

Bond Oversight Committee Meeting 2

Date/Time

01/23/2024

6-8 p.m.

Location

Nancy Watten Center

Members (Present)

Catherine Carlin (Y)

Nancy Cline (N)

Noe Franco (Y)

Phil Gumbert (Y)

Tom Hammons (Y)

Tara Hrbacek (Y)

Billy Bob Messer (Y)

Wesley Nute (Y)

Jolynne Porter (Y)

Jaime Rivas (Y)

CFB Staff

Cory Blackburn, Construction

Lelia Goehring, Construction

Kim Holcomb, Curriculum & Instruction

Monica Johnson, Special Services

Sandy Meyer, Curriculum & Instruction

Brian Moersch, Deputy Superintendent

Chris Moore, Operations

Sara Roland, Special Services

Susan Miller (Woolpert)

BJ Welsh, Technology

Welcome & Housekeeping – Chris Moore, Asst. Superintendent Operations

Future Agendas

- Current Projects – Finances & Schedule / Scope Changes
- Presentations

Drive Filing / Organization

- Need Google email to access

Schedule

- Currently quarterly – Developing strategy on how to get feedback between meetings

Website

- Updating BOC website

Questions:

Catherine Requested – Output form Citizens Committee – Projects / Scope & Values – Chris noted it would be added to the shared folder.

Construction Overview – Corey Blackburn, Exec. Construction Officer

How do we make good decisions – Informed Decision Making

Overall Schedule Update

Status Update

- Contract Status – Architect / CMAR – All signed up with exception of 1.
- Reporting format – Bar Chart & Project Grouping

Woolpert – Analysis ongoing

- Capacity Utilization
- Facilities Master Plan
- Educational Specifications

Questions: No questions from committee

Fiber Network – BJ Welsh, Exec. Director Technology

Showcased Fiber sample that is installed into our current system, with main link and redundant link.

Discussed the make up of the fiber wire assembly and the capacity of each strand.

Showcased the newer fiber assembly. And reviewed the challenges with the existing glass fiber.

Partnered with Bill Nyland for RFP and VST for ERate – These two groups are offering recommendations to the district. To repair the existing fiber is a monumental task.

Questions:

Phil Gumbert – Has been reaching out to third party to piggy back on cost sharing on the pipe. This group would like to bid the project.

Response from BJ Welsh - Posted by ERATE and Procurement following state and federal laws for open bidding. 4 groups bid. Evaluations on the qualified bidders on ongoing.

Phil Gumbert – Did you use ERATE for the fiber project performed in 2021?

BJ Welsh – No that project including the Nancy Watten was TIF funded.

Wesley Nute – How is the project tracking to budget?

BJ – Tracking within budget.

Billy Bob Messer – Will ERATE pay for 80% of our entire project?

BJ – No, ERATE will pay for 80% of eligible portions of our project if approved.

Catherine Carlin - Is Fiber optic the industry standard?

BJ – Yes, it is the gold standard for all installations

Jolynne Porter - Does Carrollton use fiber? Is there an opportunity to lease our cable to the city?

BJ – We are evaluating lease lit options through our advisors.

Special Services Overview

Sara Roland – Asst. Superintendent of Special Services

Monica Johnson – Director of Special Services

Goals –

- Students to house at campuses near to their home – community campus
- Analyze our current programs. Making fewer programs available at more campus.
Currently 83 ES, 19 MS, 22 HS + 6 classrooms at Grimes – 124+ programs,
Serving ages 3 – 21
- Goal is to reduce the number of campus changes during their educational careers.
Kids could be moved 7 – 10 campuses during their career, much of these campus transfers occur during the ES years.

Students are currently having to bus long distances to go to locations that meet their program needs. Transportation continues to be a challenge – Very early pickups.

Life Skills classrooms - Evaluating 2 life skills style classrooms at a number of campuses as part of the bond program.

Looking to facilitate peer learning and integration.

Behavior / Social Skills classrooms – are also being evaluated. – Pod within the reach of a couple campuses, not necessarily at every campus.

Challenges to Sped – Difficulty in Sped is that it changes daily. The range of students served is incredibly wide. Classroom accommodate diverse needs.

Balancing the additional paperwork / meetings that this population needs to prevent disproportionate load at any one campus.

Questions:

Jolynne – Currently campuses are broken down by program focus – So kids with different needs from same household are going to different schools.

Sara – Correct, we are working to reduce this by creating broader programs to serve more broad needs within their community schools.

Phil Gumbert - Have you have interactions with the Citizens Bond Planning Committee

Sara Roland - No, I have not

Phil Gumbert - Question: Are you meeting with architects.

Sara Roland – Yes, we are meeting with current design team and facilities group to determine standards.

Tom Hammons – Statement - Very few schools have the Lifts and Tracks. It would be good to bring campuses up to a shared standard.

Billy Bob Messer - How do your plans align with capacity?

We have noticed Ebb and Flow over time. Currently comparing available rooms to the locations at their home campuses to demand. Reviewing historic trends – but the Ebb and Flow is very difficult to predict.

Pre-K & Early Learning Overview

Kim Holcomb – Asst. Superintendent of Curriculum

Sandy Meyer – Coordinator of Early Learning

Pre-K is often “shoe-horned” into a traditional Elementary school. May not be focused on early learning. Focus on should be on sensory work, play based, exploring, hands on - Not “Sit and Get”.

Need instructional space aligned to early learning. Includes restrooms and hand washing.

Future student achievement is impacted critically at this age.

Benefits of early childhood – Slide presented. Noted that when 3rd graders fall behind in reading, they are 4 times more likely to drop out of high school.

High Quality Pre-K Program can alter futures

TX-KEA – Kindergarten readiness screening – Those students who attend Pre-K outperform peer groups.

Full Day offer Pre-K for 4 year olds at 19 of 24 campuses

Goal is to reduce transitions.

Pre-K : Free and qualifying & tuition based. Free if students meet criteria. Limited English & Economically disadvantaged.

93% of our students Qualify.

Only 7% Tuition Based Students.

Serve over 1300 student – 71% economically disadvantaged / 60% Emergent Bilingual

Demand vs current availability: **Required** to serve 4 year olds who qualify and want to enroll.

We are capturing about 70% or more of the eligible population.

Campuses with high capture rates are Freeman, Las Colinas, McCoy, Rainwater, Riverchase, Landry.

Davis, Kent, McKamy, McWhorter & Rosemeade – Low capture rates on Pre-K at these locations.

Tend to be the Northern portions of the district that have low capture rates.

West side 150 – 250 families on waiting list. Non-Qualifying families willing to pay tuition. They do not enroll in CFB Schools in Elementary.

3 year olds – State funding does exist for 3 year olds. Only serving 39% of 3-4 year olds.

Goal is to start growing 3 year old programs in future.

TEA Guidance / Requirements – Curriculum, TEA ratios **but** CFBISD vision is greater than minimum TEA limits. Strategic Training and development is needed + Development of para-professionals. Teacher turnover is a challenge, limited space for 3-4.

Questions:

Jolynne Porter – 4-year old Pre-K into schools – Why not open to all students?

Jolynne noted that the qualifying criteria are unfair to many families.

Sandy – The state qualifiers are set by TEA standards. CFB has limited scholarships that they offer for “Free / Reduced”. Tuition is about 1/3 the cost of what is seen within the market.

Tara – Will share the feedback to the board.

Average Daily Attendance (ADA)– amount that we get for each student that qualifies.

Full day student is provided \$6700 per student per year. We get ½ of this for half day students.

CFBISD sets tuition for the tuition rates for those who enroll.

Brian Moersch will share Tuition information to the committee.

Billy Bob - How do you drive enrollment?

Sandy Meyer - Advertising, Boots on the ground communication. Signs & Flyers.

Kim Holcomb - Innovative Spaces drive enrollment

Phil Gumbert – What are you doing with the Pre-K bond money?

Corey Blackburn – Currently reviewing the Bond plan with the Pre-K C&I team to establish best use of funds and best fit for each campus.

Presentations

Woolpert – Susan Miller Presenter (Introduced Woolpert Team)

Reviewed Facilities Master Planning – Strategic plan for Major capital decisions – 10-year plan.

Upcoming Teacher interviews

Data Driven Decisions

See presentation provided by Woolpert.

Questions:

Phil Gumbert – Is Colorado a voucher state?

Susan - No vouchers, Colorado is full choice. Shared additional Colorado enrollment statistics.

Catherine Carlin – New information, not available to the prior Bond Committee. What do we do with this information if it deviates from the Bond Plan?

Susan – Review the opportunities against the bond. Understanding the cost implications of how we are managing our dollars for best outcomes.

Catherine is concerned that funds may be misdirected in this process.

Corey Blackburn – BOC would be involved in Pivots if needed. “Example – Maybe not be 6 Pre-k in 4 schools, but 4 Pre-K in 6 schools” working to ensure capital investments align with District Vision.

Tom Hammons – One example shared - Large spend with few students at one of the Colorado schools in the example – what was the takeaway lesson learned?

Susan - That campus eventually had to be consolidated after a large capital investment. IRS and Tax Payer implications resulted.

April 23rd Next Meeting

Adjourn