

Board of Education Column

By Dr. Tracie Newman, Fargo Board of Education

Fargo Public Schools Long-Range Facility Plan Community Engagement

During this school year, Fargo Public Schools is working on updating its Long-Range Facility Plan. This plan works to guide the District's major capital investments and addresses things like needed building renovations and possible need for new construction. This is done by identifying and prioritizing current and future needs of district facilities.

FPS has worked diligently to engage the public during this process, including creating a Steering Committee comprised of many FPS stakeholders with a vast array of differing voices and expertise. The Communications, Engagement, and Advocacy Committee of the Board of Education works to help facilitate this information to the community. Board members have also had 2:2 (or sometimes 1:2) interviews with key players in the LRFP update, where draft frameworks and plan options were reviewed.

To date, FPS has held six in-person community input sessions (three in November 2023 and three in January 2024). The district has also conducted two surveys (one in November 2023 and one in January 2024). For the November survey, the district received 531 responses. The January survey had 2,150 responses. The survey responses are available for review at this link.

All information associated with the Long-Range Facility Plan (every presentation given and all reports to date) are <u>available for community review</u>.

Ultimately, the LRFP should align with the FPS Strategic Plan, which the Board and CEA Committee monitor as well. FPS will continue to provide opportunities for the public to be involved in this process by conducting community meetings, ongoing surveys, focus group meetings, and student group meetings. If you are interested in being involved in future opportunities, you can <u>complete this form</u>.

