



BGC: Bearcat Growth Committee
August 1, 2019
Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Mrs. Christi James and Jim Scott. Twenty-eight members were present for the meeting. Aledo ISD non-committee staff members present were Dr. Susan Bohn, Lynn McKinney, Amber Crissey, Earl Husfeld, Rick Herrin, Tyler Boswell, Scott Kessel, and Randy Campbell. Board Members present were Julie Turner, Forrest Collins, and Jennifer Loftin.
2. Mr. Tyler Boswell, Director of Construction and Facilities, discussed the programming work that the district had engaged in with Pfluger Architects over the summer at the request of the BGC. Programming consisted of meeting with campus representatives, including teachers, to construct the needs and expectations for learning spaces in Aledo elementary and middle schools. This process permitted the architects to refine the costs of the projects, insure that the needs of students and staff are met, and reduce contingency costs. District staff engaged in a full, line-by-line review of each element and aspect of each project that the BGC had discussed as a possibility for the bond package. During the programming process, the staff and architects gave special attention to sizing spaces appropriately for Aledo programs and to equity among campuses.

Mr. Boswell shared information from the 2019 Bond Potential Projects List, based upon the discussions and interest of the BGC in addressing particular needs. As requested, the BGC was provided different levels of expenditure and renovation for Aledo Middle School and the McAnally campus. The different aspects/costs of each option were discussed and questions were answered.



The BGC discussed collaborative spaces at Coder and Stuard and the option to purchase new flexible furniture for Coder, Stuard, and McCall in an effort to support students and teachers in the District's instructional focus and an emphasis on collaboration.

Mr. Boswell then reviewed a proposed 2019 Bond Projects schedule for each discussed project reviewing the design, procurement, and construction cycle, including the number of months needed for each part of the process.

3. Dr. Susan Bohn then discussed information about the need for land and the cost projections for sites. The district will continue to pursue land donations as well as purchases. Land is a critical need since the District has only two tracts of land in its inventory, and the BGC is contemplating construction of new campuses on the two sites.
4. Mr. Earl Husfeld, Chief Financial Officer, then discussed the need and projected costs for additional school buses based on the District's growing enrollment and need for bus replacement as the fleet ages.
5. Mr. Josh McLaughlin, financial advisor for BOK, presented information about the District's preliminary bond capacity based on the latest information. The District's bond capacity projection has been adjusted based on the certified tax values that the Parker and Tarrant Counties issued last week. Updates since February include that the interest has continued to drop and the district property tax values grew by 17.9%. This means that the district now has a \$157,500,000 of bond capacity with no tax rate increase (rather than the \$141,000,000 previously projected). If we don't use all the bond capacity now it will still be available to us in the future, we don't lose it.

Mr. Earl Husfeld then explained the impact that the 10 cent tax rate decrease on the Maintenance & Operations side of the tax rate will have on individuals based on their appraised home value.



6. Mr. Jim Scott then reviewed what was discussed at the May 9th meeting and what the committee came to consensus on to include in the bond package: Middle School #2, Elementary #6, and the Vandagriff conversion to an early childhood center.

The committee then divided into sub-groups to develop a bond proposal. Each sub-group then presented their bond package proposal to the entire committee.

After much discussion, consensus was reached by 100% of the committee to take the following bond proposal to the Aledo ISD Board of Trustees:

- Middle School #2 @ \$62,501,000
- Elementary School #6 @ \$35,858,000
- Vandagriff Renovation to an Early Childhood Center @ \$1,709,000
- Middle School Renovation @ \$33,446,000
- McAnally Renovation @ \$9,611,000
- Coder, Stuard, McCall furniture @ \$1,800,000
- Land purchase for future school sites @ \$4,525,000
- Purchase of buses @ \$500,000

Total of \$149,950,000

All the committee members stated that they will work for and support the bond.

7. Dr. Bohn invited all the committee members to attend Bearcat Nation 101 this Saturday from 9:00 to noon. It will be a great opportunity to welcome new families to our community and to discuss the coming bond proposal and election. All committee members were also invited to attend the upcoming informational presentations as it would be very



helpful and powerful to have BGC members present at these meetings. All meeting details will be shared with the committee.

In addition, Dr. Bohn asked for the committee member's feedback on the upcoming information that the district will begin to disseminate. All were also invited to become part of the Bond oversight committee that will meet if/when the bond is approved and the District begin the projects.

Dr. Bohn thanked all the committee members for their commitment to this process and all of their hard work and service.

8. Mrs. James and Mr. Scott thanked all for their service and announced that there is a school board meeting on August 8 at 6:00 p.m. and on August 19 at 6:30 p.m. and encouraged committee members to attend the meetings to represent the BGC. The BGC meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.