

### **Taylorsville High**

Emme Liddell, Principal  
Susan Buttenob, Chair, parent  
Michelle Christensen, parent  
Brandalyn Seaman, parent

### **Bennion Jr. High**

Mary Ann Stevens, Principal  
Brandalyn Seaman, Chair, parent  
Becki Pulley, Secretary  
Whitney Afoa, teacher  
Richie Blair, teacher  
Diane Bell, parent  
Michelle Benson, parent  
Melinda Burg, parent  
Lisa Sudweeks, parent  
Angela Wayman, parent

### **Eisenhower Jr. High**

Sue Weierman, teacher  
Hillary Dalton, parent  
Kaylee Yamashita, parent

### **Arcadia Elementary**

Stephanie Harding, Chair, parent  
Lisa Sudweeks, parent

### **Bennion Elementary**

Seth Metcalf, Chair, parent  
Jennifer Cowley, parent  
Kayla Crouch, parent  
Brandy Hamstra, parent

### **Calvin Smith Elementary**

Michelle Benson, Chair, parent  
Lindsey Cottrell, parent  
Brandalyn Seaman, parent  
Jeff Seaman, parent

### **Fremont Elementary**

Maria Miles, Chair, parent  
Alecia King, parent

### **Plymouth Elementary**

Malynda Cloward, Principal  
Dave Andrews, Chair, parent  
Erin Adams, parent

### **Taylorsville Elementary**

Hillary Dalton, parent  
Dave McEwen, parent

### **Truman Elementary**

Steffany Austin, teacher  
Rebecca Kirton, parent

### **Vista Elementary**

Charisse Medico, Chair, parent  
Brittany Kessler, parent

### **Westbrook Elementary**

Dustin Montoya, parent  
Kari Montoya, parent  
Sylvia Nielsen, parent

### **School Board**

Connie Burgess  
Karyn Winder

### **District Community Council Rep**

Brandalyn Seaman

### **Visiting Parents**

Blake Dalton: Taylorsville High, Eisenhower Jr.,  
Taylorsville Elementary  
David Young: Eisenhower Jr.

Welcome by **Michelle Benson, moderator (Calvin Smith - Chair, BJH)**

Introductions

Opportunity to get feedback and understanding of what other SCCs are thinking. Not an informational/Q&A meeting. Gather questions and find out where other schools are in the process and what they are thinking.

### **Taylorsville High**

**Susan Bittenob (Chair)**

Reconfiguration came up in meetings. Funding for 9<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum/programs? Financial decision.

**Emme Liddell (Principal)**

Discussed with council, want to know what community thought, serving needs of community. Strong feelings both directions. As principal, charged with serving the needs of the masses, not just always what I personally think is best. I grew up in 9-12, no angst. Members shared concerns at meetings. Big picture is how can we best serve, collectively, all students. I can't tell you that I think they will let us hold out and be the only 10-12 school. Would like to be ahead of the situation and have a say in the process. Many people know about different schools, different experiences with reconfiguring. I have a responsibility to do what's best for 1800+/- kids that walk in the door. I want to make it happen the best way. Remodel, chicken or the egg first? 9<sup>th</sup> graders must be committed to attend in order to get remodel. Spent 13 years at Hunter, saw what they went through with rels. Spoke with superintendent, Let's build them a place. Our remodel would be behind Skyline High and Cyprus High remodels. Don't know what exact timeline. District wants to know our game plan. How can we be in charge and have influence and a plan? What is our game plan? I want these kids to have a great experience in high school. Huge responsibility, serve community. As parents and teachers we have to come together as to how we can best serve these kids and provide a place for the future.

**Michelle Christensen (Parent)**

I want it, know it needs to go there, PTA member, want a wing, let's do it, no makeshift in rels for 5 years, worry about safety of students.

**Susan Bittenob (Chair)**

Know it's coming, what are we going to do when they come? Traffic patterns at THS. Construction timeline, costs. May affect 6<sup>th</sup> graders on down. Plan long term. Keep conversation going.

### **Eisenhower Jr. High**

**Sue Weierman (Teacher)**

First of all, Eisenhower has not requested this, has not asked for meetings. People have said that they have surveyed part of Eisenhower. With our economics and people, we don't have email and ability to survey people in our school. We went to that meeting at high school. Good meeting, lots of good information. Left with understanding that most likely this will all go together eventually. We hate it. Fact that kids will lose 2 credits. Been told some elementaries will close. That worries us. Left meeting thinking there was a plan and work with Bennion Jr. and commit and build wing first. Keep hearing anecdotes, don't know if true, that Bennion Jr. wants to push fast to get kids to THS.

**Michelle Benson**

Purpose of this meeting is to get everyone in the same room, discuss what each council has talked about, and steps through process. Next step is just getting more information before question of, "Do we want to move forward?" Still 2-3 steps away from a final decision.

**Sue Weierman**

True or false that Bennion Jr. wants to go to THS in rels?

**Michelle Benson**

Let's have rest of EJH members talk and then Bennion Jr. members.

**Michelle Christensen**

Eisenhower has 5 period days, more credits, students ready for block schedule when they go to THS.

**Sue Weierman**

Huge opportunities at Eisenhower. Less at THS. Programs will look different for 9<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Question:**

**Alecia King (Fremont, parent)**

Timeline question, when will it happen? Are we pushing for a certain time?

**Michelle Benson**

In order to change in fall of 2020, we would need all council letters, an informational meeting with superintendent, a third-party survey, and another letter from all councils by June. No way that will happen. Must have requests in to Board by June for following school year. August of 2021 earliest it could happen if we do all the process in the next school year. Can make provisions about having a wing first.

**Emme Liddell (THS Principal)**

Behind Skyline and Cyprus High Schools, their rebuilds have not started. We are probably looking at 5 years before ours would be done. 2022 was rough schedule, money is earmarked. No money to build others until those are done.

**Brittany Kessler (Vista, parent)**

Skyline rebuild pushed back a year.

**Michelle Benson**

Probably out about 5 school years before a wing finished if all stars aligned. Could be longer than that. Don't know. Have to do our thing and wait for their thing.

**Alecia King**

Can we hire another contractor or no?

**Emme Liddell**

District hasn't heard from us. We can get started in our process. We could try to push.

**Kari Montoya (Westbrook, parent)**

Attended a Region PTA meeting. Superintendent spoke. Cyprus rebuild out 1.5 years and Skyline rebuild out 1 year, no other money to start rebuilds at this point due to construction costs. No extra money allocated until those 2 are done.

**Susan Buttenob**

We are one of two hold outs. Olympus in process of reconfiguration, waiting on one school. Need to talk about money, consider academics, torn about decision. It is a conversation about money. 9<sup>th</sup> grade needs to move. My understanding that 9<sup>th</sup> grade in junior high will only be supported 2 years after all other schools are reconfigured. Please, if I've got it wrong...

**Emme Liddell**

My understanding was never interpreted as losing programs for 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Our 9<sup>th</sup> graders will be supported wherever they are. Some district-wide support programs for 9<sup>th</sup> grade may change.

**Susan Buttenob**

If we hold out, we don't have a say. People need to be involved before it's too late. Want a chance to decide how to manage the chaos. Having that many students there without a wing will be a mess. Lights, traffic. If it's going to happen, let's give them a place to go. We wanted everyone to have a say so we had the information meeting. Utah is one of the only states with 9<sup>th</sup> grade in junior high, put there because of space issues at high schools. Money issues with bond and timeline. Great opportunities for students for GTI at high school.

**Sue Weierman**

They can at Eisenhower. Have buses for GTI.

**Michelle Benson**

Let's shorten comments and get through all different schools and then open up to talk.

**Bennion Jr. High**

**Brandalyn Seaman (Bennion Jr. Chair, Calvin Smith, THS, district CC rep)**

Bennion Jr. council wants information, has questions and concerns, unanimous vote to move forward for information. Interested in more opportunities for students, be prepared well ahead of time for changes, make provisions and be prepared, want more information. Consensus not necessarily pushing as fast as we can but want information and to be prepared.

**Question:**

**Sue Weierman**

What schools will be closed if this happens?

**Connie Burgess, School Board Member**

Taylorville network is good. Don't foresee closures currently.

**Karyn Winder, School Board Member**

Don't anticipate closing schools. There is a sweet number of how many students should be in each building. Watch population, move kids. We don't start out to close school. If we don't need a school, we don't need it. There is a very thorough process. No more boundary studies. Now doing Population Analysis (by PA Committee) to see where kids are at, aging out, charter competition, new young families.

**Brandalyn Seaman**

PA study being done with schools along Bangerter may affect westside network elementaries, not done until December. Don't know what will happen because of that.

**Diane Bell (Bennion Jr., Parent)**

Have family out-of-state, say 9-12 is fantastic, bigger network to pull from, so many more opportunities.

**Question:**

High schools already have full classes, where will new students go when classrooms are already full?

**Emme Liddell**

FTE follows students. They will have classes and programs that are popular. May have to hire more teachers.

**Sue Weierman**

Are you going to build these choir classes, build band rooms in the wing?

**Emme Liddell**

Some classes aren't used currently each period at capacity. Some bands and choirs are smaller/larger. Classrooms will be arranged according to FTE. Whatever classes students request, the classes will be offered.

Teachers will be hired accordingly. Theater and choir classes/rooms can be rearranged. FTE will follow the kids. Won't limit class periods.

**David Young (Eisenhower visiting parent)**

Some classes require dedicated spaces, science, choir. Can't do that in relos.

**Emme Liddell**

9<sup>th</sup> grade wing to house core classes. Current Theater room is small, possibly expand room with wing build. Studies will be done. May need a second choir room. I don't see it as kids losing opportunities. Choirs may grow. Things will not look exactly as they do now. Changes and differences.

**Michelle Benson**

One benefit is if 15 kids from Bennion want something and 15 kids from Eisenhower, that is not enough for a program, but together (30 kids), it is. Random suggestion.

Let's go through different elementaries now alphabetically.

**Arcadia**

**Stephanie Harding, Chair**

Unique situation. Been through reconfiguration with Bonneville Jr. and will be joining Taylorsville network 2019/2020 school year. Gaining new students from Oquirrh Hills Elementary closure. Council wants information. No problem saying caveat that wing is built.

**Bennion Elementary**

**Seth Metcalf, Chair**

No letter yet. Still discussing. Surveyed parents, split results. I think we are all somewhat in favor but more concerned about assimilations. Good to hear from Churchill and Wasatch Jr. High principals and how they planned out integration and assimilation when moving students up.

**Calvin Smith Elementary**

**Michelle Benson, Chair**

Have sent letter for information. Have Dual Immersion program and questions. Largest school population, won't lack numbers.

**Fremont Elementary**

**Alecia King, Parent**

Discussed at last meeting. Want more information. What exactly is the next meeting? Need parents to be involved and educated.

**Michelle Benson**

Information Meeting with superintendent.

**Kari Montoya**

If we all agree we want more information, we should make flyers for community. Get the word out for people to attend a meeting.

Language barrier brought up. Will address that with also having Spanish.

**Question:**

**Alecia King**

As an elementary do we only worry about 6<sup>th</sup> grade moving? In the end is our letter just recommending 6<sup>th</sup> up and then junior high councils recommend 9<sup>th</sup>? What should letter say?

**Kayla Crouch (Bennion Elementary, parent)**

What do we put in our letters? Provisions?

**Michelle Benson**

Need letters, another meeting, more council letters, survey hired outside by district, random slice of parents surveyed, probably 10<sup>th</sup> on down. Most parents impacted are younger elementary.

**Karyn Winder**

Individual school surveys are self-selected, people choosing to take the survey so results are either really for it or really against it. Professional outside company hired to get representative cross-section. Results presented to councils.

**Question:**

Survey in multiple languages?

**Malynda Cloward (Plymouth Elementary, Principal)**

Can try hard to make translation available. Bilingual fliers.

**Plymouth Elementary**

**Erin Adams, Parent**

Letter is in, want more info. School is large, have many rels currently. Would like to move 6<sup>th</sup> up, they are done with elementary and recess and sitting on the floor. Out in rels they have to have passes to get back in building for restroom.

**Taylorsville Elementary**

**Dave McEwen (Parent)**

I attended a PTA meeting where reconfiguration was brought up. Our school did not know it was even being discussed. We want communication among the network, want to be involved, want information, school size is small, construction changes in community will affect future student population.

**Truman Elementary**

**Steffany Austin (Teacher)**

Small school size, concerned about losing 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Need to find out community interest. Want information.

**Vista Elementary**

**Charisse Medico (Chair)**

Letter is in for more information. Need to find out community interest.

**Brittany Kessler (Parent)**

Been through this with Skyline network, a great thing.

**Westbrook Elementary**

**Kari Montoya (Parent)**

Letter for more information is in. Waiting on PA study since half of student population is on west side of Bangarter and would possibly be moved to Kearns network.

**Question:**

**David Young**

Why have an information meeting? What information are we wanting?

Data on pros/cons, data from test scores of students already reconfigured, dual immersion target language requirements and what other schools in district and other districts have done with 6<sup>th</sup> graders, speak with admin

from other schools that have been through it, find out accommodations/preparation/integrations, learn from them and take advantage of our position. Make our own accommodations/provisions depending on what we want. Be prepared. Use the time to prepare.

Want to inform and educate parents so surveyed parents aren't ignorant and people are kept in the loop as to what is happening. Discussed preparing a flier for parents to receive at registration/Back to School Night, listing topics that will be discussed at next meeting with superintendent.

**Emme Liddell**

Study of traffic flow and patterns would be done. Students will be kept safe! District does all it can to keep children safe. Relo location will be analyzed. Wing would be on north east side of school where relos are currently. Relos during build would be placed in north parking lot. Study done on current parking with drones. More traffic since 9<sup>th</sup> graders don't drive themselves.

**Question:**

**Charisse Medico**

What happens to sports programs?

**Mary Ann Stevens (Bennion Jr. High, Principal)**

Compete with other schools in same configuration. Intramural programs in place for more students to participate and then an all-star team selected to represent school against competing schools.

**Mentioned previous**

**Blake Dalton (Visiting parent)**

Change is going to suck but let's do what we can to make it suck the least amount as possible.

**Question:**

Next step?

Discuss reconfiguration at upcoming April council meetings. Send in letters for information by the end of April. Discuss questions/concerns at April meeting that we want addressed at info meeting with superintendent. Get all questions to Brandalyn Seaman by May 1<sup>st</sup> so she can compile and get them to the district so they can prep over the summer and we can have actual answers. Try for a September info meeting so we have time to publicize to parents at Back to School Nights and registration. Want parents involved and educated.

**Questions to add to running list:**

- If we wanted to move 9<sup>th</sup> graders up immediately for opportunities, how many relos would be needed and where would they be placed?
- What is a realistic timeline for construction and completion of wing?
- What time frame would teachers have to prepare for changes, curriculum, staff/FTE/grade level changes, possibly having to change schools? Ben mentioned that teachers are spoken to individually about where they want to be, endorsements needed, etc., but how far in advance would this occur?