

**Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan  
Education Partnership Group Meeting  
April 9, 2009**

Meeting attendees:

- Jim Felice, Widefield School District 3
- Kate Hatten, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments
- Carmelita Holien, Fort Carson
- Doug Jeavons, BBC Research & Consulting
- Dave Roudebush, Fountain-Fort Carson School District 8
- Darryl Webb, Hanover School District 28
- Jason Wilkinson, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments
- Mark Zamora, Harrison School District 2

**Phase 2 Update**

A recap of the last CDMC meeting and discussion focused primarily on the critical need for more detailed data as soon as possible regarding the demographics of family members expected to arrive this summer. The current information regarding family members of soldiers moving from Fort Hood is a start for identifying school district needs; however, it was noted that many other soldiers coming from other locations will also be moving to Fort Carson to fill slots for the 4<sup>th</sup> ID Headquarters and 1<sup>st</sup> BCT. Also, the current Fort Hood data are not complete.

Doug Jeavons distributed some preliminary estimates of school age children from Fort Hood based on the available Fort Hood data, previous analyses, and estimates based on other data sources. (A copy of the document is attached.) In general, BBC's estimates indicate a range of pre-school age children coming from Fort Hood between approximately 600 and 1,000; elementary ages between 700 and 1,500; and middle/high school ranges between 300 and 650. BBC further distributed these children between key school districts based on Phase 1 distribution estimates.

Dave Roudebush indicated that he also made calculations based on the Fort Hood data, estimating that by August 2009, approximately 1,165 school age children will move to the region and live off-post and that number will increase to approximately 1,600 by August 2010. Dr. Roudebush's estimates are within the ranges provided by BBC. However, it was noted that more information is still necessary for districts to be able to make budget/staffing decisions. Factors that will affect these numbers include whether family members will accompany the soldiers to Fort Carson (based on economic, housing, deployments or other reasons); better demographic information from Fort Hood; and availability of housing on Fort Carson. Efforts to obtain better information as quickly as possible will continue.

**State/Federal Legislative Issues**

It was noted that second count day funding has again been removed from this year's budget. It appears that school districts will not see any interim funding for military students.

Kate Hatten provided an overview of OEA's Project Needs Assessment (PNA) request, indicating that PPACG has requested that school districts and other entities in the region submit

requests to fund projects/services to meet Fort Carson growth-related needs. PPACG will submit these requests to OEA for federal funding consideration.

Potential stimulus funding was also discussed. It was noted that, while some funding may be available, such as for Title 1 programs, details are not yet determined. It was also noted that the strings attached and reporting requirements for stimulus funding may make it challenging for districts and others to obtain funding.

Sen. Bennet's legislation, S.581 – the Military Family Nutrition Protection Act of 2009 – was reviewed. This bill would exclude soldier combat pay from being considered when determining eligibility for nutrition programs, including school meal programs. Ms. Hatten distributed copies of the bill to those interested.

### **Other Business**

Attendees discussed the upcoming Mountain Post Welcome. BBC will conduct surveys to obtain more detailed demographic information, as well as information regarding whether family members will accompany the soldiers to the region. How to distribute school district information to incoming soldiers and families was also discussed.

Ms. Hatten also requested that districts that are conducting "intent to return" surveys provide the results to PPACG to assist in the Phase 2 planning process.

The next partnership group meeting was scheduled for May 14 at 3:30pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.