
Tomball ISD Facility Study Steering Committee Minutes

Wednesday, April 28, 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. Steven Gutierrez, Chief Operating Officer, served as the facilitator for this meeting and welcomed everyone. He briefly covered a recap of the past meeting presentations and previous recommendations for facilities, instructional technology, CTE, Transportation and Safety. He also reviewed the agenda for tonight's meeting and reminded the committee members of their charge.

Mr. Jim Ross, Chief Financial Officer, and Mr. Zack Boles, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, presented information related to bonds and debt incurred. Mr. Ross encouraged the committee to stay focused on the needs of the district and not become overwhelmed with the cost of projects.

[2021 Bond - Debt Presentation.pdf](#)

Dr. Gutierrez continued with a discussion related to the costs associated with the recommendations of the committee to this point. He also explained that the different recommendations would be listed as separate propositions in a bond election, according to state laws governing school district bonds. Each proposition will have to be voted on separately. Mr. Ross stated that the listed costs of the various recommendations are very general at this point, but there is assistance from professionals who will provide more exact costs as the actual bond proposal is prepared.

Dr. Gutierrez broke the committee into smaller groups to begin to prioritize and formulate their own recommendations that can guide and shape the committee's collective list for the next meeting. After discussion, the groups broke into 3-person groups to share their lists of priorities. A few committee members presented their prioritized recommendations to the larger group.

Dr. Gutierrez introduced Mr. James Watson , Director of Technology, who presented information about the needs of the district for technology upgrades, new equipment and infrastructure. There are four different categories of needs: Enhanced Infrastructure, Cybersecurity, Student chromebook refresh, and Staff device refresh. Dr. Gutierrez


again asked the small groups to discuss the needs presented by Mr. Watson and then add their technology recommendations to their priority list.

Mr. JD Janda, Fine Arts Director, presented information related to the TISD Fine Arts programs and the benefits and importance of fine arts to students and the community. Fine Arts are curricular (required TEKS) and extracurricular, in that each fine arts course has an extracurricular component in grades 6-12. Needs must be met by the district for both sides of fine arts. Due to the fast growth of enrollment in the district, many more students are utilizing the existing classrooms and equipment which may be substandard at older campuses. Mr. Janda continued with specific recommendations for enhancements to the fine arts facilities in Tomball.

Mr. Vince Sebo, Director of Athletics, presented information about the increased participation in the athletics program in TISD over the past five years and the continued success of the student athletics teams. Mr. Sebo also outlined the projected needs for athletics in the district. Dr. Gutierrez continued with discussion of athletics-related concerns and questions presented from the committee.

[Facility Study Steering Committee Meeting #4](#)

Dr. Gutierrez asked the small groups to again discuss the last two presentations and reprioritize their lists. After discussion, Dr. Gutierrez asked each committee member to personally prioritize their lists of recommendations before the next meeting. He reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule and the committee presentation to the school board on June 14. Since the recommendations are the work of the committee, Dr. Gutierrez asked for anyone interested in presenting to the board to consider that option. He thanked everyone again for attending and the meeting was adjourned at 7:27 pm.



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