

Colonial School District
District Operations
Facilities Management/Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes
9/10 /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

Also Attending: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Superintendent; Terry R. Yemm, Director of Operations; Trevor Jackson, Business Manager; Dave Sherman, Community Relations, Linda Doll, Community Resident; Mr. and Mrs. Linde, Community Residents; Scott Koval, Community Resident

Public Comment on the Agenda: None

A report was provided regarding the condition of the facilities for the opening of school on September 1st. From a facilities perspective all of the buildings were in great shape. The Maintenance, Turf Management, Custodial, Security and Food Service Departments worked very hard to make sure all was ready for the staff and students to return from summer break. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the excessive heat that was encountered for the first two weeks of school. The temperatures were in the nineties each day and did not go below 75 at night with excessive humidity for nine consecutive days. The extreme temperatures created a level of discomfort in our schools that do not have air conditioning. Interim measures were put in place in each of those buildings to help improve conditions. A list of short term and long-term solutions were provided for committee review and discussion.

An update was provided on the status of the approval process for the synthetic turf project. District Administration is meeting with administrators from Whitemarsh Township on Tuesday, September 15th to review the resolution for the synthetic turf project. The main topic of discussion is the 2010 resolution for the Victory Fields project. One of the requirements of the 2010 resolution was the planting of trees between the bike path and the berm to act as a buffer from the fields. At that time there were several hundred trees being planted in that area as part of a grant that the township had secured. A decision was made to put the tree planting on hold pending the outcome of the tree planting for the grant. A determination will be made on Tuesday about the ability to finalize that requirement. Another topic that will be discussed is the installation of a fence that will run parallel with Colonial Drive from the three way intersection to the bike path and then run along the top portion of the bike path for approximately 150 feet.

An update was provided to the committee on the status of the renovation at the Plymouth Whitemarsh High School. Mr. Yemm reported that there were no problems at all with the traffic flow at the high school on the first day of school. Mr. Yemm also reported that the decision had been made to install the carpet tiles in the classrooms that had exposed concrete floors as a result of the removal of the tile during the summertime. While it's extremely unusual to install the carpet at this point in the project there are several reasons why this approach will be successful. The flooring product that is being installed is carpet tiles which are extremely durable and very easy to maintain. When the rooms are renovated the carpet tiles will be completely covered with a protective barrier. If any of the tiles become damaged they will be very easy to replace. It was felt that the benefits associated with installing the carpet at this point in time far outweigh the negatives.

The committee went into executive session at 8:06 AM. The executive session concluded at 8:16 AM.

Updates were provided on the status of several smaller size projects. Construction of a computer lab on the first floor at the PE library was complete and ready for opening on September 1st. The renovation of room 104 to house the STEAM program was complete and ready for use on September 1st. The renovation of the library at CMS was a few weeks behind schedule and will be completed as soon as possible.

A plan for the installation of sound attenuating material in the front lobby of CES was provided for committee review. The plan was developed in 2006 as part of the major renovation at CES. Due to financial concerns at the time a decision was made to put the project on hold. The cost for the project in 2006 was approximately \$250,000. Members of the committee felt that this was rather expensive and asked the district administration to go back to review alternative measures for sound attenuation that may be less expensive.

A report on facilities use was provided for the committee. It was brought to the attention of the committee that the PW/CES campus is being considered as a site to hold the 2016 United States National Lacrosse Championships. This is a major event and the size of the event will require utilizing fields in neighboring facilities such as Germantown Academy. Due to the size of the event and the amount of planning involved the decision was made to create an ad hoc committee that will review the requirements for this event and make a recommendation to the committee. The committee agreed and gave approval to move forward with an ad hoc committee.

Additional Public Comment on the Agenda: None.

There being no further business before the committee, Mr. Tabachnick adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:01 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry R. Yemm
Director of Operations