

Colonial School District
District Operations
Facilities Management/Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes
2/4/2016 – 7:30 AM

Board Committee Liaison and School Board Member Alan Tabachnick called the meeting to order at 7:30 AM.

Other Committee Members Present: Bernie Brady

Other Board Members Present: Sue Moore, Leslie Finegold, Cathy Peduzzi, Felix Raimondo

Also Attending: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Superintendent; Terry R. Yemm, Director of Operations; Trevor Jackson, Business Manager; Andrew Boegly, Dave Sherman, Community Relations, Linda Doll, Community Resident

Public Comment on the Agenda: None

An update was provided on the status of the PW renovation. At the present time the project is still running smoothly and on schedule. The projected date for the contractor to turn the project over to the district is March 4, 2016. The quarry tile has been installed in the kitchen. The grid and hangers for the drop ceilings have been installed. A lot of the equipment has been delivered and is being installed.

A tentative schedule for the opening was presented to the committee. The cafeteria will open sometime during the week of March 7th. The Food Service Department will provide the meal for the senior luncheon to be held on March 12th. This will be the first large event provided in the new cafeteria. An administrative team from our school district toured the cafeteria and watched the scatter serve process at Souderton high school. Everyone that attended the tour was glad that they took the opportunity and indicated that they now have a better understanding of the scatter serve process. This will help as we move forward with the opening of our cafeteria.

An update was provided on the approval process for the Victory Field #2 and baseball complex. The engineers are working closely with the Whitemarsh Township engineer and finalizing the storm water management plans. Information was provided to the committee regarding preventive measures that were taken in hopes of avoiding sinkhole activity under the synthetic turf on the baseball complex or Victory Field # 2 in the future. An engineering company uses an electronic device to determine the rock formation underneath the field surface. Based upon this information they are able to determine certain areas that would be prime locations for sink holes in the future. There were no areas on either field that caused the engineer to be concerned about sinkholes. This is the same testing process that was used on Victory Field #1 and the Colonial Stadium 10 years ago in preparation of the synthetic turf installation on those fields.

Renderings and floor plans of proposed renovations at the Colonial Middle School were provided for committee review. Included were floor plans for a complete renovation of the front office and renderings of a new structure to highlight the front entrance of the building. The projects are still in the design phase. The committee provided consensus to move forward with developing the plans to the point where we can go out for bid. Updates will be provided at future meetings.

A chart that provided costs for electric rates for the next two years was provided for committee review. The Facilities Management Department locked into an agreement that guarantees the cost of our electric generation rates to August 30, 2018. The goal is to take advantage of the exceptionally low rates as a result of the low price of oil worldwide. The lower rates will provide savings of over \$100,000 for the generation of our electricity. This amount of money is exclusive of any energy savings the district can achieve.

An update was provided on the potential enrollment increases reported on at the last meeting. A report on possible increases in our enrollment from the Montgomery County Planning Commission was reviewed by the Board at the end of January. Based on information provided at this meeting the committee agreed to work with GKO Architects in performing a feasibility study to determine the best way to handle the proposed increase at each individual school. GKO will develop plans and provide details for the submittal of Part A of the PlanCon process for the schools that may require large scale renovation or additions.

Mr. Yemm provided a detailed explanation of how determinations are made regarding the selection of in-house staff or outside contractors to perform smaller size projects. A section of the school code that pertains to this topic was provided for review. Per code, the district is allowed to perform projects up to a value of \$10,500. Projects that are more costly than \$10,500 must be performed by outside contractors. The priority list for the 2015-2016 school year was provided along with the school code information. This list contained 35 projects. Mr. Yemm provided details on 4 of the 35 projects. Of the 4 projects, two were handled completely by in-house staff and the other two were handled jointly by in-house staff and an outside contractor.

Additional Public Comment on the Agenda: None.

There being no further business before the committee, Mr. Tabachnick adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:27 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry R. Yemm
Director of Operations