

Facility Committee

3-4-15

Notes

Attendance: Ron Saari, Jamie Pierce, Sharon Adkins, Larry Kalina, Bill Uppena, Joe O’connell, Ted Bode, Ron Blum, Mark Siegert, Keith Oyen, Brad Bierman, Bill Whitaker

1. Review updated architect drawing and input from sound experts....

- The acoustical shell of the room (infrastructure) is the most important piece.
- The “guts” need to be right – ceiling and walls

The updated drawing includes the centralized offices in front of the cafeteria instead of where we had them previously. It also incorporated Aaron and Roxanne’s input regarding the fine arts area. The committee believed that this option best meets the needs we have and makes the most sense. It truly provides a single point entry into the school for security and efficiency.

2. Conversation regarding..... Several options vs. one final best option?

- Priority list items -fire alarms -intercom system -Safety
- On top of the \$400,000 donation for the community fine arts area, the District would be investing \$550,000 into that area. This area needs window and additional updating anyway. Moving our Band, Choir, and Art to this area will eliminate scheduling issues in the gym and allows us to qualify for the PEP grant.
- Efficiencies due to the way the school was designed 60 years ago
- This one option completely improves the school and makes a lot more sense by allowing us to have additional classroom space (without adding monumental space to the envelope) and the location is more logical.
- Everyone wins.....we eliminate scheduling problem in the gym.

The committee discussed the advantages of going with one final best option instead of presenting a series of options. The committee expressed how it is charged with researching and recommending to the Board a best recommendation. Providing a series of options places an assumed premise that whatever the higher priced options were possibly a lower priority. Many people would automatically chose the lowest cost option, even if it really didn’t meet the needs we have. The committee unanimously agreed to decide on one best option for the District.

3. Conversation regarding..... What number do we believe the community will accept and that will still meet the needs of the school?

- a.) Jamie’s Priority List = \$550,000
- b.) Brad’s Costing from last month = \$1.7 M
- c.) Centralized Offices = \$250,000
- d.) Auditorium equipment \$200,000

 Total \$2.3 M (plus Mr. Livens’ gift of \$400,000)

- Do we go back into the priority list and start to cut? Do we ignore the benefit from the centralized offices and cut them or place them in the other location? Do we not do the community fine arts area and just remodel that area? If we were to go to a bare bones project, we are still looking at around \$1.3 M in expense to address the other needs.

The committee discussed the idea of a \$2.3 M price tag vs. a \$1.9 M amount, or a \$1.3 M number. Cutting parts from this plan was something talked about and decided against. We don’t want to be “penny wise and pound foolish.” Also, we will only get one shot at passing something, we want to do the project right, instead of a piece meal approach. Discussion included the fact that the tax impact

between these numbers is not great. No matter what, next year's taxes are going to increase by approximately \$98 on a \$100,000 home because the District will need to levy \$175,000 for our current debt. The District decided not to levy at all for this debt this past year, because our state aid decreased so significantly our school district levy was increasing from 11.83 mills to 12.64 mills, and instead of levying the \$175,000 for the building debt, it took that amount from its Fund 39 fund balance to save tax payers additional costs. On top of this \$98 on a \$100,000 home that we will need to levy no matter what, a \$1.9 M debt would increase that person's taxes by \$7. The committee unanimously felt that the \$2.3 M amount was appropriate based on the logic and rationale the committee has for each piece of that project.

4. Auditorium Equipment:

- Sound System \$100,000 - \$250,000
- Light Systems \$100,000 - \$250,000
- Curtains \$50,000 or use our current

Total between \$200,000 - \$550,000

These numbers were provided to us from a meeting last week that included our architect, Main Stage, and Pro Audio. The representatives said that we could go as low as \$100,000 each for sound and light. The low end numbers are figured into Jamie's costs above. If we want to go more on the higher end of this equipment, then that may be something we would want to fundraise for. As noted in item #1 above, the most important part of the auditorium is the shell or infrastructure. Without that done properly, no high end sound system will produce quality sound. Down the road, we can always decide to upgrade our sound and light systems if we want.

5. Why???

- The donation of \$400,000 for a fine arts area.
- Safety through a centralized entrance and improved flow of students. It also creates a single entry to the commons and fine arts area.
- Eliminates all other items in front of the school – windows
- We are not maxing ourselves out for classroom space – provides increased flexibility
- All maintenance items on Jamie's list get done
- Centralized office improves work efficiency for student achievement and parent satisfaction

We discussed the rationale listed above for this project.

6. Can each of us support this direction? (group accountability)

The committee did unanimously support the direction of each of the above items #2 and #3. The committee also requested that we put together a series of talking points which support the rationale for this project.

7. Timeline...Mr. Livens' gift to be placed in a Trust....

8. Next meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm in the cafeteria on Wednesday, April 1.