

Westside Community Schools
Facilities Task Force Committee Meeting
September 23, 2014 ~ 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Dr. Blane McCann, Superintendent, welcomes the members of the task force, which includes WCS staff members, and volunteer members of the community. Dr. McCann went over a few key points from the Steering Committee Meeting that was held earlier that morning. Some of the items discussed were; the external school tours, the middle school grade configuration, and the upcoming town hall meeting, on Thursday, October 2, 2014.

Dr. McCann went on to discuss the next task, and potential risk of the choice between keeping the current middle school configuration of grades 7-8, or moving to grades 6-7-8 middle school. With one of the objectives being, minimizing overcrowding at the middle school, some of the questions to consider were:

- Which choice will maximize the middle school philosophy?
- Which choice will maximize a positive transition from elementary school, and then in turn, maximize academic rigor in middle school?
- Which choice is the most cost effective?
- Which choice will maximize the district's space?

Dr. McCann then introduced Rob Zimmerman, from Project Advocates. Rob went over some of the key positive and negative items from the internal building tours. He chose to highlight items from Oakdale Elementary, and Westside Middle School.

Oakdale, Positive:

- The "ball seats" in some of the classrooms were innovative, and the students seem to enjoy them.
- The outdoor classrooms were also a high point

Oakdale, Negative:

- Windows are old, cracking caulk, and being covered by paper for security
- Humidity issues throughout the building are causing sagging and staining of ceiling tiles
- An electrical panel on the wall leading a restroom that is used by students
- The boiler shows signs of rust on the boiler, and the boiler switch.
- The hardened shelter used for students is not ideal.

WMS, Positive:

- The Auditorium is fantastic
- The LifeLab is a great leaning space, but might consider walls between the two classes due to noise during lecturing
- The "Discovery" labs show potential as usable classroom space if changed and/or improved

WMS, Negative:

- No air conditioning in the gyms
- No visual to the front door from the Principal's office, not ideal for security
- The fire panel in the Library is not an ideal location in a building that size

- The railings on the staircase going down to the first floor by the portables, not up to code
- The overall security to/from/in the portables is an issue
- While the cafeteria is an OK and functional space, one of the corners is sinking, and the students wait in long lines that stretch back into the common area, that in turn, disrupt classes near that area

Rob's PowerPoint was a break down of DLR's document, highlighting and prioritizing the most important projects, as well as giving a foreseeable and acceptable time frame. Time frames consisted of 1 year to build an elementary school, and 2 years to build a middle school. The time frame could increase if the decision was to demo a building, and re-build from the ground up.

There was a brief discussion on implementing a Pre-K program, and what that would do to the existing space, and would it affect going forward with a 6-7-8 middle school configuration.

Dr. McCann mentioned the date of the town hall meeting, and again encouraged people from the task force to attend to help answer questions from the community.

When Rob was finished, Bob Zagozda asked that the Small Group Committees take some time to discuss and take notes on question numbers two and five on the agenda, and then hand the notes to the note taker. The Small Group Committees were free to go when their notes were handed in.

The Small Group Committee notes are not included in this document, but can be found attached to, the original notes from the meeting, the meeting's agenda and the list of the Facilities Task Force Committee Members. All of these documents and notes will be a folder in the Superintendent's Office.

Town Hall Meeting
Tuesday, October 2, 2014
Westside High School, Room 220
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Next Facilities Task Force Meeting
Tuesday, October 7, 2014
ABC
4:00-6:00 p.m.