

## Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC)

### Minutes

February 22, 2021

Zoom Virtual Meeting - (4:30 pm – 6:00 pm)

#### **Members in Attendance:**

Mike Behary	Michelle Johnson	Trina Scott	Scott Maben
David Brandi	Kimberly Judd	Heather Somers	Jeff Voeller
Michael Brewer	Michael Lindquist	Lindsey Swingrover	Pam Westberg
Constance Bond	Sarah McCracken	Donald Walters	<b>Guest:</b>
Carrie Frank	Marie Nail	Brian Waddell	Jennifer Brumley
Shane Grady	Jay Prickett	<b>School Board Liaison:</b>	Jerry Anderson
Christina Harris	Jeneane Prince	Rebecca Smith	
Caleb Hurley	Stephanie Quagliana	<b>District Staff Liaison:</b>	
Jodi Johnson	Matthew Rakes	Steve Cook	

**Members not able to attend:** Teresa Kaiser, Nancy Hart and Mary Wolfinger.

**Call the Meeting to Order:** Chair, Don Walters opened the meeting at 4:32 pm.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Motion by Jay Prickett to approve the agenda, second by Michelle Johnson. Members voted 20-0 and unanimously approved the agenda.

**Approval of January 25, 2021 Minutes:** Motion by Shane Grady to approve the January 25, 2021 minutes, second by Jay Prickett. Members voted 20-0 and unanimously approved the January 25, 2021 minutes.

**The following members arrived at 4:50 pm:** Caleb Hurley, Constance Bond and Matthew Rakes.

#### **eSchool Sub-Committee Update: Mike Lindquist**

The Board of Trustees will look at the eSchool proposal next Monday. The K-12 Magnet School will focus on K-12 Mastery Based Education designed to prepare students for their future, using the Portrait of a Graduate as a guiding document. Its students will engage in a rigorous, well-rounded education with an inquiry-based instructional approach. They are planning for approximately 400 students and need a facility around 12-13 thousand square feet.

#### **Board Report: Trustee, Rebecca Smith**

- The Superintendent search is under way with focus groups sharing input on the desired characteristics of the next superintendent. Be sure to take the survey and share the survey with your friends, co-workers and neighbors.
- The Board selected Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates (HYA) to assist them in the task of selecting superintendent candidates for the Board to interview.
- Please visit our [Superintendent Search page](#) for more information on this process and timeline.
- March 8<sup>th</sup>, is the deadline for applications. (Early April semi-finalist interviews and then mid-April finalist interviews.)

#### **Superintendent Report: Steve Cook**

- Eight percent of our student population has dis-enrolled in our School District due to the pandemic. It is projected that over 700 students may return to their home schools next year.
- Elementary schools are calling families to see if their student is returning next year.

- Our demographics are changing due to the pandemic. People are working from home and families are moving into our area, instead of just retirees. We have an enrollment and staffing predicament that we are trying to solve right now for the fall.
- Apartment complexes do not have more student population; home developments produce more students.
- In March the District will start looking at projected enrollment numbers for the next school years staffing.
- Steve asked that the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) stay fully engaged in the enrollment discussions.
- Adjusted neighborhood boundaries are a challenge, but the real challenge is the change in policy that changed the promise; you can always attend your home school. No more once in always in. (Students can be moved during the school year.)

***Facilities and Planning: Jeff Voeller***

- In the state of Idaho, there are two ways school districts can levy funds specifically for construction projects: School Plant Facility Levy, (SPFL) and a Bond. Additionally, a Maintenance and Operation Levy is a third option for Deferred Maintenance Items.
- Some states provide a portion of the funds required for construction and maintenance. Idaho provides less than one percent of the District's operating budget for maintenance and nothing for construction costs. Therefore, the District relies solely on the support of local taxpayers for construction projects and maintenance of building
- SPFL is a property tax levy where voters approve to allow the District to levy a set amount each year, for up to 10 years. Funds are deposited directly to a capital projects fund each year in order to cover construction costs.
- A Bond is a property tax levy where voters approve to allow the district to borrow a set total of funds. The funds are usually received in a lump sum within a few months after the bond election. Receiving the funds in a lump sum allows the District to begin construction projects immediately.
- The two-year Maintenance & Operations levy supports a wide variety of fundamental programs and services. About 22 percent of the District's total funds to educate students comes from the local levy.
- The windstorm damage cost will be covered by mostly insurance, but a good portion, of the cost, the District will need to cover. (Eleven schools received wind damage.)
- The District needs to address the existing backlog of deferred maintenance projects. It also needs to employ a systematic and sustainable process for paying for building maintenance and asset replacement needs in the future. It is critical that the District provide for a proactive planning approach and discontinue the reactive "fix it when it breaks" approach. This will reduce total deferred maintenance costs over time, and will ensure our students and employees are in facilities that are functional, efficient, safe and optimal for learning.
- LRPC needs to start thinking about how will we move forward with a Deferred Maintenance funding plan and when is the right time to include this need in the recommendation to the Board.

***Long Range Facilities Plan: Scott Maben***

- Be sure to review the Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) Conclusions and Recommendations on page 88-91.
- Scott shared the Board approved LRFP recommendations:
  - Phase 1: In this first phase of the 10-year plan, the District should focus on addressing the need for a new middle school and a new elementary school; addressing critical deferred maintenance needs; and providing important school security upgrades.

- Phase 1 (alternative option): In light of COVID-induced economic uncertainty and potential challenge of establishing funding approval for two school construction projects in the near term, the Committee recommends this alternative option for Phase 1:
  - The District could build one school to serve students in K-8. This would simultaneously provide needed capacity at both the elementary and middle school levels. A new school with a capacity of up to 800 students could provide space for 400 elementary students and 400 middle school students. The school could remain in this configuration indefinitely, or possibly be converted to strictly middle school use in future years after a new K-5 school can be opened elsewhere.
- Phase 2: In the second phase of the 10-year plan, the District should propose a SPFL to establish a multi-year source of funding for deferred maintenance and safety projects.
- LRFP Sub-Committee will meet mid-March and mid-April to work on recommendations and bring something back to the LRPC in May. The following volunteered to be on the LRFP Sub-Committee:
  - Sarah McCracken
  - Kimberly Judd
  - Don Walters
  - Constance Bond
  - Lindsey Swingrover
  - David Brandi
  - Jeff Voeller
  - Scott Maben
- Consider adding eSchool and look at the impact that feeder schools have on the recommendation.

***Q & A:***

- The last LRPC meeting is on May 17<sup>th</sup>, and per the Bylaws, the final meeting shall include elections of the Vice-Chair. Start thinking about who you would like to elect and/or if you might be interested.
- The District is working on the high school graduation and schedules aligning and then the next steps will be for the school start times conversation to continue.

***The Next LRPC Meeting:***

- There is no March meeting. The next meeting will be April 12<sup>th</sup>, starting at 4:30 pm.

***Adjourned:*** Chair, Don Walters adjourned the meeting at 5:25 pm.

Submitted by  
Pam Westberg