

## COMMENTS

### Aztec Transition Parent Input Form December 2008

- Not enough detailed information regarding this (questions 5, 7, 8). Cannot commit.
- We live in Madrid, right behind Aztec, so it is sad that my kids are not able to walk to school. We built our house specifically for that feature. However, I love the staff at Aztec and am confident the new school will be good. My only worry is overcrowding and not getting the renovations done to make the new school big enough for all the kids. I hope the district board members know what they are doing! Question #5 is confusing! I hope that Zuni will continue with ITI teaching practices.
- We already drive 5 miles to get to Aztec, if it were located another 6 to 8 miles east, we would not be able to enroll \_\_\_\_\_. We are interested in continuing to have \_\_\_ attending a school utilizing the ITI program in the multi-age setting. Although it's saddening that this change had to occur, we hope that there will be a sound plan in place that will help the children feel secure in this transition. I think it will be important to ensure that the 2 schools don't continue to be separated while on the Zuni campus. Will a new name be chosen, or will it only be one prevail?
- Aztec has been a great school with wonderful teachers and staff. We all are very sad to be leaving.
- We do want to learn more facts before enrolling at Zuni, but it sounds like its promising. We would love it if Mrs. Beuerlein moved over to Zuni with her current class!
- #5 – If it was close to the current Aztec campus.  
#6 – I prefer to choose every two years based on the needs of my child.  
#7 – I love the ITI program, but this is too far to travel.  
I can not make a full commitment at this time because I am also looking at options outside the district.
- I would like for Beuerlein to move up and keep 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class the same as this year's 1<sup>st</sup> grade class.
- ITI isn't that important to me. I'm more concerned about security and the new Zuni site. My ex-husband and I were the ones to get the camera installed and gates locked at Aztec. What is the plan to keep the new campus safe?
- To help make the transition easier on my son, I feel if we were able to request an Aztec teacher, the move would be a lot smoother. (It would be great if the current 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher moves to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade with the same class, if the teacher is willing to do this.) For example, \_\_\_\_\_ currently has Ms. Beuerlein in first grade, then moves to the new consolidated school at Zuni with Ms. Beuerlein.

- This sucks! And you all know it! Please give us Aztec parents some respect and ask questions that don't have the answers you want us to fill in. Anyway, please move the teachers to Zuni and have them "move up" with their class that they have now.
- I currently have my 4<sup>th</sup> grader attending Cheyenne and intend on my other 2 to also enroll there. I know a lot of families that are within walking distance of the Aztec site and I strongly think they should be given priority enrollment at the "new" Cheyenne site. I believe it is okay to still maintain Cheyenne a school of choice, but one year of transition for those families would be extremely positive.
- I am not interested in attending an overcrowded school. \_\_\_\_ attended Zuni for pre-K and the parking lots were ridiculous then with half the students. Many parents do not use buses; it will be terrible. (personal attack redacted) I want \_\_\_\_ to be in the Saxon math program. I do not like "Everyday Math." It is an awful program. Cheyenne offers Saxon.
- My first choice for all 3 of my kids would be the new consolidated school at Zuni if my kids could stay with Aztec teachers – to help make the transition easier for them. I would really like to see my kids stay together in the same class and move up with Mrs. Beuerlein to the second grade.
- I am a mother of three and plan to follow Aztec's move to Zuni. I will also have a kindergartner starting 09-10 and am interested in the Panda program for my "typical 3-year-old."
- If I could keep \_\_\_\_ with Wendy Beuerlein at the Zuni campus for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, that would be my first and only choice. This would make a very hard decision easy for me. If this can't happen, I will explore other options including all of the above and possibly the option of leaving the district altogether.
- Having a tour with Mr. Chantler at Zuni helped clarify for me that Zuni would be an excellent choice for my family. I would encourage all Aztec families to tour the Zuni campus and meet Mr. Chantler.
- I have found this entire process frustrating and disheartening. A 900+ student elementary school is not an option for my children. Therefore, I am left with applying to schools with a waiting list and waiting to see if the district can see its way to grant us precedence at Cheyenne. Given that the school board is supposed to be governing the interests of our children, I find this political quagmire very troubling.
- I want my child to go to a quality neighborhood school. We moved 6 blocks away from one – now we're losing our "open" enrollment option at that school because Cheyenne is not a regularly zoned school (and it should be). If I have to drive, it will be to support a sustaining school – not a new experiment by SUSD.
- We are not happy with the closing of Aztec!
- I don't know what ITI even is. My child is going to Desert Mountain next year.

- I hope priority enrollment will help both my boys (K and 4<sup>th</sup> for next year) get into Cheyenne (we live in Madrid behind current Aztec site). We are willing to look at Zuni if Cheyenne is not an option. Please share summary of these forms with community!
- If we are to go to Zuni I would think about going there next year if my kids can have the same teachers as they have now. Have the teachers move up with their students to make it easier on everyone. You owe us parents that!
- Please have HET at Zuni/Aztec.
- \_\_\_\_ will depend on the IEP meeting to see which school will be best for her.
- This entire situation is completely terrible. We are very disappointed in the Scottsdale School District at this point. Aztec has been a wonderful school so far but I am extremely concerned about the consolidation and overall size of the school, and personal focus/attention each child will be receiving. I also feel sorry for any staff that will be placed somewhere else because of this change. My son has become a part of a reading program at Aztec, which I know part of it is with Headsprout computer. Will this program still be offered at the consolidated school, or is that one of the programs being moved? I think this is a wonderful program and am hopeful.

My son also attends Kids Club after/before school. During breaks, I had to take him up to the Zuni site. It was in the cafeteria, which I don't know if this is normal or just for break, but if that is where it usually is I would like someone to please consider a classroom instead. Aztec's Kids Club is wonderful. They help the children learn and pay attention to them. They are in a smaller area so they are better supervised. At Zuni, it was out of control. I felt his personal safety was in danger! It is too big of an area and they don't properly supervise them. I was not happy and am only taking him 1 day over Christmas break as a result of this. If it is there next year I may pull him out of the program, which is disappointing.

I do not see why we should have to take my son all the way to Zuni now when Aztec is right down the street, literally. Our home backs 100<sup>th</sup> Street. This is part of the reason we chose our home 3 years ago.

- We are very disappointed in how the communication has been handled on this issue.
- We are not happy with the closing of our home school! We truly love Aztec teachers, staff and our community.
- Aztec campus is our "home away from home." We walk there on weekends, play, sports, etc. It is crazy to think that my neighborhood campus that I have been using for 4 years would not be available to my 3 children, and that they would be force bused out. I understand that the best shot at getting into Cheyenne is kindergarten. We are past that now, so it's only fair to give them (my kids) a one-time priority enrollment.
- I haven't heard anything about the availability of a 3's preschool class... I would really like to enroll my twins in this program next fall. Where can I find out??

- I would prefer Zuni. It's close to my house.
- As I mentioned on my \_\_\_\_\_'s page, I think this is an awful idea. It is too bad Scottsdale allows parents to switch schools. Enrollment would be fine if they made parents attend the school in their boundaries.
- I would like \_\_\_\_\_ to keep his teacher.
- #6 – I would like to see both. Multi-age works better for some, and single grade works better for others.  
#7 – Depends on if there was bussing.
- When I signed up \_\_\_\_\_ for his 2/3 class last year, I had to commit to 2 years of the same class and the same teacher. I would expect the school district to honor that same commitment. All of our children will be disrupted by this merger but in our multi-age classes that are in the first year of a two-year class – what will happen to them? I will enroll my child wherever he will be able to finish the second year program with Mrs. Albers – if that is not an option, he will not attend any school in this district. There are many choices out there and I want what is best for \_\_\_\_\_ – right now that is finishing his class with his classmates and his teacher.
- \_\_\_\_\_ would like to keep his teacher.
- \_\_\_\_\_ would like to be with as many familiar faces as possible. His current teacher is transitioning to Zuni and he would like to stay with her.
- Information needs to be shared regarding pre-K options for 2009-10.
- I prefer a choice school to be located at Mountainside. I will only place my child if guaranteed in writing that my child will continue with the same multi-age teacher they currently have.
- We are within one mile of Aztec. Therefore, we would like \_\_\_\_\_ to attend Cheyenne at Aztec location. Thank you.
- I plan on my daughter going to the new consolidation school with a new philosophy that welcomes a multi-age strand, however, she will be in a straight grade.
- I'm pretty set on my neighborhood school, which would now be Zuni. It's unlikely I'd trouble myself to provide transportation elsewhere.
- I would like to know what the likelihood of the school boundaries changing is if too many students end up at the new consolidated school. I do not want my children to have to move to 2 different schools in 2 years if the board decides to re-zone after the 2009-10 school year.

- I would like very much if they can place my daughter in Desert Canyon MS for the 2009-10 school year. Currently, she is in a waiting list. I submit this request because one of her sisters is in 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Desert Canyon MS and the other will be attending 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Desert Canyon as well. (Spanish translation by Luis Montes.)
- Are sibling requests going to be honored at this new “consolidated” school? How many children per class is there going to be? Is my child going to have fitness outside? If I do enroll my child at the new school, will we know who his teacher will be at the end of the year like we did this year?
- Aztec campus is practically in my back yard. We have been attending since preschool. It’s not fair to force bus us away. We should be allowed priority enrollment since we are having to change our plans midway. If I would have known my neighborhood campus would be turning into Cheyenne, I would have gotten my kids in over there years ago. Please do the right thing and allow neighboring homes to attend Cheyenne.
- I have already enrolled my children at Laguna for the remainder of the 2008-09 school year. I have no faith in the district and this is a waste of my time.
- 1) My child attends the “free” after school program currently on site at Aztec. Will the district provide busing from Zuni to the former Aztec site next year and for the following years? 2) Will we be able to get a teacher we would have requested for the next year if Aztec stayed open?
- We are disappointed that Aztec is going away. It has been a “tradition” in this family and “tradition” is important in the family circle.
- Let’s press on and make it a great school at Zuni campus.
- I would like a school that offers a pre-K program.
- Would prefer choice school to be at Mountainside. Will only attend Zuni if guaranteed that my children will continue with the same multi-age teacher they currently have. (Would like it in writing.)
- I will only choose to “attend the new consolidated school at the current Zuni site” before choosing to “attend another school” if the Zuni site will provide a space for the multi-age ITI/HET program to continue to exist and function as a community and if my child will be able to cycle with her current teacher for another year thus being able to continue with the program in which she is currently enrolled and thriving.
- I like the self-contained gifted program at Zuni.
- There’s just not enough info on the possible choice school option. Convenience is a big factor in our decision. We do hope that the ITI philosophy is part of the Zuni multi-age curriculum.

- I would love my 2 kids to attend an ITI school; however, I currently drive 6 miles one way to school and do not want to drive any further.
- I would only attend Zuni if the ITI teachers are available and preferably multi-age.
- #7 – For us it was always proximity to the house. We don't care if it's ITI, traditional or core knowledge.
- #8 – Only if it had a multi-age program and sibling requests/teacher requests are honored and the commitment to honor them is put in writing.  
SUSD's failure to identify one or two schools for a choice school works against parents being willing to commit to a choice school. Parents want to have a choice ITI/HET school, but we are starved for information on what it would look like, where it would be, what support District would provide it, process to get it going and the timeframe involved.
- I think children living within 1/2 mile to Aztec site should not be on a waiting list with Cheyenne School. For many parents, the proximity to school is important and that's why the residence was chosen based on this fact.
- I think it was a very poor decision to consolidate Zuni & Aztec with no transitional plan for those of us who live just 1/2 mile from Aztec!
- I will keep \_\_\_\_\_ in the consolidated school for the sake of "stability" for him. However, in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, we will probably leave the district schools in favor of more interesting options amongst charter schools. Thank goodness for school choice in Arizona.
- We hope that priority enrollment for the Aztec community into Cheyenne will be considered!! As of now, the choices above are our preferences, but we may consider Zuni over Laguna, depending on how it all gets organized. Will you please share the results of this survey with us? I am very curious as to the summary of what the community wants!
- Aztec students need to get 1<sup>st</sup> priority re: open enrollment.
- We live in the Madrid community, which is located right behind Aztec's campus. Our kids have their own access to the campus, which makes it nice for them to safely walk to school. We built our house in 2004 knowing our 3 kids would be able to walk to their elementary school. Now we have a school that we can't go to right in our back yard. One reason we will not even try to enroll them into Cheyenne is because the facility is still not up to par. Aztec cannot accommodate up to 8<sup>th</sup> grade and does not have facilities all junior highs have.
- It's possible we would consider the ITI choice school, but need more information! Who can commit without knowing where it will be?
- We live less than 1/2 mile from the current Aztec campus. We chose Aztec because of its location and proximity to our home, not knowing a lot about ITI. We really like the ITI but I am not sure that we would drive 6-8 miles to attend. If bus service was available we

would definitely consider it. All of these schools are good in our area. It makes me sad that open enrollment has torn neighborhoods apart and given confused parents too many choices. We have friends that attend each of these schools and everyone likes their school because they are all good schools. Please give the displaced Aztec students priority when open enrolling to another school. The Zuni campus is not equipped to handle more students as it is now.

- Would have stayed at Aztec if it would have remained at the same location with multi-grade.
- We may not be here next year when this consolidation occurs. I don't know if my answers will help in this survey.
- Change Aztec/Zuni to K-8.
- I strongly believe current Aztec families should have 1<sup>st</sup> year priority enrollment at Cheyenne. There are families that purchased homes to be near a neighborhood school and I think the district should try to accommodate them if possible.
- Any student in the Aztec district should not have to be put on a waiting list for Cheyenne. Cheyenne should be considered the neighborhood school.
- SUSD needs to adopt Saxon Math, like Cheyenne, and do away with Everyday Math. Our kids are falling behind. Compare the test scores with Cheyenne. Basis uses Saxon Math. Our older daughter has scored 100% on AIMS and 99%.
- Decision ultimately determined by 1) actual location if an ITI program/school becomes available; 2) OT and LRC staff at the new site; and 3) administration and staff at the new site. Our preference would be to have our child continue with the program he's currently enrolled in, but the timing and implementation of a "new" ITI program/school will drive our decision.
- Our feedback has not been seriously considered or heard up to this point, so I don't feel that anything is going to be considered now. This form is just another attempt to "make the parents think we care..." when really the SUSD school board doesn't care.
- Aztec as it was (ITI, multi-age) was an exciting, unique opportunity for our district. Unfortunately, I'm now looking outside at charter schools. Thank goodness for school choice in Arizona.
- I'm not so concerned with the program type at a school. My concern is location. I believe in the public school system and think my child can do fine pretty much anywhere. I just like the convenience of a school's location mostly.
- ITI doesn't need to be the only philosophy. Whatever it takes for the kids to learn. It can't be so restrictive.

- 1) We live near 108<sup>th</sup> Street & Cholla. There is current bus transportation and my concern is will there be bus transportation from the Zuni site?
- 2) We utilize the early morning care (Kids Club) through Scottsdale's Community Ed Department. Will there continue to be early morning Kids Club @ 6:30 AM?
- 3) Will children be included in the new decision-making made at the new site??? Will the students be informed??
- My child has to ride bus to school and home. Also to close Aztec was the worst thing and choice ever.
- \_\_\_\_\_ has advanced so much since joining your Special Ed program at Aztec, we would want the same instruction for next year to ensure he will stay on track. He is happy and enjoys school so much. Mrs. Joseph has been a great motivator and such an inspiration to \_\_\_\_\_.
- We've enrolled at Laguna for a 1/5/09 start. I have no confidence in the district supporting a choice school in any form that does not include a multi-age strand at Zuni.
- \_\_\_\_\_'s brother is in the SUCCESS program. We will follow that program. We strongly support the "choice school" option.
- I would attend a multi-age classroom applying the ITI as long as it follows the program she had and includes Mrs. Mooney!
- This is a very unfortunate conclusion which I think is a disaster for the Aztec community.
- I want \_\_\_\_\_ to continue her multi-grade program with Miss Mooney wherever she is teaching. \_\_\_\_\_ has begun this process and it is imperative that she completes the two year program. I will drive her to any school necessary to accomplish this goal.
- We would attend Zuni if no ITI school was available, if 1/ITI teachers, 2/multi-age was available.
- My children are not going to Zuni, don't care for the school. I would almost send them anywhere else first – Anasazi, Desert Canyon, Copper Ridge. There has to be other options involved for people other than sending them to the worst school. The students should not have to be separated from their friends or choose Zuni.
- I do not agree with the grading system or pilot program that Aztec has adopted. This system does not allow me to accurately gauge where my child stands in each area. I feel that the pilot program grading system is geared only toward the benefit of making the AIMS scores better and does not offer my child the preparation he needs to enter a middle school or high school grading system. I was extremely disappointed to hear that Aztec lowered their reading standards. Arizona is one of the lowest scoring states and the last thing we should be doing is lowering standards. I also am unhappy with the seating arrangements in class and do not believe that pod or group seating is the best arrangement for my child.

- \_\_\_\_\_ is in SUCCESS program and he will follow that program's location.
- I think SUSD is not worth the constant poor choices our governing board makes. I will be moving out of district as a result of yet another bad governing board decision. I will be moving to a district that puts my child's education on top of their list of priorities instead of on the bottom!
- This is very difficult to answer at this point in time – would like more information re: where teachers from Aztec will be going, etc. We do not feel we currently have enough information to make a decision. The above is the best we can provide at this time.
- I believe Aztec students should have priority at Cheyenne.
- My child is enrolled in the SUCCESS classroom. The combined ITI and SUCCESS methodologies have been amazingly effective for him. I will follow the Aztec SUCCESS class (with Ms. Picard) as my first choice.
- I do not know what the meaning for ITI is. Please, I need more information. (Spanish translation by Luis Montes.)