

Colonial School District
District Operations
Facilities Management/Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes
3/2/17 – 6:00 PM

Board Committee Chair and School Board Member Mr. Alan Tabachnick called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Other Committee Members Present: Kathleen Oxberry, Bernie Brady, Felix Raimondo

Other Board Members Present: Sue Moore, Beth Suchsland, Leslie Feingold, Cathy Peduzzi, Mel Brodsky

Also Attending: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Superintendent; Terry R. Yemm, Director of Operations; Joseph Lally, Director of Facilities; Trevor Jackson; Business Administrator, Dave Sherman, Community Relations; Tim McDonald, District Safety Officer, Ms. Linda Doll; Community Resident, Ms. Dresnin, Community Resident; Brian Meyers, MYCO Mechanical; Brian Register, Johnson Controls; Christopher Dale, Johnson Controls; Mary Brehm, Johnson Controls

The status of the PWHS renovation project was provided to the committee by Mr. Lally and Mr. Yemm. Up to date information was provided about phase 5. Plans to start the renovation of the front end of the building ahead of the original schedule was shared with the committee. The initial plans were to start the renovation in June or July. The front end renovation will now start on April 10 during the spring break. The committee members asked several questions about the method that will be used for communicating this change to the students and parents. Mr. Sherman will work directly with the high school administrative team in developing a communication plan for students and staff so that everyone is aware of this change.

With the approval of the waiver of land development for the west gymnasium the architects and engineers have now moved forward with developing plans for the structure. An initial set of plans will be sent out for pricing next week. The initial pricing schedule should be available to the district on or about March 17th. The district will then work with the existing contractors to obtain pricing with the ultimate goal of building the west gym as a change order to the existing project rather than going out for public bid. The district feels that there are many benefits to moving forward with a change order. There is an initial savings as the contractors are already on site. Therefore, there should be no charge for staging the site, bringing in trailers or fencing as that is already completed and was paid for with the existing project. Of greater importance than the financial savings is the safety of the students and staff. The district has done very well with managing the safety of students, staff and visitors on campus with the amount of contractors that have been on site since the beginning of the project. If the west gym addition were put out for public bid there is a strong possibility there would be additional contractors on site increasing the chances for an accident or unsafe conditions.

Mr. Yemm also informed the committee that there is a request to reconsider a portion of work that was initially bid out as an alternate to the main contract. This work is the installation of a ramp that would safely allow the movement of musical instruments in

and out of the music rooms to the rear parking lot. Currently the instruments have to be taken down several steps, and then maneuvered up and down ramps to get to the rear parking lot. Some of the musical instruments are rather heavy and large making them difficult to maneuver. The information will be provided to the committee at a later date..

The committee reviewed a PowerPoint presentation detailing the costs for the 4 - classroom additions at Plymouth (PE) and Ridge Park (RP) Elementary Schools and the air conditioning projects at PE, RP and Whitemarsh Elementary (WE) Schools. The initial scope of work for these projects was estimated to cost approximately \$9,800,000. That was based on the construction costs for 4-classrooms at Plymouth and 4-classrooms at Ridge Park and the installation of air conditioning only at PE, RP and WE. Mr. Yemm explained that there was a substantial amount of work added to all the projects based on requirements imposed during the approval process. Specifically, a requirement to install sprinkler systems in PE and RP added approximately \$3,000,000 to the project and upgrades to the mechanical equipment and the need to upgrade the electric mains at all three buildings added \$2,400,000 to the project. Based on the bids received the original scope of work would have come in at approximately \$10,200,000. It was also noted that many townships today use a third party inspection agency to review, approve and inspect projects. Consequently, due primarily to liability concerns, there's more likelihood that certain items, previously allowed to be grandfathered or not required, are now fully enforced with minimal or no room for negotiation. Based on the importance of the projects and the commitment to have this work completed by September the committee agreed to move forward with the projects. A recommendation for contract award was presented and reviewed by the committee. The committee agreed unanimously to the recommendation for contract awards. Accordingly, the Facilities Management Department will move forward with awarding contracts and expediting the construction process.

Information regarding the proposed resolution to the long lines at the deli station in the scatter serve section at the PW cafeteria was presented for committee review. Lori McCoy, Director of Food Services, has been working with the high school administrative team to develop a program for pre-ordering sandwiches. This plan was instituted in December for the staff at the high school. The plan allows the staff members to pre-order their meal by way of a google form. The Food Service department receives the request and makes the sandwiches to order in advance of lunchtime. This process has been very successful with the staff members and has dramatically reduced the length of time it takes to get a sandwich. With the help of the Principal Advisory Council of Students at PW Ms. McCoy will be instituting this same process with students starting next week. A report on the status of this process will be provided 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 7:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry R. Yemm
Director of Operations