

Fourth Re-Zoning Meeting

Location: Hardin Valley Elementary School

Date: 1-17-2017

Attendance: 237

Comments from Community:

- Robert Branson asked if the new MPC data was being considered in the 2018 enrollment projections.
- Question asked if transportation was provided for students who were “grandfathered” in. (*Russ Oaks stated there was not.*)
- Comment was made regarding the existing traffic issues in the current Hardin Valley zone. (*Buzz Thomas mentioned that there were several Officials present for a meeting immediately following the re-zoning meeting to help address those specific traffic concerns.*)
- Comment was made regarding students being taken from Farragut as well as the funding. Will there be an enrollment push to fill Hardin Valley Middle from the Farragut Community?
- Melissa Terrell commented that she would like to see Hardin Valley Middle open with only 6th and 7th grades, and add 8th grade later. (*Buzz Thomas asked for a show of hands from the audience of people that agreed with her comments.*)
- Another comment was made regarding driving issues and safety concerns because of the potential new route to Hardin Valley Middle.
- Kyle asked if Hardin Valley Academy zoning would be re-considered.
- Another question was raised about trying to match the current Hardin Valley Academy zone with the proposed Middle School zone.
- Question asked if the Middle School Administration had been selected for the new HVM. (*Buzz Thomas commented that he would like to appoint the Principal by this spring. He felt that the early success of HVA was due to the early appointment of school leadership, and would like to do the same for HVM.*)

- Sandy Snyder asked about the “overhead slide” regarding current numbers being used for 2018 enrollment projections.
- PTO President of Hardin Valley Academy stated that she wanted to see the new HVM open with all grades. (*Again, Buzz Thomas asked for a show of hands supporting this view. Many more seemed to favor this position.*)
- Question was asked if Hickory Creek area was being zoned for Farragut.
- Susan of Harrison Springs Subdivision commented that she was worried about her subdivision (which is at the line at Pellissippi) would be re-zoned for Karns.
- Josh commented that he purchased a house in order for his kids to go to Hardin Valley Schools and that he did not want to be re-zoned. He asked for the people that lived in Harrison Springs to stand, so that they could identify how many folks were there in support of this view.
- Question was asked about the percentage of students that utilized Knox County School’s bus transportation? (*Dr. Rick Grubb was asked to respond. He stated that the majority of students that used the bus were in 7th grade. Overall, 48%-52% of KCS students rode the bus.*)
- Question was asked if we will re-visit the elementary school zones.
- Danny stated that he was in favor of grandfathering and that we needed to keep families together.
- Ms. Butler asked another member of the audience about a comment regarding school zones moving east, and why this was a problem. She also stated that African American families wanted to have “our students” in “our communities” as well. She congratulated the Hardin Valley Community on getting their new school, and stated that she was displeased with the School Board’s decision and felt they did not make their process in selecting the new schools public enough.
- A single parent commented on how she could not afford to buy a new house in order to avoid re-zoning. Currently, she was having to go to Farragut Elementary and Farragut Middle and then to Hardin Valley Academy. The commute was very difficult and wanted to see that we kept families together in the future.
- Comment was made on how KCS rushed to fill Hardin Valley Academy with Farragut students and that in her opinion, that action hurt Farragut schools.

Question was raised if school funding was based on zone enrollment or actual enrollment. (*Russ Oaks stated it was on actual enrollment.*)

- Question was asked about the new curriculum for Hardin Valley Middle School and what classes would specifically be offered in the science area.
- Statement made that everyone that wanted to be “grandfathered” in should be allowed to. And that we needed to start HVM with all grade levels.
- Comment made that “Farragut” wants their people back. And that KCS needed to consider the “sub-standard” road conditions that people and buses would have to travel on to go to another school zone.
- Comment was made about searching for a home in the Farragut area for over 1 and ½ year and that they did not want to be rezoned.
- Comment made that Karns Middle School is overcrowded and that their busses are packed.
- Question asked if KCS was going to address the overcrowded issues at Karns.
- Comment made that Karns needs to be west.
- Comment made that “grandfathering” should be a choice.
- Kim Frazier, who helped to organize “Hardin Valley supports a Middle School” stated that current MPC numbers are all on-line for anyone that wanted to see the projected growth. She also stated that 675 subdivision permits were granted in the Northwest sector.