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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** June 12, 2019

**TO:** Board of Education

**FROM:** Scott Thompson

**RE:** Agenda Item 19-606: Boundaries Task Force/Park Place School

Members of the Boundaries Task Force (BTF) will be present to share the progress the group has made and some of the results of their work. While a set of finished proposals is yet to be determined, I believe you will find value in seeing the work to this point in time.

The BTF members invested many hours in addressing the issues of the district's boundaries. All of them have other commitments, and they are working in the evenings and on weekends to get things done. Consequently, as of this writing, the PowerPoint presentation is not completed. I will send it to you as soon as they deliver it to me. An introductory letter is included from the BTF to lay the groundwork for the presentation.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns prior to the Board meeting if possible. I would like to give the members a heads-up, seek answers to your questions or provide you with info before the actual meeting.

Good Evening.

Thank you President Szczupaj and members of the Board for having us tonight.

We are here on behalf of the entire Boundary Task Force. As you know the task force is made up of 37 members representing all 20 schools in CCSD15. But today you only are going to hear from a few of us, at your request, to share some basic information regarding our progress and preliminary concepts that may or may not include the addition of a new building in the the Northeast section of Palatine.

My name is Jen DeFranco. I am a Palatine resident and my children attended both Paddock Elementary and Plum Grove Jr, High. I currently have no children in the district as they are in now in D211 or have already graduated high school.

I am joined by Brian Lucas. Also a Palatine resident with children that attend Pleasant Hill Elementary and and Plum Grove Junior High. And Nipesh Patel, a resident of Hoffman Estates and who has children that attend Thomas Jefferson Elementary.

As you know, the Boundary Task Force was formed in late 2018 to review the boundary lines throughout the entire school district. We began work in September and have spent hundreds of hours reviewing and analyzing every school, every line, and all possible boundary scenarios. With that being said, the task force recently made the decision to slow down the review process of the boundary lines in order to make sure we were adequately addressing the needs of all students in the best manner possible. However, against our own better judgement, we are here today to share some rough draft concepts to assist the district while considering the addition of the Park Place property to be utilized as a school. We feel it is required for us to bring you these basic concepts we have been discussing in order to make an educated decision regarding the Park Place property.

In our opinion, this is not the ideal scenario, as we would have preferred to have community input on the suggested plans prior to bringing them for any board review - but with such a tight timeline and active process taking place on the Park Place location by the district, we felt it best to give you some rough concepts we have been reviewing in order to have a better understanding of what the district plans to do moving forward.

These basic concepts we will introduce are not final, but they do include concepts that align our schools into a better feeder pattern that serve the benefit of the students and the district, alike. We have never paid attention to feeder patterns or taken the full social-emotional impact of randomly assigning schools to students into account when adjusting lines in the past. These initial concepts also attempt to implement all day kindergarten, which we believe to be a district priority at this point. We also took into consideration that a \$130 million referendum was presented in the past and failed. Our current ideas present initial concepts that may only involve approximately \$50 million in changes.

The district boundaries in CCSD15 have never been addressed in the history of our schools. The only time a boundary change was made was when a school closed or a new school opened. However, neither of those two things have happened in a very long time, which has created a hodgepodge of lines that really don't make any sense or follow any sort of feeder pattern to keep students together as they advance from school to school. We have students taking busses past closer schools to attend junior high. We have elementary school students being bussed across town due to overcrowding in their own neighborhoods. These are items that the community and the committee both feel are unacceptable for our students.

Please keep in mind that these concepts are nowhere near final in our opinion and they are simply being presented in a very rough form in order to help the board with the Park Place element. We still feel that these

proposals need a considerable amount of review in order to put any of them into effect in the future.

Once you determine how to proceed with Park Place, the task force plans to reconvene to continue working on the boundary lines, based on the property we have to work with at that point. Once we have these proposals ready to present we will then ask for community input before presenting the final proposals to you all. We know the community is anxious to see what the task force has concluded to be the best solutions for the entire district and are awaiting a final proposal in the months ahead.

We would just like it note, will full transparency, that we did not feel comfortable coming with a final proposal without sharing it with the community first. And we also did not feel comfortable with you making a decision to add new property options to the district without seeing a proposal from us first. So, for now, we are here with some very rough concepts that could be considered as possible options in the future and hope they are helpful in your decision making process, in turn allowing us to move forward with our task of finalizing a plan that benefits the most students to present in the near future.

So, without further delay - I'd like to hand this over to Brian to share the initial concepts we have here tonight.