



Engaging the Community Hanna Schools Discussion Results October 14, 2009 Meeting

As PLRD Enrolment continues to decline and government funding is reduced, what can PLRD do to keep our schools open and viable?

- a. How can we best allocate and share our resources to meet the learning needs and goals of our students in all of our schools?**
- b. How can we deliver education to all of our students in an effective and efficient manner?**
- c. Are there any other areas we should be considering?**

GROUP 1

A.

- Schools are sharing resources; similar timetables;
- Video Conference
 - i. Better than correspondence.
 - ii. Allows students from all towns to take what they need.
- Can more classes be video conference?
- Trying to offer it to every school/depending on timetables. Cosmetology is being offered; kids offered work experience with professionals in the communities
- VC will not solve all our problems/self motivated students??
- Health region/resources = special needs?
- 21st Century Learning – accessing info – these kids know how to access info through technology – they are engaged immediately because they are a t a computer. Where is the information? How can they get it? Refocus delivery of information. They still need one on one to understand the information.
- **Utilize parent volunteers to work with children; for example, sitting in room with VC to supervise and EA can then be utilized in a better way.
- Challenging as a teacher
- Has to be right teacher/student.
- Can VC be taped for review for kids?? Kids change from year to year.
- One composite school k-12; great savings;
- I'd rather see teachers; Keep teachers, not putting money to another bldg.
- Have we hit the panic button too soon? Government took \$400,000 out of our reserves. This yr. we're ok' next year may be crucial.
- Will the cutback next year affect us greatly – so should we not spend the money now??

- Why not rent out the facilities in our schools? No – because it is a partnership – a signed agreement.
- If they sold the primary school bldg, they could use that money to add on to J.C. Charyk – move k-3 over here.
- Funding by program not per pupil

GROUP 2

A.

- .Sharing teachers between schools (ex. Music)
- Video Conferencing to offer courses
- Negative (will we lose teachers/have larger classes?)
- Positive more options available to students
- Busing Fees? Lost taxes

B.

- Keeping Class Sizes Reasonable
- Having aids in classes when needed.

C.

- Salary Cuts – who is expendable?
- Contacting Minister of Education – encouraging more spending in Education

GROUP 3

- Contact with government from all fronts – parents, staff, boards => advocate.
- Rural numbers negative affect or voice of MLA's
- Stabilization – used to be sparcity and distance
- The idea of looking at the joining of HPS & JCC
- Specialty schools – partnerships with local industries
- **Not well advertised.
- Advocates – parents, staff, boards – all be active in contacting the government, lobbying.
- Rural issues are not priority to majority (corridor)
- Concept of joining JCC/HPS; 21st Century energy efficiencies – geothermal, solar, - leaders in community
- Support specialty schools – partnership schools with local industry.
- Involve the town in developing a draw – community focus, industry – where is the town tonight?
- Perhaps extreme measures are needed – school closures, re-think school processes/concept, alternate methods of delivery, modified school calendar/week/year; - initiatives supported by Board with time/money/professional development.

GROUP 4

- How to best allocate and share resources.
- Ideas
 1. Join with another school division or divisions?
 2. X Potential Advantages of a “Super Board”?
 3. What are savings of going to 4 day week?
 - a. Utilities and Transportation
 4. Parents pay for busing –“busing fee”
 5. Supplemental Levy
 6. Contract busing out
 7. Early Retirement Incentive
 8. Video Conferencing/Government kits for modular learning

2a) Sharing administrative/staffing to other schools

Potential closure of school

 - a. No win situation – but potential increased efficiently.
 - b. Deliver Education efficiently.
 - i. Video Conferencing
 - ii. Shared classroom – need the right teacher.
 - iii. School Instruction on the bus
 - a. Charter busing with facilitator
