



# 2016 School Study Committee

**Meeting Minutes  
October 13, 2016  
5:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
Harvey Education Center, Board Room**

**Present:**

Tim Ayers, Ted Berryhill, , Jessica Curtis, Lance Delbridge, Steve Duane, Liz Evans, Shelly Fanson, Matt Hall, Amy McVaugh, Patrick Meyers, Kerry Minshall, Christopher Mumby, Mitch Perrault, Mike Prelesnik, Sandy Smalley, Joe Strach, Mike Thompson, Sally Trout, Chris Waltz, Russ Whipple, Tim Williams

**Absent:**

Brian Bushey, Erik Cargill, Susie Disselkoen, Jon Droscha, Laura Fenger, Josh Galloway, Emily Kress, Jerry Schaffer, Chris Wright

**Also present:**

Superintendent Ron Drzewicki, Mike Kenney, Steve Merriman and Ted Moore

**Public Comment:**

No comments from the public.

**Request/Clarification Forms:**

Tim Williams asked if item #46 would be addressed in the near future. Chris indicated Ron would work on this.

**Post Bond Follow-up Survey – Steve Duane:**

Steve provided an overview of the data from the post bond survey.

Steele Street did not get mentioned a lot in the post bond survey and did not get a lot of support for the bond proposal. There was overwhelming support to try another bond proposal.

Several blanks for top choice selections or some that did not rank the top 4. Taking those out of the analysis does change the numbers but not the rating order. The options for survey respondents to select were: expand Elementary K-5, 5<sup>th</sup> to MMS, New 4/5 building, Redo Cedar were the 4 options.

No voters – none of the 4 choices were overly favorable to the no voters.  
Combined no and yes voters - one overall favorable was to reopen Cedar.  
A lot felt Cedar was underutilized.

Analysis of survey comments: Steve's analysis looked at comments for positive and negative words. Words are given a score based on how positive or how negative a word is. Average no voter comments were less than neutral. Average yes voter comments were more neutral. The no voter comments indicate a stronger emotional response for why they voted no. Suspect there will need to be more trust in the average no voter for any new bond proposals rather than only an educational piece needed. Examples of words from the no voters include: unknown and unnecessary, arrogant, and stupid. (Frequency was at most 9 times a word was made in any comment). Russ Whipple asked for the standard deviation for the comments so that we could better target communication to the community on any future plans.

Yes voters 43% more likely to receive information from schools. Word of mouth was the next common source of information and twice as likely to have come from another yes voter. Yes voters received information from 4 or more information sources. No voters were 58% more likely to only get communication through news media as their only source of information. No voters were more than 6 times as likely to cite the MasonBond.info as their source of information. MasonBond.info shows a substantial impact on the no voters. No voters primarily used 2 information sources. Russ Whipple asked for the no and yes information source graphs to be blended to see which sources were utilized by many compared to ones not as utilized.

General Demographics:

Yes voters primarily former or current parent/grandparent. No voters primarily community member then former or current parent/grandparent.

### **Configuration Options:**

Ron discussed a DRAFT cost estimate of \$13.5 million for a 12 regular classroom sections and 3 special education classroom sections added to HEC. However, this draft estimate does not include any improvements to the existing HEC. The draft cost estimates could be for 15 sections at any location though the group previously discussed HEC. It is good to have 1,100 square feet for lower elementary classrooms and 950-1,100 square feet for upper elementary classrooms.

The committee discussed configuration options in small groups to try to narrow it down to the top 1-3.

Configuration options discussed:

1. No grade configuration changes at any of the existing buildings. Remodel all existing buildings.
2. Move all kindergartners to HEC and administration stays at HEC.
3. Move all 5<sup>th</sup> graders to Mason Middle School.
4. Move kindergartners and 1<sup>st</sup> graders to HEC.
5. Build a new 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade building.
6. Repurpose HEC to a K-5 building.
7. Move all kindergartners to HEC and move administration to another location.
8. Consolidate upper grades which configuration changes at middle and high schools.
9. HEC, Alaiedon, and North Aurelius K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade buildings and HEC as early learning and Steele as a 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade building.

Additional options brought up from the group:

- North Aurelius larger, HEC not reconfigured, alternative to option 1
- Moving 4/5 to HEC

The small groups reported out to the entire committee. Additional general discussions about the various options included: the middle school and high school also have needs that need to be addressed. As an entire group options 5,6,7, 8 were eliminated. It is good to have 12 to 15 acres for an elementary building. It would be very tight for adding 2 grades to HEC based on the acreage that the district owns.

The committee was asked to select their top 3 choices by putting stickers on a board that had options 1,2,3,4,and 9.

Option 1 - No configuration changes to the buildings

Option 9 - Buildings with K-3 and one building 4-5

Option 3 - Move all 5<sup>th</sup> graders to the middle school.

Option 1: 22 votes

Option 2: 2 votes

Option 3: 11 votes

Option 4: 5 votes

Option 9: 13 votes

### **Enrollment:**

Ron reported on the 2016-17 fall student count data. Elementary grades are up 13 students, middle school is up 14 students and the high school is down 30 students which was expected due to a senior class (261) last year. The district turned away 50 to 75 school of choice students for

grades that were over-crowded. Once a student is enrolled as school of choice the student is allowed to stay with Mason schools until they graduate. HEC enrollment at the highest count for any given time in the day is 222 children. The highest count is typically on Wednesday from 7:00 – 9:00, due to late start Wednesdays.

Next meeting October 25th.