

# BOND

## UPDATE #9

04.26.19

Here's what's been going on during the past week:

1. Following a rigorous selection and interview process, the Ferndale School Board selected Dykeman Architects to design the new Ferndale High School facility. Based in Everett, Washington, Dykeman is a well-known and long-respected architectural firm with a strong emphasis on quality K-12 school projects in Western Washington. Past projects include Lake Stevens High School, Sehome High School, North Creek High School, Whatcom Middle School, and many other educational facilities. [Here is a link to a statement we released about the selection.](#)
2. At their Study Session on April 23, the School Board continued a conversation with the members of the Bond Oversight Committee. Together, the two groups (a) reviewed the by-laws Committee members have drafted to guide their operations, (b) compared understandings of goals and purposes, (c) debriefed several recent interactions (like the hiring of the architect) to determine the best ways of working together, and (d) talked about the resources the Committee will need from the District to fulfill their mission.
3. At their Business Meeting on April 23, the School Board adopted a resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds. The resolution "delegates authority to the Superintendent and/or the Assistant Superintendent of Business & Support Services for a limited time, to approve the structure of the Bonds, including the interest rates, maturity dates and principal maturities under such terms and conditions as are approved." Inquiries regarding this matter may be addressed to Assistant Superintendent Mark Deebach. The delegation runs through December 2019, although we hope to sell the first batch of bonds -- up to \$47 million -- during the summer of 2019.
4. On April 24, District administrators and project managers from CSG (Construction Management Group) met with an independent cost estimator to dig into and refine the budget numbers used for Bond planning. They spent most of the day reviewing the basis for the planning numbers and touring the site to determine the scale of the site work that will be required. These activities represent the beginning stage of turning general budget numbers into a detailed and specific project budget.
5. On the evening of April 24, the Oversight Committee met with the Assistant Attorney General for training regarding laws about Open Public Meetings. As a committee formally commissioned by the Ferndale School Board, Oversight members are subject

to the same rules as School Board members. All of their meetings must be announced in advance and open to the public.

6. Now that we have hired an architect, our attention has turned to filling out the rest of the District's team of experts. We are in the process of hiring several consultants who will work for the District on our Bond projects. These include specialists like archeologists, geo-technical engineers, traffic engineers, and surveyors. We have provided the qualification materials of those specialists who responded to our call to the Bond Oversight Committee for their input prior to making final hiring decisions, which we hope will occur next week.
7. District staff met with the folks from CSG this week to begin a discussion about the critical maintenance need projects included in the Bond (\$4 million). Another meeting is scheduled next week to continue the discussion and begin planning.
8. We still want to hear from you! Please take a moment to participate in Thoughtexchange, one of the tools we are using to gather ideas during the pre-design phase of the Bond process. Thoughtexchange is anonymous and only takes a few minutes to participate. Some may be wondering, 'What will the Ferndale School District do with all these thoughts and ideas?' The short answer is that input and ideas from stakeholders are a central part of the Bond planning process and will help us understand what is most important. We are committed to making the new Ferndale High School a reflection of our community as a whole. Our intent is to share the results of the Thoughtexchange with the entire community in a report we will publish on May 8. We encourage everyone to add his or her input before then. Please also stay tuned as we announce additional opportunities for public input beyond Thoughtexchange. Click [here](#) to add your thoughts.