

Tomball Independent School District
Additions and Renovations Sub-Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2012

- Review of Last Week's Meeting and Questions Regarding Minutes – Ms. Susan Cline began the meeting at 6:32 p.m. by asking sub-committee members if they had any questions or corrections to the minutes of the last meeting held on October 29. No questions or corrections were made. Mr. Gary Hutton presented an additional project to the sub-committee, the remodel of TCES and CFES to accommodate increased student enrollment. The New Facility Study Group requested that the Additions and Renovations Sub-Committee consider the remodel of TCES and CFES into K – 5 campuses. Without the need for Grade 6 programs such as Band and Orchestra, these spaces could be remodeled and used to increase student capacity and alleviate the need to add a fourth K – 5 building in The Woodlands area. A question was asked about using the same structure and design as the other schools and Mr. Hutton explained that due to enrollment projections, this proposed model is the most financially viable solution.

- Review of Principal Requests – At the request of the sub-committee during last week's meeting, Mr. Huey Kinchen reported that he contacted Principals and asked for their list of project needs on their campuses. Some requests received from Principals are the same as those that were recommended last week and/or are being addressed by other sub-committees. Mr. David Schuelke will advise which requests are being addressed by other sub-committees. After reviewing the items from Principals, the sub-committee will also look at Athletics (including the stadium complex at THS) and the CTE department, in addition to anything else the sub-committee wants to bring forward to discuss. The sub-committee will compile a list of the additions and renovations deemed appropriate, prioritize them, and submit them to the steering committee.
 - DPES
 1. Library shelving – If the Library renovation doesn't occur, library shelving will be needed.
 2. Art Room sinks – Cabinet work needs to be done and sinks need to be lowered.
 3. Carpet replacement – Mr. Schuelke addressed this item, explaining that carpet replacement will be handled by the sub-committee covering capital replacements. Mr. Schuelke also explained that the library shelving is included in capital replacements as well. Ms. Cline stated that the Additions and Renovations Sub-Committee will note these items with an asterisk for renovation in the event they are not handled by another committee.

- RES
 1. Structured Learning Labs (SLL) connecting doorway – Mr. Kinchen explained that SLL is a special needs classroom. Mr. Schuelke reported that Mr. Mark Tiedt met with the Principal yesterday regarding the connecting doorway and the fencing needs (see next item) and both will be taken care of using general maintenance funds and not bond funds.
 2. Fence around playground area for SLL students – Will be handled using general maintenance funds.
 3. Security vestibule – Discussed last week.

- CPES
 1. Portable buildings – Mr. Schuelke explained that he will be presenting a budget to the Board for portables for the district. This budget will use funds from general maintenance and not bond funds. A question was asked about whether the portables were already owned by the district or if portables were going to be purchased. Mr. Schuelke clarified that the portables are already owned by the district.
 2. Additional parking – Mr. Kinchen reported that the number of parking spaces currently available will not accommodate the growth of personnel due to enrollment growth by the 2015 – 2016 school year. Mr. Schuelke explained that the new facilities sub-committee will be recommending a new elementary school for the south for the 2016 – 2017 school year; therefore, there will be relief in the 2016 – 2017 school year. Is additional parking warranted for one year, considering the loss of playground space needed in order to create parking lot space? Discussion occurred regarding the location of the parking lot and continued regarding developing a contingency plan in the event the new school is not approved.

- WCES
 1. Security vestibule – Discussed last week.
 2. Bus ramp/driveway behind WCES and NIS – Also discussed last week.

- LES
 1. Relocation of office staff to front of building – Discussed last week.

2. Security vestibule – Discussed last week, along with the library and kitchen renovations.
- TJHS
1. Orchestra Room expansion – Mr. Kinchen explained Mr. Brad Bouley emailed the needs of the Fine Arts Department and the strain these needs have on the facilities being used. Mr. Kinchen asked Mr. Schuelke to discuss possible solutions. Mr. Schuelke advised he will take the recommendations of the sub-committee and cost them out. Discussion occurred regarding addressing the immediate needs to alleviate overcrowding, including scheduling changes for next year, which resulted in some discussion regarding possible personnel needs. Mr. Kinchen explained that scheduling is a possible solution for next year; however, for a solution this year, switching rooms for some Fine Arts subjects is a possibility to maximize the use of space and accommodate class sizes at this time. A question was asked about reviewing the cost of these options versus the cost of adding more building space. Brief discussion occurred about TMHS orchestra space needs as well. A question was raised about switching the weight room and the band rooms to accommodate the need for more space. Mr. Schuelke explained that the configuration for band rooms (such as higher ceilings) is different than those needed for weight rooms. Further discussion occurred regarding building a band room in the location of the proposed weight room and moving the weight room to the location of the current band room. Another suggestion was raised about building a new building for a weight room and new building for a band room. Mr. Kinchen summarized the dialogue stating the three suggestions that were discussed: 1) look at building a new band room where the proposed new weight room is located and moving the weight room to the current band room location; 2) add a new building for orchestra; and 3) maximizing current space with modifications to schedules and rearranging classes to alleviate crowding.
 2. Band rehearsal and storage space – Discussed above. Additionally, Mr. Schuelke clarified that Mr. Bouley has requested a Band Room at TJHS and an Orchestra Room at WWJHS.
- WWJHS
1. Fine Arts Rooms and/or Orchestra Room expansion – Discussed above.

- THS
 1. Library renovation – Mr. Kinchen asked sub-committee member Ms. Aileen Kirkham to discuss the renovation needs at the THS library. Ms. Kirkham explained the changes needed in the library which included enlarging the library, improving technology, increasing the seating area, revitalizing the circulation desk, replacing the carpeting, providing a student reading niche, and replacing bookcases. Mr. Kinchen reminded the sub-committee that THS will be reducing the size of their student enrollment next year and will perhaps at that time be able to implement these renovations with the space gained, allowing some of these items to be implemented without major cost. Discussion occurred regarding student use of the library for study, research, and education. Discussion also occurred regarding sufficient technology to accommodate student needs in the library; however, it was pointed out that technology will be addressed by another sub-committee. Discussion then occurred about the amount of physical space at THS to expand the library at this time.

- CFES
 1. Mr. Hutton presented a project at the beginning of the meeting which included a remodel of CFES to accommodate increased student enrollment.

- Other Needs Brought Forward by Sub-Committee – Ms. Cline asked for any other suggestions from the sub-committee.
 - A sub-committee member has heard that TMHS has a need for Orchestra and Color Guard space. Discussion occurred regarding Phase 2 of TMHS's growth and expansion. Mr. Kinchen explained that Mr. Bouley has presented the needs of the Fine Arts Department and those needs will be presented next week with the Athletics and CATE Departments. Regarding TMHS, we need to make sure we are maximizing the orchestra space currently available.

 - A practice pool at TMHS was suggested, perhaps a metal building without bleachers or a full facility such as a natatorium. Currently TMHS swimmers are bussed to the natatorium at THS and share the facility with THS swimmers. Discussion occurred regarding the cost of a practice pool versus the cost of a natatorium with bleachers, dressing rooms, and other amenities. Mr. Schuelke will cost out both options and will talk to Coach Peacock and the swim coaches to discuss if the district is at the point where two natatoriums are needed.

- A question was asked about increasing the number of junior high level athletic programs in the district. Discussion occurred regarding the lack of competition at the junior high level. Surrounding, larger districts compete at the junior high level amongst themselves and thus it is difficult to find teams to play against.
- A request was made for a cost per student ratio on the building of the natatorium; however, Mr. Schuelke explained that is not an accurate way to price a project as student enrollment is an unknown factor and a true cost per student figure is not possible. Discussion occurred regarding the cost of gas to bus students to the existing natatorium from TMHS versus the cost to build a new natatorium near TMHS. Further discussion occurred regarding whether to place dollars on construction of schools versus on athletic facilities. Mr. Kinchen announced that athletic facilities needs will be discussed at next week's meeting.
- A committee member reported that several DPES staff members have expressed concern about closing in the atrium to expand the library, as it is used for instruction and positive reinforcement for students. Is it possible to expand the library in the other direction and not use the atrium? Mr. Hutton explained that the library level is low and expansion would not be possible (as it would be cost prohibitive to raise the library level) unless the atrium is used.
- Topics for Next Meeting – Ms. Cline explained that in next week's meeting the sub-committee will look at CTE, Athletics, and any other needs, review the educated projected costs, determine which projects to bring forward to the steering committee, and prioritize those projects. Mr. Schuelke asked sub-committee member Ms. Aggie Marsh for the traffic plans she has and Ms. Marsh advised that she has given those traffic plans to Mr. Neubauer and Ms. Cline. Mr. Schuelke will try to have all items costed out for next week's meeting. Mr. Kinchen and Mr. Schuelke will meet with Mr. Bouley and the secondary Principals to discuss the Fine Arts needs and will bring those recommendations to the sub-committee next week. Discussion occurred regarding the need for the Fine Arts teachers to be included in the discussions and to have the freedom to brainstorm openly. Ms. Cline ended the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

The next Additions and Renovations Sub-Committee meeting will be on Monday, November 12 at 6:30 p.m. in Rooms 107 and 118 of the Staff Development Center