

**Long Range Facilities Planning Meeting
September 12, 2018**

MINUTES

Those in attendance: William Hall, Aaron O'Toole, John DiPlacido, Nate Spiker, Rick Lansberry, Luigi Pasquale, Merry Bollheimer, and Linda Sitter.

The meeting began at 12 p.m.

Superintendent Hall provided the Security Report to the Committee as was mentioned at the last meeting. To begin the discussion, the first school to review is Chestnut Hill (CH). Chestnut Hill is the "catalyst" for the District's strategic facilities planning and operational decisions over the next eight years. The Committee was provided updated enrollment figures and related group discussion focused on the following:

- MTSD Capital Projects: CH will need approximately \$3.4 million in renovations in the next 4 years, plus an additional \$2.2 million in years 5-8 (total of \$5.6 needed for repairs/upgrades)
- Declining Enrollment in Erie Country (last 8 years) and in MTSD (last 5 years)
- Enrollment down at CH 30% over the last 3 years; 370 students this school year (only 44 in kindergarten; 63 in first grade; and 55 second graders this school year)
- Building erected in 1965: Invest in aging building (with declining enrollment) or look to close? Earliest school year to close would be School Year 2020-2021
- If the decision is to close Chestnut Hill, phasing out kindergarten next year might be good idea
- Could CH students be split between Belle Valley and Grandview by 2020-2021?
- If we decide to close CH, we don't want to sell the building; keep our assets for future (like Ridgefield). Possibility of using CH for an eastside Child Development program. We would still have to renovate the building, but the money would not come from taxpayers, it would come from paid tuition of the program. The Child Development program would need to be redesigned.
- Long term benefits of closing CH: Able to manage the tax rate and better manage money for significant repairs and upgrades at MIHS and McDowell (approximately \$33 million needed there)
- Allows the District to save more money for additional projects that need to be done across the District
- Ideal from a financial standpoint; Building Capital Projects fund; spend wisely on projects and upgrades

Homework:

- Review data, project needs and costs associated with upkeep Chestnut Hill
- Anticipate scenarios (What about me?)

The next meeting will take place October 17, 2018, at noon.

The meeting adjourned at 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Sitter
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent