

BOND

UPDATE #8

04.19.19

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

1. Members of the Bond Steering Committee and representatives from Construction Services Group (CSG) met on April 16 to discuss the five applications the District received from architectural firms interested in designing our new high school facility. We selected three firms to interview: Dykeman, Integrus, and Hutteball Oremus.
2. The next step in the architect selection process -- the interviews -- will take place on Monday, April 22. Each firm has been invited to make a presentation to share their work and qualifications, answer prepared questions from the interview committee, and respond to a scenario. The interview committee will be comprised of District administrators, high school administrators, and School Board members. Representative from the Bond Oversight Committee have been invited to observe the interview process.
3. On the evening of April 18, the Bond Oversight Committee held a meeting in the FHS Library to hear more about the City's proposal to repurpose Old Main as the new City Hall, Council Chambers, and Courthouse. Members of the School Board and several District staff were also present. The purpose of the meeting was to give Oversight Committee members a chance to review pros and cons of the proposed project and to ask clarifying questions. The City's proposal remains in the conceptual stage, and the Oversight Committee is still reviewing what they heard. If the City chooses to move forward with their proposal, the School Board will review recommendations from the Oversight Committee to determine if there is benefit to the District moving forward with the City. The media release we sent in advance of the meeting can be found [here](#).
4. Following an extensive interview process that involved administrators, staff, and students, the District has hired a new Assistant Principal to begin work at Ferndale High School on July 1, 2019. Ravinder (Rav) Dhillon, a Ferndale resident married to a Ferndale High School graduate, has been offered and accepted the position. Rav has worked as a high school chemistry and math teacher. She is currently completing an administrative internship in the Bellingham School District. When she begins working at FHS, she will provide the additional support needed during the design and construction phases of the new FHS facility so that Jeremy Vincent and other high school administrators can be freed up to devote the necessary time to bond work. The media release we sent sharing news about Rav can be found [here](#).

5. The Ferndale School Board and the Community Bond Oversight Committee are scheduled to continue their conversation about how they will work together next Tuesday, April 23, at a School Board Study Session (6:00 pm in the Vista Library). During this meeting, Board and Committee members will discuss Oversight Committee bylaws. We also expect them to discuss logistics and resources the Oversight Committee might need going forward. (As all meetings of the School Board and Oversight Committee, this will be open to the public.)

6. We continue to gather input from our community during the pre-design and design phases of the bond projects through the public input tool called ThoughtExchange. Anyone interested is invited to take a moment to access the exchange and tell us what they feel is most important in this process:
bit.ly/FSDEExchange.

If you have questions or comments about any of this, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Linda