 2020 minutes.

The following members arrived at 4:54 pm: Mike Behary, Michael Brewer, Teresa Kaiser, Jodi Johnson and Christina Harris.

eSchool Committee Update: The Long Range Planning Sub-Committee members: Teresa Kaiser, Mike Lindquist, Stephanie Quagliana, Constance Bond, Kimberly Judd and Michael Brewer recently toured the eSchool facility. Principal, Bryan Kelly and Vice Principal, Becky Miller gave the sub-committee a brief history of eSchool:

- The eSchool was created in approximately 3-4 weeks when it became clear to the District that a number of families were wanting/need a stable online learning experience for their children. The eSchool administrators were hired, and they immediately began developing a vision and purpose for the school, hiring staff, collecting resources, etc. The school, which we predicted to attract 300 students, actually enrolled approximately 1,300 students. The school has been functioning with approximately 1,100-1,200 K-12 students since September.
- The eSchool facility is a 100 year Historical building that is not fit for taking on a Magnet or a Standard Based Project Learning Focused school.

The eSchool projects their enrollment for next year (K-12 school) would be more around 350 students. The District projects that next year 700-800 current students will return to their homeschools. If you are interested in touring the eSchool contact Kate Orozco at: korozco@cdaschools.org.

Demographics Presentation by Labor Economist, Samuel Wolkenhauer

- Samuel shared the presentation (see attached) regarding the North Idaho 2021 Outlook.
- The COVID virus crashed Idaho's economy.
- Kootenai County is still in a severe recession. (Financially and economically.)

- Unemployment is 5 times higher than pre COVID.
- Idaho has performed much better economically than most states.
- A mass expansion of teleworking has invaded Idaho. The trend now is millions of high wage workers are free to move (from busy cities) and work from a distance of their companies.
- Millennials are waiting later to start families and we are not sure if COVID will affect this. Millennials will find it harder to get into housing.
- Kootenai County projects a 36% growth rate for 65 and older moving into Idaho.
- There will be lasting economic damage as too much has happened with COVID and it will take multi-years for recovery.
- Migration patterns are shifting due to teleworking. Teleworking migration will give our community a better mixture of age.
- There may be a delayed family formation due to COVID.
- The unemployment rate as of today in Kootenai County is approximately 5.5% and the State unemployment is approximately 4.4%. The reason for the current percentage of unemployment could be that people stopped looking for work due to no work and/or afraid of catching the virus.
- The forecast for North Idaho and Kootenai County population will continue to grow and home prices will continue to grow.
- Industries that have weathered the COVID storm have employees with higher education. (BA or higher.) Lower education is usually in the service industry, which has had a higher unemployment rate.
- Skilled labor is in high demand due to the strong housing market. Manufacturing will be strong in the future.
- CDA housing prices are rising, but below the costal markets. (Young people may not be able to own a home in the city they grew up in.)
- High priced housing market will affect retaining staff for the CDA School District.
- Generation Z is about to enter the workforce and we are not sure how to relate to them.
- If you have more question please email Samuel at Samuel.Wolkenhauer@labor.idaho.gov.

Questions and Answers:

- How many eSchool students are transferring at the end of the semester back to traditional in-person schools? We expect 100 in and 100 out.

Board Report: Trustee, Rebecca Smith

- Rebecca shared that at the last Board workshop they received some good information that showed declining cases and school transmissions. The Board considered these factors and decided to move middle and high school students back to 4 days in person, starting February 1st. The Board will continue to monitor school by school.

Levy Presentation: Scott Maben

- Scott and Katie Ebner shared the presentation (see attached) regarding the levy.
- The levy this year is March 9, 2021.
- Go to Idahovotes.gov to request an absentee ballot. Deadline to request an absentee ballot is February 26th.
- Almost 25% of our operating budget comes from the current \$20 million annual levy.
- The levy needs 50% approval by voters to pass.

- The Coeur d'Alene School District tax rate is one of the lowest in Idaho.
- If you need information or know of an organization/group that needs information contact Scott Maben at: smaben@cdaschools.org.
- Be sure to share factual information with your neighbors, friends, and family and just raise awareness in our community.

Questions and Answers:

- There is a concern that all CDA schools should have generators, but the cost of the amount of power needed to run a school is very high and not cost effective. The District is looking at purchasing a generator for the District servers.

Next LRPC Meeting:

- February 22nd starting at 4:30 pm.

Adjourned: Chair, Don Walters adjourned the meeting at 6:04 pm.

Submitted by
Pam Westberg