October 22, 2018
Elementary School Size Committee
Meeting #1 Notes

Agenda

Talking Circles Introduction & Questions

Hopes: Everyone can be objective
That the decision hasn’t already been made
That’s it’s really about the kids and not all financial
Defining Our Purpose:

The Elementary School Size Committee will:

- Identify pros and cons of current NUSD elementary school size
- Review comparable school districts
- Determine the “ideal” NUSD elementary school size
- Quantify savings or additional costs to transition to “ideal” NUSD elementary school size
- Make recommendation to the Board for next steps

Facilitator’s Commitments:

- Come prepared
- Have a plan – plan to be flexible
- Encourage participation and ensure everyone feels heard
- Continually summarize
- Keep the group on task
- Ask difficult questions in the interest of reaching consensus
- Treat participants respectfully
- Listen attentively

Making Our (the Committee’s) Commitments:

Identifying the “ideal” elementary school size
Each of the 4 groups spent time identifying “An elementary school is too small when....” and “An elementary school is too large when...” on their own and then in their group.

The groups then make T-charts of comments on too small and too large elementary schools.

Areas commented on included: class size, facilities, safety, staffing, budget, services, families, students, social/emotional needs, specialized programs, resources, diversity and social groups.

Suzanne Speck, Facilitator, will compile all comments and present them to the Committee at the next meeting on November 28, 2018.