

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

Corrected 1/28/2020

Open Session	Conference Center	7:00 p.m.	November 19, 2019
Kind of Meeting	Location	Time	Date

Members

Present

Jamie Allen
Dan Brouillet
Melissa Nehrt
Keith Rabenberg
Lindsay Spencer
Kerry Trostel
Mark Womer

Absent

Call to Order	Board President, Ms. Lindsay Spencer, called the open meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Pledge of Allegiance	Ms. Spencer led the <i>Pledge of Allegiance</i> .
Presentations and Recognitions	There were no presentations.
Communications	Ms. Spencer read procedures for participating in the citizens' comments period and asked if there were any citizens' comments. Two people spoke. Ms. Jane Torres encouraged BSD to find a middle ground solution for the elementary facilities in order to have a successful bond issue. Ms. Megan Harris said she likes the neighborhood schools. She is open to listening to the elementary facilities report.
Roll Call	Board members were present or absent as stated above.
Attendance	Also in attendance was Superintendent, Dr. Brian Lane.
ACTION 77 Approval of Consent Agenda	The motion was made by Mr. Jamie Allen and seconded by Ms. Melissa Nehrt to approve the consent agenda which included: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 15, 2019; Expenditures for October 2019 in the amount of \$2,499,125.37; Transfer \$0.00 for October from General to Teachers Fund; Financial Reports from CFO: 1910 Balance Report, 1910 Bank & Cash Reconciliation, 1910 Activity Report, 1910 Budget Report, and 191119 Invoice Report. The motion passed by a 7-0 voice vote.

Update
BMS/BHS Campus
Additions and Renovations

Mr. David Gill, BSD Owner's Representative, provided construction updates. The gym, locker room, and team rooms will be ready by December 1. Bleachers have been installed. The wrestling area has been completed and is in use. Excavation for the commons/library is almost complete. Abatement, selective demolition, and underpinning continues in Building B. Drywall, painting, and ceiling work continues in Building C. Six change orders have been initiated. \$18,000 in contingency remains. Concerns about the outside walkway to the cafeteria should be addressed by the beginning of December.

Ms. Kerry Trostel asked if the science teachers have input on the science labs. Mr. Gill said they were involved in the early planning stage. They still have questions.

Mr. Dan Brouillet expressed concern about casework and related items that may cause project completion or move in delays. Mr. Gill said that there is a worker shortage and that K&S has tried to make up time. Delivery schedules will be monitored for possible delays.

Mr. Allen asked what recourse BSD has against K&S for construction delays. Dr. Lane said he meets weekly with Ittner Architects and K&S Construction. There is a recovery schedule, which has a penalty on the back end for delays. Mr. Gill said that value engineering is ongoing but a large portion of it has been completed.

Update
Communications

Mr. Sam Rayburn, Director of Communications, said BSD is piloting communications platform ParentSquare this spring. He is providing staff training at each building.

Ms. Nehrt asked how ParentSquare would work with Infinite Campus and Google Classroom. Mr. Rayburn said ParentSquare has the capability to integrate with Infinite Campus. There are no current plans to replace Google Classroom. May consider in the future. Ms. Trostel asked about the schedule. Mr. Rayburn said that once the piloting phase has concluded next semester, BSD would decide whether to move forward with ParentSquare.

Mr. Rayburn said BSD is meeting with community entities about sponsorship opportunities. BSD video projects highlight what is happening in the district. Performances of the BHS fall play, "Almost, Maine" will take place November 21-23. Mr. Brian Nikodym, PLTW teacher at BHS, has been honored as a Project Lead The Way Exceptional Teacher. Schools are conducting a Thanksgiving food drive.

Presentation
Elementary Facilities
Planning Committee
Recommendation

Dr. Lane introduced Mr. Michael White and Mr. Paul Tice, two members of the Elementary Facilities Planning Committee. Mr. White provided an overview of the process and the committee's recommendation. Mr. Tice provided details.

Mr. White said the charge of the committee was to make recommendations for the future. Choices were to replace/renovate both schools or consolidate into one school and recommend the site. The committee recommends consolidating the two schools into one elementary school at the Mark Twain site. Class sizes would be capped to maintain small class sizes.

Mr. White said that small neighborhood schools are valued. There are concerns that consolidation may present traffic issues and other problems in the neighborhood.

Mr. Tice said results of a 400-call telephone survey indicated 37% interest in one school and 35% interest in two schools. There was not a lot of support for higher taxes. The on-line parent survey indicated 57% interest in two schools.

Both facilities need work. District elementary enrollment is projected to be approximately 400 students for the foreseeable future. The consolidated elementary school and the two school options align with the district's mission, vision, and values.

One consolidated school would provide facilities equity for elementary students. The facility would yield potential savings to the district of \$300,000-\$600,000 per year. Current annual maintenance costs would be reduced. Additional expenses would include leasing a bus for transportation and increasing crossing guard service.

One consolidated school would cost \$23 million, resulting in a tax increase of \$171 per \$250,000 of **assessed-valuation appraised value**. Two schools would cost \$29 million, resulting in a tax increase of \$223 per \$250,000 of **assessed-valuation appraised value**.

If a consolidated elementary school were to be built at the Mark Twain site, outdoor fields could be built at the McGrath site. Fields would be available for district and community use. Funding for the fields would come from the district's capital projects account. No tax increase would be required.

Board members thanked the committee members for their 15 months of work.

Mr. Allen asked about the availability and willingness of a core group to champion the recommendation. Mr. Tice said there are concerns about doing something to address the elementary school facilities vs. taking no action.

Ms. Nehrt asked what the recommendation would be if there were no survey results. Mr. Tice said the committee looked at a range of ideas.

Mr. Allen asked if the committee had any ideas in hindsight. Mr. White said they might have conducted the community survey earlier in the process. Mr. Tice said the committee might have waited for the Brentwood Bound project to settle before proceeding.

Ms. Nehrt asked what would happen if a traffic study revealed that the proposed project would not be compatible with the location. Dr. Lane said the city would have to make changes to accommodate vehicular traffic in the surrounding area. BSD received a traffic “research study.” An in-depth “impact study” would be needed.

Ms. Trostel said that the original plan for Prop B was to ask the community to provide funding for improvements to all schools. There was concern about bonding capacity and project needs, so the decision was made to have two phases: one for BMS/BHS projects and one for elementary school projects. Elementary students need good facilities. The district needs to present an option that the community will support.

Of the 400 registered voters who participated in the survey, 25% are current parents, and 35% had students in the district previously.

Ms. Spencer said that members of the community would have another opportunity to provide feedback for the Board at an Elementary Facilities Community Forum on Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Center.

Presentation
Elementary Facilities
One School Option

Mr. Greg Goebel and Mr. Todd Powers from Ittner Architects provided initial concepts for the one school option on the Mark Twain Elementary site. The school would be built on west side of the property, allowing the existing facility to remain in operation during construction. The new building would be three stories with an interior courtyard and main entrance on the east side. The old building would be torn down and replaced with new, elevated fields. Vehicular access and parking would be located between the new building and the fields.

McGrath Elementary would be torn down with the site becoming athletic fields. The design includes a regulation FIFA soccer field. There are also tennis courts and a playground. Vehicular access and parking would remain on the west side. Restrooms and field storage would be provided in a building located at the center of the site.

Ittner does not have a cost estimate for the fields, but one could be calculated. Funding for the fields project would come from the district's capital project reserves. It would not be part of the proposed \$23 million bond issue for one new school.

Ms. Trostel said that the fields are used by the community and asked about soccer. Mr. Goebel said it was a placeholder. The space could be used for soccer, football, or field hockey.

Mr. Allen asked about using portable classrooms during the construction phase at Mark Twain Elementary. Mr. Goebel said portable classrooms would not be economically feasible. Mr. Allen asked if there would be a way to eliminate the third story on the new building. Mr. Goebel said other options might not be better.

Ms. Nehrt asked if there would be enough parking at the Mark Twain site. Mr. Goebel said more could be added along the elevated fields.

Ms. Tostel asked about selling one of the elementary school properties. Dr. Lane recommended that BSD keep the properties.

Dr. Lane said that for informational purposes, the project would go before the City of Brentwood's Architectural Review Board. The City only has jurisdiction over the curb cuts and streets.

ACTION 78
Approval of SSD
Agreement for ECSE

The motion was made by Mr. Allen and seconded by Ms. Nehrt to approve the Special School District agreement to reimburse Early Childhood Special Education costs for FY2019-2020. The estimated cost is \$69,725. The motion passed by a 7-0 voice vote.

SSD Liaison Report

Ms. Nehrt said SSD will be meeting next month.

MSBA Delegate Report

Mr. Keith Rabenberg had no report from MSBA.

Upcoming Events

- Elementary Facilities Community Forum, Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.
- SSD Governing Council Meeting, Monday, December 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
- Winter Holiday Open House, Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 3:35 p.m.
- Board Business Meeting, Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Board members asked that NTB dates be included.

Citizens' Comments

Ms. Spencer asked if there were any citizens' comments. Five people spoke.

Mr. Brian Hansen had concerns about one large elementary school and vehicular traffic. Brentwood Bound development may bring more residents to the district, thus increasing student enrollment. Tax and other financial changes that went into effect upon the passage of the Brentwood Bound project may limit voter interest in supporting the elementary facilities project. He questioned the money spent on the elementary schools because the improvements are not noticeable. He requested that more study take place before going to the voters.

Ms. Lois Truman said emphasis was placed on the survey. She asked the Board to analyze the survey and responses to determine if it was representative of the community. Her research indicates that limiting elementary school enrollment to 300 students or less may be as important as limiting individual class size. She likes two neighborhood schools.

Mr. Eric Weber asked that BSD not make a big change to one school. Champions will be needed to support the solution and get the bond issue passed. He likes two neighborhood schools.

Mr. Andy Burkemper asked the Board to consider potential negative impacts of having one school. They may include loss of enrollment as families choose private schools, as well as vehicular traffic issues. He asked why the Mark Twain site was considered. Voter polling numbers are not good. He asked if cost estimates were done for middle ground compromises. He would like to see a better-defined plan for McGrath and Mark Twain.

Ms. Megan Harris said she is passionate about neighborhood schools. Small schools offer the opportunity to get to know everyone. She expressed concern about vehicular traffic issues that would come with the one school option. Having one school would change the community feel, which may result in residents moving away, thereby lowering property values. She thinks some of the leaders may have had pre-determined ideas.

Dr. Lane said that nothing has been pre-determined and no decisions have been made with regard to the elementary schools. The public will have another opportunity to share their thoughts on addressing elementary school needs at an Elementary Facilities Community Forum on December 4.

ACTION 79
Adjournment 9:00 p.m.

The motion was made by Mr. Allen and seconded by Ms. Nehrt to adjourn and reconvene in closed session. The motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote.



President



Secretary

