

Tomball ISD Facility Study Steering Committee Minutes

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

Dr. Martha Salazar Zamora , Superintendent of Schools, opened the meeting at 5:30 pm. This meeting was held at the TISD Staff Development Center. Dr. Salazar-Zamora thanked everyone for attending and supporting the district with their participation on this committee.

Dr. Eddie Coulson, the facilitator for this committee, welcomed everyone and stated that equity in district facilities is the frame for the committee's work. He went over the agenda briefly and introduced Dianne Tidwell . Ms. Tidwell gave a recap of the information she presented last week regarding the digital learning environment in the district. She discussed the recommendations for classrooms and library technology enhancements.

Ms. Karla Sandoval also presented the CTE recommendations for consideration. She stated the biggest priority is the upgrade of the THS CTE facilities. Ms. Sandoval also proposed a district CTE Center. She presented information about a P-Tech Health Sciences program in partnership with Lone Star College-Tomball. New programs of study were presented as secondary priorities. Ms. Sandoval answered specific questions presented by committee members.

Dr. Jeff McCanna, Chief of Human Talent, spoke briefly about the staffing benefits of a centralized CTE building.

Dr. Coulson shared that current standards dictate that all students graduate with college, career, and/or military readiness. He gave information about other districts in the area that have CTE centers.

Dr. Coulson asked the committee to consider the following: What new schools do we need? What programming do we need? What digital learning technology do we need? He asked the committee to think about growth and equity within the constraints of our facilities.

For facilities, Dr. Coulson stated that the top enrollment of a comprehensive high school is 3200 but preferably 3000. For intermediate schools, do we prefer to rezone to balance enrollment or build a new campus? Do we need two or three new elementary schools? What are the consequences of the decisions for these questions?

Dr. Coulson broke the meeting into small groups to consider the questions he posed.

Dr. Coulson then asked each small group to summarize their thoughts about growth in facilities. Group comments included the following:

- There is a need for three new elementary schools, an intermediate school, and a high school, with purchase of land for a potential fourth high school.
- We need to purchase the recommended digital technology and CTE center.
- Some of the digital learning recommendations might be reduced for the elementary level.
- Three elementaries could be built in a staggered schedule.
- A CTE center incorporating the Tomball Star Academy campus and relieving Tomball High School for continued growth could be built.
- A couple of groups recommended two new elementaries and one high school.
- One CTE center was preferred over triplicating CTE programs at each conventional high school campus.

Mr. Keith Coleman, Director of Logistics, presented information about projected logistics (transportation) needs in the district. Mr. Coleman discussed the growth of the district enrollment and potential expansion of the logistics department with a second facility which could reduce “deadhead miles” and also provide in-house alignment, paint and upholstery shops. He also presented the option of covered bus storage and solar panels for energy savings.

Mr. Steve Guerrero, Director of District Support, presented information about campus safety and security. A big part of student safety involves social and emotional support and learning within programs such as Great Expectations, Character Strong, RISE, and other initiatives. Other components of safety are the district’s partnership with Texas State University--Texas School Safety Center and Region 4. Possible enhancements to campus security include additional cameras and entry technology, including safety vestibules. Needs within the district are upgraded repeaters for campus radio systems, retrofitted campus surveillance systems (analog to digital cameras), safety vestibules at THS and CPES, and attractive building perimeter fencing.

Dr. Coulson summarized the presentations of this meeting in terms of building a context for continued discussion towards a new bond proposal. He encouraged committee members to continue thinking about the information presented so far. He restated some of the questions posed and promised further work would be done to address those questions next meeting.

[Facility Study Steering Committee Meeting #3](#)

Dr. Coulson thanked everyone for their work tonight and adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.