



# Canutillo Independent School District Public Information Office

*Excellence Through Integrity and Innovation*

## **Meeting Summary - Steering Committee #3**

February 11, 2016

Canutillo ISD Board Room

6-8 p.m.

- Dr. Galaviz welcomed and thanked everyone for coming.
- Dr. Galaviz then spoke directly to the news coverage of the option to repurpose Childress ES that the press got ahold of prior to tonight's meeting. Dr. Galaviz said that this is an open and transparent process and that all options need to be considered, stressing that everything created thus far were options, not decisions. Dr. Galaviz noted that this plan needs to set CISD up to be able to support high-quality, innovative instruction for CISD students for years to come.
- 23 Steering Committee members, including two trustees, and 11 citizens from the community were in attendance.
- David Sturtz (DeJONG-RICHTER) reiterated that what was in the press at this point were all options for Steering Committee review and input this evening. Mr. Sturtz mentioned that the fact that these were options for review appeared to have been lost or muted in the media coverage of the draft options. Mr. Sturtz also took ownership of the option, saying that it is his and his firms' obligation to present data-driven, objective options for community and district consideration. Mr. Sturtz also mentioned that the Community Dialogue #1 results were available online and provided highlights of the responses: Boundary changes, medically-oriented high school programming and increased K-8 fine & performing arts programming were all popular among respondents. Respondents tended to claim they were employees of the District (~3/4).
- Mr. Sturtz then explained how one of the options (converting Reyes and CMS both to K-8s) had been taken out of consideration after the DeJONG-RICHTER (DJR) team further analyzed the likely distribution of students in what would be the Reyes K-8. In this scenario, the vast majority of the students at Reyes would have been 6-8 with very few K-5 graders. This option, accordingly, was not viable and DJR took it out of consideration.
- Mr. Sturtz then presented a summary of the data, showing that while the District population is projected to be stable through 2020, the Canutillo MS feeder schools



Street Address: 7965 Artcraft Rd. • El Paso, TX 79932 | Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100 • Canutillo, TX 79835  
Phone (915) 877-7481 • Fax (915) 877-7483 • [www.canutillo-isd.org](http://www.canutillo-isd.org)

The Canutillo Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age or disability in its employment practices, or in providing education services, activities and programs, including technical education programs.



# Canutillo Independent School District Public Information Office

*Excellence Through Integrity and Innovation*

are losing students while the Alderete MS feeder schools are generally gaining students (specifically AMS and Reyes).

- Mr. Sturtz explained why DJR has confidence in its projections. Mr. Sturtz explained that DJR's projections are based on actual student survival ratios for the past 10 years, paying special attention to the most recent years. Actual student trends are far more reliable for planning than speculative growth based on developments that have yet to A) begin or B) mature. Mr. Sturtz mentioned that speculation about growth near Reyes generated the plan to build Reyes as a K-8 until it was discovered later the actual student population could not support it.
- Furthermore, Mr. Sturtz shared that an analysis of the Cimarron development showed just a 0.20 yield for CISD per household. While some students in this area are going to EPISD and these homes are generally over \$200K, yields of 0.20-0.30 are common for single-family homes. Even if other developments have twice the yields as this one, that would still mean just 0.40 students per home.
  - Additionally, the development projects generally in the west of the District are unlikely to add many, and, in some cases, any students by 2020. For example, representatives from Vinton initially expressed doubt in the projections due to plans to provide sewer/water/power to the area within two years. Furthermore, these representatives explained that residents will be able to subdivide their plots within the same time frame. Mr. Sturtz explained that such plans would mean that, *if kept on schedule*, some residents *could* decide to sub-divide their land, some developers, *could* decide to build, some people *could* decide to buy those new homes and then some of those people *could* have children (likely 20-40% of them). With all the contingencies and lapse of time, such infrastructure and sub-division policies are extremely unlikely to have practical impact on student populations within the next five years.
- Mr. Sturtz then explained how the total identified facility condition needs for the next five years sums to \$70.5 million.
- Mr. Sturtz explained that it was not DJR or JACOBS' intent to recommend all of the \$70.5 be addressed within the next five years. In fact, Mr. Sturtz said the actual recommended project total would be far less.



Street Address: 7965 Artcraft Rd. • El Paso, TX 79932 | Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100 • Canutillo, TX 79835  
Phone (915) 877-7481 • Fax (915) 877-7483 • [www.canutillo-isd.org](http://www.canutillo-isd.org)

The Canutillo Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age or disability in its employment practices, or in providing education services, activities and programs, including technical education programs.



# Canutillo Independent School District Public Information Office

*Excellence Through Integrity and Innovation*

- Mr. Sturtz explained that of the \$70.5 million, only a small fraction of this sum is for high-priority facility condition needs that keep kids “warm, safe, cool and dry.”
  - 30% is for current deficiencies
  - 2% for code compliance
  - 27% for educational adequacy
  - 41% for life cycle items
- Of the current deficiencies, only 3% are Priority 1 items and 15% are Priority 2. Priority 1 items are those needs to be addressed to keep kids “warm, safe, cool and dry”, while Priority 2 are those items that could become Priority 1 if not addressed by 2020.
- Mr. Sturtz showed the current deficiencies by school, by system type and life cycle costs by school, by year.
- Mr. Sturtz said that the community would have a chance to comment on prioritizing condition needs through 2020 in addition to the other options concerning facility utilization, programming and grade configuration.
- All participants, including non-Steering Committee members in attendance, worked in small groups to review the options packet and provide written and oral feedback. This small group exercise took a little over an hour.
  - In addition to overall review/comment on the options, participants were asked the following:
    - *Should the options consider changes to where Central Office is located and/or investing in expanding parking for Central Office?*
    - *Should the options consider repurposing or consolidating any of the under-utilized schools? For example, the consultants proposed potentially repurposing part or all of Bill Childress ES (capacity 917 students). Should this continue to be considered? If so, why? If not, why not?*
    - *Should the options consider boundary changes for elementary schools to balance enrollment?*
    - *Should the options consider selling approximately 90 acres of unused land to help fund facility needs?*
    - *Should the options consider repurposing the Lone Star facility?*



Street Address: 7965 Artcraft Rd. • El Paso, TX 79932 | Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100 • Canutillo, TX 79835  
Phone (915) 877-7481 • Fax (915) 877-7483 • [www.canutillo-isd.org](http://www.canutillo-isd.org)

The Canutillo Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age or disability in its employment practices, or in providing education services, activities and programs, including technical education programs.



# Canutillo Independent School District Public Information Office

*Excellence Through Integrity and Innovation*

- At the end of the small group review, a representative from each table was asked to provide highlights of their table's conversation for the group to hear.
  - Everyone who spoke about selling land agreed that CISD should sell excess land and not consider new construction.
  - Everyone who spoke on boundary changes said they should be considered.
  - Everyone who spoke on school consolidation said that it should be considered with one voice asking that Childress not be closed.
  - One table suggested Lone Star could be razed/rebuilt or repurposed for the Central Office. This suggestion was well received and Mr. Sturtz said the consultant team would look into it.
- Mr. Sturtz closed by thanking everyone for coming and stating that their feedback tonight would inform the options taken to the community, how the options were presented and the kinds of questions asked. Mr. Sturtz noted that what could have been a controversial and divisive conversation was rather very productive and collaborative.



Street Address: 7965 Artcraft Rd. • El Paso, TX 79932 | Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100 • Canutillo, TX 79835  
Phone (915) 877-7481 • Fax (915) 877-7483 • [www.canutillo-isd.org](http://www.canutillo-isd.org)

The Canutillo Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age or disability in its employment practices, or in providing education services, activities and programs, including technical education programs.