

**BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
FACILITIES COMMITTEE
AUGUST 6, 2012
MINUTES**

Mr. Crossley, Committee Chair, call the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. in the Education Center board room.

Board attendees: Dr. Christman, Mr. Crossley, Mrs. Dierolf, Mr. Elsier, Mrs. Hartford via phone (6:42), Mrs. Semmens, Mrs. Usavage

Administration: Dr. Betts, Dr. Beerer, Mr. Scoboria, Mr. Szablowski, Dr. Weller

Public: approximately 15 including many building principals

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited followed by a moment of silence

No Public Comment

The meeting minutes from the July 23, 2012 Committee meeting were moved for approval and were adopted unanimously.

Dr. Betts updated the committee about several meetings Administration had with EI Associates since the last committee meeting. He explained the educational vision provided to EI Associates referring to the District's Strategic Plan and stressed the need for space to accommodate the projected growth in student population and the need for flexibility for the educational needs of students.

Mr. Szablowski introduced, Mark Barnhardt and Leah Shiley from EI Associates. A binder of information about each building's facilities evaluation was distributed to each member of the committee in attendance. A copy of the presentation was also distributed and is included in the appendix of these minutes. Mr. Barnhardt reviewed the PDE PlanCon reimbursement calculation and informed the committee about the recently passed moratorium on PlanCon project submissions as of October 1, 2012.

EI Associates reviewed 4 options with the committee. In summary the options were as follows:

Option 1 – Keep same grade structure (K-6, 7-9, 10-12) and expand PFES and CES to 4-unit schools housing 700 students, enlarging JHW to accommodate and additional 200 students and renovating BASH.

Option 2 – Retain grade structure as above. Renovate PFES and CES but no expansion, build a new elementary school to house 700 students, expand JHW by 200 and renovate BASH.

Option 3 – Propose grade structure of elementary schools to K-5. Renovate both PFES and CES with no expansion, expand JHW by 200 students, establish a ninth grade center with a new building, and renovate BASH.

Option 4 - Propose grade structure of elementary schools to K-5. Renovate both PFES and CES with no expansion, expand JHW by 200 students, build a new building to house grades 11 and 12, and renovate BASH to service grades 9 and 10.

Costs for each of these options were presented as well as the PlanCon reimbursement for each. The educational vision statements including the pros and cons for each option were also presented and discussed at length.

Dr. Betts stated that there are many options that could be considered and the options presented tonight were considered due to the impending needs and the timeframe for the decision process. Dr. Betts suggested that committee members send any suggested options to Mr. Szablowski, who will communicate the suggestions to EI Associates. Committee members requested impact information for each option including the new boundaries for attendance areas, and other logistical issues. Mrs. Semmens asked about the possibility of closing two elementary schools and building a new elementary school.

The goal of submitting PlanCon Part A to the State by October 1 was discussed and a proposed schedule of meetings for the next two months was introduced. The proposed schedule is:

August 14	Committee meeting for detail review of Feasibility Study and in depth discussion on options for expansion
August 21	Board meeting for formal presentation and acceptance of Feasibility Study
August 22	Meeting with several classified staff groups for information sharing purposes
August 28 and 30	Community Information forums to share information on possible building and expansion options
September	Possible Committee meetings as needed
September 11	Board meeting to approve PlanCon submission
September 25	Board meeting
October 1	PlanCon Part A Submission deadline

Mr. Scoboria gave an update on kindergarten enrollment, especially at NHUF and GES and proposed several options to the committee to address late kindergarten registrations at these two schools. A copy of the proposed options is included with these minutes. There was discussion about class sizes, costs, transportation and the effect on students. The Committee supported option one, which would allow administration to place kindergarten students registering for GES and NHUF from early August to the start of school to BES and WES depending on where there is space.

There was committee discussion about many subjects including full-day kindergarten, expansion of existing schools versus the need to build new schools and the relative costs for each. The impact on students regarding the proposed options especially the building of a new elementary building and the direct effect on the 600-700 students attending the building versus a secondary building that every student over the course of their education would attend.

There was no public comment.

Mr. Crossly adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.