

Colonial School District
District Operations
Facilities Management/Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes
11/12/2015 – 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: Kathy Oxberry, Bernie Brady

Other Board Members Present: Sue Moore, Beth Suchsland, Leslie Finegold, Christine Frangiosa, Heather Palmer, Mel Brodsky

Also Attending: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Superintendent; Terry R. Yemm, Director of Operations; Trevor Jackson, Business Manager; 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 running smoothly and on schedule. The steel frame structure is in place in the welding is completed. The roof deck is on and the roofers are beginning to prepare for the installation of the roof membrane. Within the next two weeks the doors and windows will be installed. Once the windows and doors are installed the building will be weather tight. This is a critical step in the process as the cold air is affecting the temperature in the corridors. Until the building is weather tight space heaters have been installed to help maintain temperatures in the corridors. Substantial progress has been made on the construction of the interior offices. It is possible that these offices may be able to be occupied prior to the opening of the new cafeteria.

The committee discussed potential options for the renovation of the west gymnasium. Based upon concerns with the existing ceiling height in the locker rooms, a recommendation has been made to demolish the existing structure. Several options will be explored for the construction of a new gymnasium to be constructed in the same area that the existing west gym is located. As requested several options will be presented to the committee for review at a future meeting.

An update was provided on the status of the approval process for the synthetic turf project. Residents whose properties run parallel with the south side of the Victory Fields complex having contacted and provided with information regarding the district's plan to install trees on their properties to act as a visual buffer for the Victory Fields lights. Fifteen residents were contacted and five residents have expressed a desire to have trees planted at their property line. Each resident will now be required to sign a license agreement that will protect the homeowner as well as a school district if problems occur when the trees are planted. One of the components of the license agreement is a planting

date acknowledgement. Acknowledgement of the date that the trees will be planted is important as it starts a one year time period school during which the school district is required to maintain the trees. After one year the responsibility for maintenance of the trees is passed on to the homeowner. If the weather cooperates the trees will be planted in the next 30 days. If not, the trees will be planted in the spring.

An update was provided on the proposed upgrades to the public address system at the Colonial Stadium. The district is exploring ways to improve the quality of the system while lowering the volume necessary to achieve that quality. Metropolitan Acoustics performed a preliminary site investigation of the existing public address system at the stadium. Based upon their preliminary investigation they are confident that they can design a system that will comply with the same requirements that the school district will use for the public address system that will be installed in the baseball complex next year. While there are no requirements that govern the use of the public address system at the Colonial Stadium the school district is desirous of moving forward with improvements to that system in an effort to be good neighbors to the residents in the surrounding neighborhoods.

The Facilities Management Department is developing a plan to upgrade the lighting in the auditorium of the Colonial Middle School. The existing lighting units were installed when the school was built in 1968. Consequently there is limited opportunity to provide the lighting scenes that are desired for plays, concerts, recitals, etc. In addition, the existing lights consume substantially more energy than what would be required with modern fixtures. The goal is to have this work completed for the spring play in 2016. This project is identified in the five-year capital plan. At the same time an analysis will be performed on the benefits that would be achieved by replacing the existing hard plastic house seats with new fabric seats. The quality of the existing sound system would be substantially improved with the installation of fabric seats. Information on replacing the seats and preliminary budget numbers will be provided to the committee at a future meeting.

Additional Public Comment on the Agenda: None.

There being no further business before the committee, Mr. Tabachnick adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry R. Yemm
Director of Operations