

Lehigh Area School District

Lehigh, Pennsylvania

Building Committee Workshop Meeting

Monday, August 10, 2015

7:00 PM

Administration Board Room

Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order - A workshop meeting of the Lehigh Area School Board was held in the Administration Building, Conference Room A, on the above date and called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Mr. Rocky Ahner, Member	X	☐
Mr. William J. Hill, Jr., Member	X	☐
Mr. Stephen L. Holland, Member	X	☐
Mrs. Lori Nothstein, Member	X	☐
Mr. Hal Resh, Member	X	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, Vice-President	X	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	X	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	X	☐
Mrs. Gloria Bowman, President	X	☐
Mr. Brian Feick, Business Manager	X	☐
Mr. Jonathan Cleaver, Superintendent	X	☐
Attorney William Schwab, Solicitor	☐	X
Mrs. Melissa Wagner, Recording Secretary	X	☐

Public Comment on Agenda

1. Laurel Zimmerman - Elementary Center

- As a community member, parent and staff member feels we need the Elementary Center to grow as a community.
- Wonderful opportunity for students.

Presentation:

1. EI Associates & District Administrators – Elementary Center Design (PowerPoint Presentation along with handout)

Jonathan Cleaver – Presenting to board what we have been working on with our Elementary Design Committee. Members are here tonight to answer questions and we will give an update. We went on visits and each time asked the staff, “What would you do differently”? Committee members volunteered their time to go on these tours. We have enough with the plan to begin to submit with the board’s approval.

Mark Barnhart – Current plan is a 2-story building with a primary side and an elementary side with a core shared area. Multi-lane drop off area in front of the building and a multi-functional lot on the side. We designed that it can work as either for both areas.

Jonathan Cleaver – We developed this plan with as much flexibility as possible. Had meetings with Leon George regarding bus drop off/pick up. Not all buses will be arriving at the same time. Leon mixes secondary and elementary runs for his drivers.

Mark Barnhart – Site drops down a story and has a soft-surface play area with apparatus for students and then goes to a hard-surface area and then steps and seating areas and then soccer fields. The service area for the building comes in a story below. The building is less in height than the high school and we met with the borough today regarding these plans. The building is 2 schools separated by one common center.

Jonathan Cleaver – Pequea’s outdoor play area is similar to this.

Patricia Ebbert – I liked Pequea the most because they used every inch of the space they had. Everything was utilized, several locations for basketball and the apparatus. Everything was so cohesive. The picture here doesn’t do it justice.

Mark Barnhart – Learned a lot from the trip especially with fencing and seating.

Mark Barnhart – The building is on a structural grid and is steel-framed. This can be erected with everything on a 4-foot grid (28-foot). Everything in this building falls in a structural grid. Working with Quandt, looking at this as a way to keep cost of construction down. Primary side has more classrooms due to smaller class size. Special areas are full-size classrooms with a dividing wall. There are two (2) secure vestibules to enter buildings. Gymnasium has drop curtain down the center.

Jonathan Cleaver – If we have a performance on the stage we can close off area and still have gym classes. There are bathrooms and changing areas by the stage.

Mark Barnhart – Gymnasium has 2 full-size courts on both sides. Second floor offers more seating but is also large group instruction areas for approximately 100 students. We are still working on layout for media center. Elevations are still under design. Trying to bring wood timbers to the entrance of the building. Open stair towers between the two levels. All classrooms are the same size (900 sq. feet) with work area, sink, cubbies outside the classroom, tackable walls.

Jonathan Cleaver – By moving some things out of the classroom, it allows flexibility in the classroom. One wall is a whiteboard with projector and is magnetic. Dividable walls are soundproof. Sinks in the hallway is a benefit because students are easy to see outside the bathroom.

Mark Barnhart – Stairs can be open to allow light. We’ve had a lot of discussion about natural light, color of the wood, etc. The gymnasium is being set up as a competition gym. Four locker rooms, bathrooms, ticket area, food service area for concession and seating in cafeteria. Working on meeting all requirements to hold events. Food service delivery is on the lower level. We had a food service consultant to recommend some suggestions. Unloading food on lower level and serving it on the upper level. We did meet with food service, Lauren, today regarding this. This is not unusual for a hotel/convention center to do this. We would have elevators to bring food to serving area. This is not a final plan. The cafeteria is more open with this plan and more natural lighting.

Jonathan Cleaver – When there is performance on the stage, we will have more area for chairs. Stage on the side allows for more flexibility and people closer to stage for performances.

Mark Barnhart - A lot of flexibility in this building for the district. All problems are not solved yet.

Gloria Bowman - What is the capacity for the dining areas?

Mark Barnhart - 200-220 students per side (round tables). One grade at a time on each side.

Mark Barnhart - Gym area has 1300 seating & LGI area another 210.

Jonathan Cleaver - No spectators behind the players or scorer's table.

Mark Barnhart - Moving from design phase to detailed phase of structural, mechanical, etc.

William Hill - How much is this going to cost?

Mark Barnhart - We are working the design in to the elementary budget. There may be some trade-offs with materials.

Jonathan Cleaver - When we met with the design team we emphasized that if we add things, we might have to take away others. The square footage is 146,000.

Gloria Bowman - We are still looking at the 32.5 million plus 2 million from ACE grant.

Rocky Ahner - Concerned about traffic study. Not sure about food service, this is not a hotel. Still not on board with not having bathrooms in the kindergarten classrooms.

Brian Feick - Meeting with the borough for traffic.

Mark Barnhart - The food service consultant is not just hotels. He has worked with a lot of schools and looks for energy-efficient equipment.

Rocky Ahner - We have the traffic study back?

Jonathan Cleaver - It is completed and it has gone to the borough and PennDot. As soon as PPL puts their stamp on it we will have a report. The draft is available for review.

Larry Stern - Thank you everyone who has been involved in this process. Flexibility in this project will suit the needs of our district.

Brian Feick - Chevron parking area is shared with the high school.

Jonathan Cleaver - Talked with Leon, having the flexibility of dropping off at the curb. During large events the area is more parking.

Gloria Bowman - George's has done some runs already and time frame on bus is similar to now.

Jonathan Cleaver - Discussed walking area from Gypsy Hill.

Timothy Tkach - Title I Consolidated grant is based on free/reduced lunch not what services are needed in the building. If one school needs more services but another has more free/reduced the monies must go there. An elementary center would allow us to serve all students equally.

Jonathan Cleaver - A lot of districts move people every year to meet the criteria. We don't like to move the teachers or paras because the students are comfortable with them and we like the consistency.

Larry Stern - This is something we do today because we don't have the facilities now. This goes for our gifted and special education students. This is a disservice to the students.

Jonathan Cleaver - Transportation expense is about \$2500 a month for the transportation to different buildings.

Suzanne Howland - Also loss of instruction time with transportation.

Jonathan Cleaver - Looking to bring back autistic support classroom to the new building. We will have room for a K-2 Lifeskills and Prep-K if we want to add.

Mark Barnhart - Some of the single bathrooms were changed to open up to the classroom or the hall for special classrooms.

Aaron Sebelin - Every building we visited had summer programs going on. It would be nice to house our programs under one roof. The building can be used by the community.

Jonathan Cleaver - K, 1, 2 side has the band and choral rooms. These specials can go on while PSSA testing is taking place. Specials now are limited or not at all during testing.

Lori Nothstein - If we are having the community use it, we will need staff to maintain it. Includes maintenance, custodians, etc. That's all a part of it.

Jonathan Cleaver - Square footage justifies what we need.

Jack Finnegan - America is #17 in the industrialized world with educating kids. We need to focus on education. Need attention to elementary students. Teachers and students perform better in the

complete/nicer facilities. If you build this center you will have young families considering moving in.

Communications - None

Approval of Minutes - None

Financial Matter - None

Personnel - None

Miscellaneous

PlanCon F HVAC Cont. For MS/HS Approved MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to approve PlanCon F Attachment C, the Post-Bid Opening Notification form, indicating authorization of the Administration and the Architect, EI Associates, to release the HVAC contract for the projects known as Alterations and Additions to the 6-8 Lehigh Area Middle School, and Alterations to the Lehigh Area High School, for bidding, and to send the associated documents to the Department of Education for review and approval.

William Hill – *Can an HVAC contractor guarantee they won't charge us for work change orders? Can he guarantee energy savings?*

Jonathan Cleaver – *No, there are no guarantees.*

William Hill – *No ESCO in this motion. The ESCO will go to the way side.*

Gloria Bowman – *#8 covers additional ESCO proposals and HVAC.*

Jonathan Cleaver – *I wanted to run this by Mr. Vogel and everything looks fine as noted. These forms will not affect any of our current PlanCon submissions.*

William Hill – *We had Trane here for a year. It took a year for them. What other ESCO contractors have you looked at?*

Jonathan Cleaver – *We are currently in contact with 4. All are aware of the timeline and aware that the board may go out for public bid also. The bid packet is exactly the same design that Trane was given. Nothing different at this point.*

Gloria Bowman – *These forms basically support the process that we have requested.*

Jonathan Cleaver – *This is the process. This releases Mr. Vogel to get information.*

Hal Resh – *Who do they ask the questions to?*

Jonathan Cleaver – *The district and the architects.*

Rocky Ahner – How did these systems get turned to electric?

Brian Feick – They didn't. It's the additional air conditioning.

Rocky Ahner – Where was this system determined (WSHP)? I'd like to see minutes.

Mark Barnhart – We looked at a series of different systems. We met with Trane and they gave their opinion.

Jonathan Cleaver – We looked at geothermal. Trane was concerned with the square footage cost.

Mark Barnhart – Other concern was because of existing pavement/parking lots would need to have been ripped up. Because of cost, it pushed the gas system to be a better cost. We went through a series of systems and Trane was a part of it. There are minutes from this meeting.

Jonathan Cleaver – We currently have WSHP at the HS.

Mark Barnhart – System design must meet LEED Gold.

Larry Stern – We want the system that cost less. We were sole-sourcing this project, no competitive aspect. We need to get more information.

Brian Feick – I'm meeting with Trane this week and they will release the data. They have not been paid yet because we have not received the information.

William Hill – Why are we asking them to bid the WSHP?

Jonathan Cleaver – The specifications are only on the bid for the WSHP.

(Enc. 1 – Peach)

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. William J. Hill, Jr., Member	☐	☐	☐	X
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Lori Nothstein, Member	☐	☐	☐	X
Mr. Hal Resh, Member	☐	☐	☐	X
Mr. Larry Stern, Vice-President	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Rocky Ahner, Member	☐	☐	☐	X
Mrs. Gloria Bowman, President	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 5 NO - ____ ABSENT - ____ ABSTENTIONS - 4

Motion carried.

Programs - None

Old Business for Discussion

New Business for Discussion

Public Comment (limited to three (3) minutes as per board policy).

1. Mrs. Patti Ebbert - Class/School Relocation

- *RtII teacher in the district for EP/FR.*
- *Current numbers for incoming students are EP-160, FR-270, SD-303, MA-240.*
- *If the board renovates instead of building what are we doing with the teachers and students? Where are we putting them? I'm in favor of the elementary center.*
- *Technology in the classroom is one piece for each student. Saves a lot of downtime because students have an iPad or Notebook in the classroom to be utilized.*
- *Before you make this decision, please make it in the best interest of the kids.*

Adjournment

Workshop meeting scheduled for Monday, August 17, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. Next regular scheduled meeting is Monday, August 24, 2015, at the Administration Building.

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Ahner to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - ABSTENTIONS -

Respectfully submitted,



Brian D. Feick
Board Secretary

(Minutes including pages 1 to 6)