

Board of Education Long Range Facilities Planning Committee
Minutes
September 13, 2016

Present for the meeting were Mr. Darin Preis, Ms. Jan Mees, Mr. Jonathan Sessions, Ms. Linda Quinley and Dr. Peter Stiepleman. Other members of administration joined the meeting as well. Mr. Preis called the meeting to order.

The committee reviewed a plan for additions to elementary schools as authorized as a part of the April 2016 election. Funds will become available for design and construction during spring 2018 which would allow for opening of additions in the fall of 2020. The committee reviewed capacity studies and trailer listings to guide consideration. After a long discussion Lee, Rock Bridge and Battle Elementary Schools were rising to the top of consideration.

A decision of which buildings should be made by May 2017 in order to allow design work and other planning. Consideration must be given to storm shelter requirements, whether or not students are displaced during construction, cost and space needs for today's students. More work will be this to bring a recommendation to the Board regarding priority.

Upon the opening of the east elementary school, Cedar Ridge will no longer serve as an elementary school. The administration proposed that Cedar Ridge be considered as a possible additional early childhood center. Doing so would consolidate other buildings and continue to model PreK and ECSE joint programming. Mr. Preis expressed concern over separating PreK from neighborhood schools and requested that be considered when making final recommendations.

Mr. Chris Davis of PWA and Ms. Heather McArthur reviewed recently completed capacity studies with the committee. The capacity of CPS buildings had not been evaluated in over 30 years. After review, Dr. Stiepleman recommended convening a boundary committee to review the 2017-18 boundaries for middle schools, specifically to focus on alleviating overcrowding at Gentry Middle School.

Dr. Stiepleman led a conversation regarding the potential of transitioning Jefferson Middle School to a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) school upon completion of a new middle school. The committee asked to continue that conversation investigating community interest and costs of renovation and operations.

The committee discussed recently issued energy project/efficiency RFPs. While varied in response, there was not one that was currently affordable and brought forward. Ms. Quinley and Dr. Stiepleman proposed pursuing solar efforts if the right project to test affordability, payback and gains can be determined and authorized in the budget process. The committee agreed to continuing investigation in this area. The next meeting of the committee will be set for January based on calendar availability.

Mr. Sessions made a motion to adjourn and Ms. Mees seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:
Linda D. Quinley, CFO