

**Waterbury Board of Education  
Building & School Facilities Committee Minutes  
Via ZOOM/Teleconference  
June 18, 2020**

**Call to Order:** 6:03 p.m.

**Present:**

Chairman Jason Van Stone, Chairman  
Commissioners Karen Harvey, Commissioner  
Rocco Orso, Commissioner  
Melissa Serrano-Adorn, Commissioner  
Ann Sweeney, Commissioner  
Michael DiGiovancarolo, Alderman  
William Clark, Chief Operating Officer  
Michael LeBlanc, City of Waterbury Finance Director  
Verna Ruffin, Superintendent of Schools  
Kerri Baker, Parent Representative  
David Davidson, Community Representative

Tom DiMauro, Newfield Construction  
Brian Grant, Newfield Construction  
Bryce Sens, Friar Architects  
Dave Cote, Waterbury Development Corporation

**Item #1**

*Wendell Cross School Project Update.*

Mr. Clark shared a PowerPoint presentation with the Committee with pictures of the site. Demolition has been completed and now we're well into the steel and concrete phase and moving forward.

Wendell Cross will be a pre-k through eight school with 677 students, three classes per grade. The aesthetics are modeled after Carrington School.

Some adjustments at the site have been made due to COVID-19. PPE is available and there are daily check-in protocols. Work is primarily outside; no issues of tight spaces, able to distance accordingly.

Steel update: The steel fabricator is located in Canada and shut down their operation for a few weeks. Steel is now on site and we're looking to catch up on time moving forward.

Soil issues have been encountered. There have been some unsuitable soils which you can't build on in certain areas. The team is watching the elements and adjustments will be made to make sure the soil is compacted properly.

Commissioner Serrano-Adorno questioned the project completion date. Mr. Clark stated it's too early to tell. With the steel in Canada that was a few weeks late and now

working through soil issues but we're not at a point where we're formally moving anything and are hoping with continued spring/summer we can move along and catch up some of the time. After soil is finalized we'll be back and that could have some impact. Our goal is to stick with the schedule.

Commissioner Orso asked if all the bids were in. Mr. LeBlanc stated there were 18 bid packages and all have come in and have locked in the pricing with the lowest qualified bidder. Bids came in lower than expected and we have monies held in an owner-controlled contingency.

Ms. Baker questioned whether any thought has been put into what a classroom may need to look like as far as desks, furniture, et cetera in light of the current pandemic. Mr. Clark stated we are current working in the DAS rules and trying to be as flexible as possible with the equipment and so forth to accommodate needs. We're pretty competent that the current plan is flexible with furniture and technology. We have a little time.

Mr. Clark is asking the Committee to approve the first change order. It's a slight credit, a bunch of elements found during the demolition/concrete phase.

Motion to approve Change Order #001 in the amount of (\$1,769.99) – Orso/Sweeney. Motion passes unanimously.

Motion to adjourn at 6:24 p.m. – Sweeney/Serrano-Adorno. Motion passes unanimously.

Minutes prepared by Carrie Swain, Clerk.