

SIAC Meeting 9/26/16
Hoover Elementary School, Library
6:30 pm – 8:15 pm

The SIAC was a posted meeting.

Mr. Hatfield welcomed and thanked those in attendance. He provided a quick overview and format for introductions. A handout for input and processing was distributed.

Mr. Hatfield explained role and work of School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC).

Those in attendance introduced themselves, their role and connection to the District and their initial thoughts on the facilities plan. The majority of those in attendance shared that they were generally happy that the Board and Mr. Hatfield have been working on the facilities improvement process, but had many questions.

Mr. Hatfield discussed the District's strategic initiatives and direction as tied to improving and matching the excellent teaching and learning happening in the district. He also explained the history and journey of the 15-Year Master Facilities Plan. Lastly, enrollment history and projections were given.

Board President Mike Colbert addressed the meeting attendees. He explained the Board of Education has set priorities and out of those priorities, they have decided to make modifications to the previous plan design. That is what the architects are presenting this evening. Student safety and increased high level student learning are among the top priorities. The priorities are all intertwined. The new plan that the architects will present should bring the cost closer to the target.

President Colbert said he has a personal goal of taking the bond vote to the public in April 2017. He asked for other Board member comments. Board member Owen commented that this is the right work, the right direction and needs to happen.

Board member Yeggy thanked all those for coming to the meeting and knows that there are many questions about the facilities plan out in the community. She hopes that those community members at the meeting can make good decisions on good information.

Mr. Hatfield and Struxture reminded the SIAC that these designs, while the latest in a series, are still very conceptual. Struxture Architects and HBK Engineering gave updates on the facilities improvement plans. Mr. Jesse Lizer from Struxture began with the high school modifications. The current "H-Hallway" was revamped to include new mechanical upgrades to old (HVAC). T.E.A.L. (Technology Enhanced Active Learning) Classrooms / Studios were added. (These rooms are analogous to the District's "Redesigned Learning Environment" grant classrooms.) The updated plans show a design shift in that the new

addition adds middle school classrooms and shared HS/ MS spaces as opposed to adding a more expensive high school addition. The changed moved essentially reverses the positions of the new auditorium with the classroom wing in the front left of the building.

A new commons area and full service kitchen was also added in the new shared commons just off of where the middle school classrooms are located. The kitchen relocation will assist with current delivery issues for delivery and allow for a full service preparation format.

Other than location, nothing has changed as far as the size of the auditorium. There are still currently 700 seats. Our auditorium now seats approximately 310 - 325. An audience member raised the concern of having mixing the middle school and high school students. Mr. Bucknell addressed the question and said currently we have middle school students at the high school at the beginning of the day and end of the day. There have not been any problems. Mr. Hatfield pointed out an example at a.m. breakfast. The students mix very well together.

Mr. Copeland also commented and said he comes from a District where all ages were under one building. He sees it as a great opportunity and benefit for all of the students. Mr. Hatfield mentioned the work of the principals is focused on additional PK-12 curriculum articulation. A 6-12 design also supports future district initiatives in the areas of personalized, competency-based teaching and learning models for our students.

Mayor Laughlin questioned whether one entrance would be more celebrated than the other since there are two on the front of the building. He feels that one of them should stand out more and that should be the one near the commons.

Mr. Olson commented on the practice gym and that it would be good for the Board to address the question of converting it to a competition gym or possibly in the future. The gym, in the current plan, will not be converted but can be in the future. Mr. Hatfield and the Board members commented that the priority focus is on flexible learning spaces and what is best for the students learning environments. Additional changes to the high school included and new revamped administration wing. This would include both middle school and high school administration with a locked entry system. The high school facility changes would cost about 13.9 million which includes contingency and place holder for grounds. Ms. Fortune addressed the timeframe. The architects said the entire project would need to be phased in and, pending a bond vote outcome, it would take eighteen months to two years.

Mr. Hatfield shared a brief overview of the current school levy rate at 14.06 per assessed \$1000 of valuation. This is closer to the lower quartile when compared to GWAEA, regional school district. He shared that the Board is studying \$3.00 to \$3.50 cent bonding scenarios,

but reminded that the District is managing levies to time this process up with the est. \$1.09 / \$1.10 decrease once elementary geothermal is complete in 2018. (*He explained that this has the net effect of making a \$3.50 bond structure a \$2.40 increase.) Board members shared that this model, if selected, equates to about \$18-\$20 a month for a \$200,000 home.

Mr. Boelk, HBK Engineering, provided explanations and updates to the high school grounds – east side excavation improvements. The main access to the high would move east to line up with the new street to the Meadows sub division. It would be dual lanes in and out. There will be two different parking lots and drop off lanes. A fire lane will go along south side of the high school. The addition of water main along south side and fire hydrants will be completed. The connection of sidewalks that lead up to the existing track and baseball facilities will be done. A new sanitary sewer line running up to ace building will be put in. Sidewalks will be put in all along Main Street with connections. Some raised questions as to the justification or reasons for having to move the softball field. Mr. Boelk answered that all studies indicate that the Meadow Addition's Dawson Drive alignment is the driving force for the move in addition to the new constructions location on the east side. The new entrance would not be possible without moving it. The new field will have all the facilities the old one does and will increase safety and create a sports complex design and improve ticket taking processes and meet all ADA compliance concerns.

Board member Yeggy suggested putting together an informational pamphlet that will give the community facts and cost implications. Mr. Hatfield said he is working on multiple designs with the GWAEA at this time. Once framework designs and all finance decisions and impact complete, a comprehensive communications pamphlet will be finalized for communications.

Mr. Lizer and Mr. Boelk explained the facility and ground changes at the elementary. The elementary offices will be revamped. Classroom space will also be added. Drainage changes were discussed behind the elementary. 55 parking spaces will replace the middle school. This is where the student drop-off will also be located. Bus drop-off will be on Oliphant Street only (separate buses from students and cars is something the district is committed to doing) and the change will eliminate significant safety hazards.

The current design brings the total cost of the facility updates are 20.3 million with a 5 percent contingency. This includes the cost of the middle school demolition, furnishings and fixtures. Masonry will be on the exterior, all maintenance free materials.

Board President Colbert concluded that we are not building above our mean or building the Taj Mahal. We are doing this right and using materials that will give us longevity. The District has not done any major projects in 35 years. The only updates during that time are the high school gym addition and the geothermal. Board member Yeggy encouraged a ground-level group to consider getting organized as a communications group.

Structure also closed with an estimated timeline. If the bond were approved a design team will come in and work on exact needs of all the spaces. Then drawings will be sent out to bid. Start construction in spring of 2018, starting at the high school. The whole project could be completed by the fall of 2019. New designs will be shared in multiple settings and on the district website over the next months.

The next SIAC meeting is Monday, Oct. 24, 2016, 6:30 pm. (The location is yet to be determined, but likely still in the Hoover Elementary School's library.)