



**2016 School Study Committee
Meeting Minutes December
15, 2016
5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Harvey Education Center, Board Room**

Present: Tim Ayres, Ted Berryhill, Brian Bushey, Erik Cargill, Jessica Curtis, Lance Delbridge, Jon Droscha, Steve Duane, Liz Evans, Shelly Fanson, Josh Galloway, Matt Hall, Amy McVaugh, Patrick Meyers, Christopher Mumby, Mitch Perrault, Mike Prelesnik, Sandy Smalley, Joe Starch, Mike Thompson, Sally Trout, Chris Waltz, Russ Whipple, Tim Williams, Chris Wright

Absent: Susie Disselkoen, Laura Fenger, Emily Kress, Kerry Minshall, Jerry Schaffer

Also Present: Superintendent Drzewicki, Mike Kenney, Ted Moore, and Steve Merriman

Public Comment

No comment from the public.

Approval of Minutes

Change to last page to remove language: the committee previously agreed to moving 5th to MMS.
All agreed to approve the meeting minutes with the change as noted.

Request/Clarification Forms

No comments or questions asked.

Cost Estimates for Configurations

Mike Kenney provided rough, high level cost planning estimates for options #2, #3, #4, #9, #10, #11 considered by the committee. The total costs ranged from \$79 to \$88 million.

The committee discussed at a high level the estimated costs for the options presented and recognized that more decisions will need to be made to narrow down the final scope of any proposal.

The committee discussed that, based on research, optimal number of students in an elementary building is approximately 350 students. Some discussion that there would need to be 2 grades moved out of each current elementary building, rather than 1 grade moved, if we want to have the total number of students be closer to 350 per building.

Discussions started about the possibility of having K-5 back at HEC. Having four K-5 elementary schools would create challenges to staffing and operations. For example, balanced class size and need to have additional staffing. From an operational standpoint, in the Superintendent's opinion, having four K-5 buildings is not preferred. From an operational standpoint having 4th and 5th graders together helps to be more efficient with resources.

The committee discussed if it was critical to have the elementary building at or around 350 total students. Discussion also included what the community would like to have based upon the post bond election survey. Some members felt the community would like to have more use at HEC. Other members felt that the community didn't realize that HEC was currently being utilized for early education.

A committee member shared a concern of focusing too much on the costs and not enough on the best options for the students. A committee member commented that the cost estimates that we have looked at thus far are high estimates, and all are in the same relative range. The member proposed having the committee focus on one area, for example, overcrowding, and look at the options that could address this. Another member brought up that the schools need attention at a district level as the buildings need improvements now. A brief discussion on what could be included in a community survey occurred with some wanting to make sure detailed options are included in the survey along with the estimated costs. Chairperson reminded the group that in a previous meeting the group discussed possibly having a company involved to help the committee with developing a survey. Another member felt that a survey would be seeking input from the community of what options they would want rather than reproduce the options that we have debated in our committee meetings. On the survey, questions asked could be to learn opinions about various items such as moving 5th graders to middle school, costs, and priorities.

Discussion continued about the pros and cons of bringing a smaller scope and cost estimate to the community and asking for more funds in the future years compared to bringing a larger scope at one time (with larger estimated costs). Some members felt the community would support multiple bond proposals while others felt the community would prefer one larger scope and costs.

A member commented that they do not agree that all items at the high school and middle school are needed. Although, maybe needed at some point but not needed today. The member felt we have not focused on the minimalists options yet and feel looking more at HEC should be further considered for more utilization. Another member asked why we have not discussed what we are or are not doing with HEC. The member felt the committee had not fully discussed what are or

are not viable options at HEC. Prior bond committee felt that doing more at HEC was adding band aids at the school and therefore not preferred.

In the future, the committee may plan to discuss what space is available to use in HEC based upon the existing programs currently housed in HEC.

Public Comment

Michael Kelly spoke and was generally complimentary as to the current meeting. Some opinions were expressed as to whether the community would or would not support the options and costs being discussed. Information was provided as to the approach taken by another school district and the committee was encouraged to reach out to multiple other communities for ideas.

Next Meeting Dates

- Thursday, January 5, 2017
- Thursday, January, 19, 2017
- Tuesday, January 31, 2017