

Council Rock's Planning Committee Update

Council Rock's (CR's) greatest challenge is to deliver quality education while addressing the needs of its aging buildings, along with meeting the growing financial obligations for the state's Public School Employees' Retirement System (PSERS). To facilitate transparency and community involvement in facing this challenge, the CR School Board convened a community volunteer Planning Committee in late 2013 and charged the 30+ members to "address using our facilities in the most efficient and effective ways consistent with our current educational policies and procedures."

The challenges facing the Planning Committee include:

- Funding the delivery of a quality education while meeting PSERS obligations
- Geographically unbalanced and declining enrollment
- Aging facilities and needs for renovation

The Board has charged the committee "to deliver at least three alternatives for community and school board consideration." Each alternative is to include an actionable plan with advantages, trade-offs, and timelines with measurable short and long term outcomes. Topics being explored include the effect of enrollment declines, sizing schools for financial efficiencies, removing trailers, redistricting students, closing schools, setting renovation priorities, and more.

As CR looks to tighten its belt to meet its financial commitments while preserving important educational programs, Citizens For Education would like to thank all those who volunteered to dive into the details behind what will ultimately be the School Board's decision.