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***For Immediate Release***

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**LPS Facility Use Task Force develops criteria;  
*Group to give Board recommendations this fall***

School may not be in session, but the Littleton Public Schools Facility Use Task Force has continued to meet throughout June with additional meetings planned for July and August. According to Task Force Co-Chairs Tracie Rainey and Pat Wojahn, the group's work has progressed from studying multiple forms of data last spring to forming criteria to help guide decisions when considering potential facility changes.

Task Force members had an opportunity to gather community feedback during the group's first public forum last May, which followed the release of its interim report in April. Wojahn and Rainey stress how valuable the feedback from the May forum was and how important continued community feedback is to the work of the Task Force. "Part of our process is to identify our community's values around how schools are used and how those values are honored," said Wojahn. "The feedback we have received so far has been critical to our conversations, and we look forward to gathering even more feedback this fall." The Task Force is planning to hold a minimum of two additional public forums in September and October.

Since the May forum, Task Force members have been developing principles, filters, and criteria to help guide decisions when considering recommendations for facility changes. Criteria must further the community's values around:

- student achievement
- keeping and retaining high quality employees
- providing choice of teachers and programs for parents and students
- enriching the educational opportunities available to students, and
- ensuring equity of programs and program delivery.

Criteria will include recommendations for minimum and maximum school enrollment sizes in addition to how much a building is being used. Additionally, grade configuration, school consolidation, and school expansion potential are parts of solutions to be forwarded for the Board to study. No decisions about specific facilities have been made.

Task Force members have been invited to meet with the Board in August to discuss their recommended criteria and how the criteria interact with the current budget situation facing LPS. The Task Force plans to present its final report to the Board in late October.

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The Facility Use Task Force has a broad membership representing parents, community members, teachers and principals from elementary, middle, and high school levels, a classified staff member, and three liaisons from the district level. It began meeting last February as part of a periodic review of district facilities, to study not only how they are being used, but to identify areas that might be under used and to make recommendations for improvements.

Rainey and Wojahn stress that continued feedback is appreciated and can be given to the Task Force at any time by calling 303.347.3378 or via the LPS Website, [www.littletonpublicschools.net](http://www.littletonpublicschools.net). Visitors can click on the Facility Use Task Force button on the left side of the home page. More information about the Task Force's charge, as well as notes from previous meetings and its preliminary report to the Board, are also available online.

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