

20/20+

EnVision

A Community Discussion on the Future of Education in Brownsburg

November 17, 2009

6:30 p.m.

Meeting Notes

- i) Welcome and discussion of the purpose and intent of EnVision 20/20+:
 - a) Miss Corbin reviewed the overall purpose and intent of the EnVision 20/20+ Commission, and the Steering Committee's role in forming and guiding this effort.
 - b) Comments and Questions:
 - i) Is there a BCSC administrative "dollar" benefit? – The total administrative benefit value has been frozen, and as a result administrators are paying a growing portion to maintain the same benefit package. Across all employee groups, the value of the district's contribution to each employee's benefit package has been frozen.
 - ii) What portion of the total budget is under local control? - In broad terms, local control is largely limited to the Capital Projects Fund.
 - iii) How do State budget cuts affect BCSC? – As the BCSC General Fund (payroll, utilities) is nearly entirely funded by State funds, it is reasonable to assume that at some point State budget cuts will directly and indirectly impact BCSC.
 - iv) What is the current enrollment capacity at BCSC? – BCSC enrollment capacity is adequate for the time being, given current enrollment growth trends. "New Lincoln Elementary School" is the first projected building need, given current growth rates.
 - v) What is the average BCSC class size? – Current class sizes vary from 20 to 35, depending upon grade level, course selections (pre-calculus is reported to be approaching 40 students), etc.
 - vi) What are the Assessed Value ratios for Brownsburg? – The 80-20 residential-commercial property ratio is improving as abatement schedules are paid down and commercial development increases. It may, however, be seven to ten years before significant "relief" is felt by the individual residential property owner, as most of the obvious properties (Northfield Drive) are in a Tax Increment Finance district in addition to property tax abatement.

2) Membership of the EnVision 20/20+ Steering Committee:

- a) Miss Corbin introduced the current Steering Committee participants and requested suggestions of other individuals that should be Steering Committee members. No additional members were identified at this time.

3) Charge of the EnVision 20/20+ Steering Committee:

- a) John Voigt reviewed the specific charges of the Steering Committee, as follows:

i) Develop an appropriate EnVision 20/20+ Commission membership;

- (1) Confirm minimum/maximum commission membership - target is 60 to 80 Commission members, knowing that some members will drop off as the process moves forward.
(2) Steering Committee members were requested to suggest four persons to the Commission no later than January 5, 2010, and sooner if possible.
(3) Notifications for Commission members will need to go out by the end of December.

ii) Participate in the procurement of a facilitator for the EnVision 20/20+ process.

b) Review of December 1, 2009 Steering Committee Meeting:

- (1) The Steering Committee will identify and short-list of 3 to 5 potential facilitators.

(2) Characteristics of an ideal facilitator candidate include:

- (a) Experience with community facilitation;
(b) Experience (or trainability?) in public education issues;
(c) Public and civic engagement;
(d) Positive management of the overall process to maintain a civil, constructive, inclusive, comprehensive, and timely process.
(e) Advocate for public education (complex issues);
(f) Ability to articulate information terms and ways understood by a wide range of people;

(3) Questions and comments:

- (a) Is this a paid consultant or a resident? - If a suitable candidate can be found at no cost, there is no requirement this be a paid consultant. In reality, it is probably a paid position. If a resident was qualified and willing, that is also acceptable (would someone who lived and shopped here want to facilitate this group?).

- (4) Initial “categories” pr sources of potential facilitators:
 - (a) Community Civic Discussion (University of Indianapolis, Purdue University, National Civic League)
 - (b) University Professors – BSU planning?
 - (c) Education-based consultants – Don Dyck
 - (d) Business-based consultants – Marilyn Shank
 - (e) Community-based consultants – Leadership Hendricks County
- (5) Core Interview Committee – It was suggested a five-person core interview committee be established for the facilitator interviews, although the entire Steering Committee would be welcome to attend the interview sessions. This committee will be established at the December 1 meeting.
- (6) Commission Membership review – the list of general characteristics was reviewed to achieve a broad base of participation. Comments were made regarding the need to expand the membership of the Commission well beyond those represented on the Steering Committee, particularly given some of the “demographic gaps” observed in the Steering Committee membership.
- c) Review of the December 15, 2009 Steering Committee Meeting:
 - (1) Confirmation of Commission Membership.
 - (2) Interview of candidates:
 - (a) Core Interview Committee of five persons.
 - (b) All other Steering Committee Members are welcome and encouraged to observe and provide feedback to the Core Interview Subcommittee.
 - (c) Interview will likely run 45 to 60 minutes, times 3 to 5 candidates = 3 to 4 hours.
- d) Additional meeting dates and activities:
 - i) January 5, 2009 – Selection and formulation of recommendation to Board of School Trustees for facilitator.
 - ii) *January 11, 2009 – Board of School Trustees Meeting*
 - iii) January 19, 2009 – Final Steering Committee Meeting
 - iv) January 26, 2009 – First Commission Meeting.

4) Other items discussed and assignments made:

- a) The RFQ/RFP will be issued to the group and posted to the website.
- b) Please solicit and submit potential candidates for facilitation.
- c) Discussion of community input methods:
 - i) Have meetings in the community.
 - ii) Meetings of the Commission are expected to be monthly, approximately 90 minutes each.
 - iii) Meeting times need to be flexible - Commission meetings need to vary in time and be flexible.
 - iv) Commission membership must have some level of stability.
 - v) Community meetings need to move around time-wise.
 - vi) Smaller groups rather than larger groups.

d) Assignments:

- i) Assignment #1 - Forward potential facilitators to John Voigt for contacting;
- ii) Assignment #2 - Forward potential commission members to John Voigt (potential Commission members should be made aware that will be asked to bring 10 additional community members to a community meeting at some point in time).
- iii) Assignment #3 - identify any additional steering committee members to John Voigt for contact.

5) Adjourn.