Redistricting Forum #1
Walled Lake Central Cafeteria
Summary of
Comments, Questions & Concerns
November 1, 2011

1. It is important to even-out class sizes. I am concerned about its placement on the list of parameters.
2. Can high school students be grandfathered into their schools for a period of years? We are not redistricting high schools at this time.
3. What about siblings? In the future, could this be considered.
4. In the meetings last spring, Plante Moran said enrollment was decreasing? Now we are learning numbers are up? Should we reconsider? How much confidence do we have in Plante Moran data? We are up only 6 students at the elementary level. Kindergarten numbers are the most difficult to project. Plante Moran’s numbers have been fairly accurate thus far.
5. Parents continued to question the Plante Moran projections and numbers.
6. Are you going to consider grandfathering the fourth-graders? That has not come up thus far.
7. How can you not take the high school into the determinations right now? The charge of the committee is not to consider the secondary schools, but it is not exempt from the process.
8. The feeder pattern is a concern. Keeping continuity is important. Please consider this.
9. Does the committee have access to the transfer data and numbers? Yes.
10. Resetting the transfer button? The Committee will have to consider this for elementary only.
11. What about keeping Siblings together and going to the same schools? Must balance schools first.
12. Would in District transfers be a priority over Schools of Choice? Committee will have to process this. None of this has been pre-determined.
13. As a parent of an 8th-grader can I be confident that my student will go to the designated HS? As of right now, yes.
14. Concern about the projections and long-term trend. Charge of committee is not about the closing of schools. Our building utilization rate has remained the same, 84 percent. Trend is still down based on the data available.

15. Do you have data on each grade-level? Yes.

16. Current 8th-graders need to follow feeder pattern?

17. Is the committee looking at a school for the students in the schools closing?
   Looking at redistricting all the elementary schools.

18. Transfer students taking a priority over Schools of Choice. Are we looking at maintaining the balance of these two issues.

19. Maintaining the high school feeder pattern.

20. Considering the K-2 – 3-5…NO longer considering that option. District principals and research contributed to this decision. K-5 model will be maintained.

21. Wants to know why the committee is not at the meeting.

22. Four ES early and four that are late start. Are you looking at these issues for parents and child care considerations? We are looking at this.

23. Class sizes? Averages? How will this affect closing the schools? This comes down to building utilization. By running schools more efficiently we hope to minimize impact on class size. Teacher contract includes a maximum number of class rooms. We cannot decrease class size if we are losing 30 classrooms.

24. Many of us are concerned about the feeder patterns of the high schools. We have heard this theme. I think the committee should be expanded to include HS parents.

25. HS is not being considered? Parents think HS has to be added to the parameters/guiding principles.


27. Feeder pattern for MS. Look at EI, MS, HS splits so students do not have to be separated.

28. None of us want change. Parents of students at the 2 elementary school that are closing, want everyone to understand that we need to change district-wide.

29. We’re not looking at changing the HS.

30. Transfers and Schools of Choice need to be set back. We need to look out for the kids.

31. What is going to happen to the schools that are closing? Not determined yet.

32. Need to accommodate new schools at

33. Are there 30 classrooms available in the schools left? Yes, our buildings are at 84 percent capacity.

34. In February, will we as parents know the class size so parents can make decisions? We will provide as much info as quickly as we can.

35. Teachers and staffing process? We will work through our usual staffing process.

36. Deadline? February. Our hope is to meet that deadline.
37. How do parents find out what school their child(ren) will attend? We will communicate thoroughly what the new boundaries, once they have been approved by the Board of Education.

38. Did the decision about which school to close include test scores? The decision about which schools to close included many factors.

39. Was there ever any consideration of looking at this the other way? No more than 5 percent of Schools of Choice students at any given school. The factors that were considered included a number of building-related issues. This information is still on the District website at www.wlcsd.org