


[Print Page](#)

Kaneland on verge of fee fix

By KARTIKAY MEHROTRA - kmehrotra@kcchronicle.com

 [Comments \(No comments posted.\)](#)

MAPLE PARK – Kaneland school officials are one municipality short of completing a districtwide intergovernmental impact fee agreement among their seven growing communities.

Sugar Grove already has included portions of the agreement into a revised annexation agreement with Settlers Ridge developers and could approve the agreement as soon as Tuesday. However, Sugar Grove was the least of the district's worries when they began composing the agreement more than six months ago.

"Maple Park was first [to approve], they had a paid consultant, and he worked very well with us," Kaneland Superintendent Charles McCormick said. "We had had a situation where the fees they had adopted strayed from what was the gentleman's agreement. This agreement is solid, and they have agreed."

In June 2006, Maple Park president Ross Dueringer was frustrated with Kaneland's attempt to include a \$5,000-a-home fee in both subdivisions, which were approved for more than 2,000 homes.

Since then, lines of communication have opened, and the sides have compromised on the new subdivisions and all future projects with the approval of the agreement, school board President Lisa Wiet said.

"We wouldn't have OK'd it if it wasn't all right; it was pretty cut and dried," Dueringer said. "I'd say our relationship is about 200 percent better; we're getting along good."

In addition to Kaneland's expected fees, Dueringer previously had said that no agreement would be made before district officials agreed to build an elementary school in Maple Park. Although the district has made no such promise, Dueringer said he was content with the agreement. He said that until Maple Park builds sewer and sanitation infrastructure for new homes, building a new school was moot.

Since Maple Park agreed to the fee schedule, Cortland, Virgil, Kaneville and Montgomery also have approved it.

The policy will increase the fees that developers and new residents pay to compensate for the new students they place in the already-overcrowded district. The district's plan is gradually to increase fees until 2010.

Under the current system, a \$350,000 four-bedroom home pays a \$4,991 impact fee throughout the district. Under the tentative agreement, the fee would be \$3,400 for all new homes built in 2007, \$3,886 in 2008, and \$4,857 in 2010.

COMMENTS

The following are comments from the readers. In no way do they represent the view of NWHerald.com or Shaw Newspapers.

[\[x\] Close Window](#)

Copyright © 2007 NorthWest Herald. All rights reserved.