

Second Re-Zoning Meeting

Location: South Doyle Middle School

Date: 1-10-2017

Attendance: 72

Comments from Community:

- Reverend Mrs. Butler spoke about segregation, integration and not being “settled” with this whole plan yet.
- Parent asked Mr. Oaks to explain what Parent Responsibility Zone meant.
- Former KCEA President Tonya Coatz spoke about clusters of community schools and how we (KCS) seem to lose that in the city (urban areas). She cited Northwest Middle School as a challenge integrating students due to bringing in so many different communities.
- Comment made that we need more Middle and High Schools.
- Comment made that we parents should attend MPC meetings to stop some of the over development going on in Knox County.
- Question was raised about the capacity issue of the schools in the area, and if that was the reason that we are adding two new Middle Schools.
-Interim Superintendent Buzz Thomas responded that the one at Hardin Valley was being added because of the need for more capacity, but that the one at Gibbs was being added in an effort to bring those students back into their community, instead of bussing them to Holston Middle School.
- Question was asked if we are planning to close any other Middle Schools currently.
- Question was asked if Carter students will be re-zoned because of Gibbs Middle School.
- Question was asked if our “goal” was to overlap schools starting with Elementary and running through High school.
-Mr. Oaks responded that we would not go backwards to fix things, but as we moved forward we would consider that.
- Question was asked what the justification was for building two new Middle Schools citing that they were only 22 miles apart.
- Question was asked again regarding Holston Middle School’s capacity and asked that we show the impact on communities with the new re-zoning map.

- Question was asked why the School Board selected Gibbs and Hardin Valley for Middle Schools and were other schools being considered as well.
- Amber Roundtree, current School Board Member, stated that MPC data was now being inserted into the new models.
- Question was asked what the capacity for Gibbs Middle School was starting off. Also wanted to know what capacity we were trying to be at for all of our Middle Schools.
- It was noted that on the slide being shown for the Schools in the East Knox area, all of them were below capacity.
- Question was asked if Gibbs started at 50% capacity, where were the kids going to come from and how many schools will have to close.
- Reverend Mrs. Butler asked a series of questions:
 - How could these schools be built?
 - What was behind the schools being built?
 - Stated she felt we were not getting the true facts.
 - Stated that the School Board didn't consider other districts.
- Reverend Butler stated that Gibbs was not at capacity, and that communities wanted and needed schools closer to their homes.
- Question was asked if Vine was going to remain a Magnet School or was that even being discussed.
- Question was asked how many Gibbs students were currently going to Holston Middle.
- Question was asked if we are trying to overlap Elementary, Middle and High School for students, and were we trying to keep folks in their same communities.
- Comment was made that because so many of the schools being looked at in the East Knox County were so under capacity, why not make Community Schools.
- Comment was made that we did not need to take kids from other communities and bus them to Gibbs.
- Question was asked about the current enrollment of Gibbs Elementary (800).
- Question was asked about balancing our enrollment- was this a factor in the re-zoning and will we take the growth potential of communities into consideration.
- Reverend Butler explained racial disparity within the schools. He stated that disparities were both racial and economic. And that students with economic disparity were being bussed to other communities and that we needed to make sure that all other groups of people were bussed as well.