



Your Voice Matters

FACILITIES MASTER PLANNING: PHASE TWO

Community Engagement Session #1 Feedback

October 29 and 30, 2024

At the beginning of phase one of facilities master planning 10 years ago, the community helped to develop a set of guiding principles for the process. A team of staff members and community volunteers helped to update the guiding principles for phase two of facilities master planning. Are there any additional changes you would make to the guiding principles today?

- No
- Main questions are related to school safety and involvement of law enforcement and department of homeland security during the planning process
- “Recognize all school buildings are community buildings.” Use the opportunities to strengthen the weaknesses in our community not just the schools with the renovated facilities
- Take into consideration the historical importance of the district's buildings and strive to preserve their original design as much as possible.
- Ensure voices are actually heard - multiple teachers at both the elem + HS level report that feedback they gave on buildings was actually not used. Strong emphasis on the projections so we don't build + then be busting at the seams in a short window of time
- These seem to be well thought out.

The Board of Education approved the planning parameters above for phase two of facilities master planning. Do you have any feedback regarding the parameters?

- The plan for the inclusive nature of the restrooms is really great to see!
- Love the gender neutral restrooms
- New or renovated facilities should “strive” to provide spaces for in the same grade-level band “when feasible”.
- Consider hybrid learning needs that may be upon us in the future. Lessons learned out of COVID as well as online learning being a way of the future.
- These also seem well thought out.

Are there any other thoughts that you would like to share about facilities master planning phase two?

- Perhaps there can be a consideration to include small updates/renovations to The Graf Center in the plan as well.
- Please try to think about unintended consequences of big changes. I don't care if bathrooms are non-gender or gender specific, but in the new bathrooms all stalls are fully enclosed from floor to ceiling. For kids who have seizures, this creates a safety risk. If they were to seize in one of these bathrooms no one would find them. So now at the high school, the only "safe" bathrooms are on the first floor. And no high schooler is going to go to the first floor to use the bathroom when the majority of their classes are on the second and third floors. This is just an example of how something that was well-intended to make something "safer" actually made an environment that is less safe for some. So in the new designs, please pause and think about how structural changes may affect all types of disabilities. And if possible, provide stalls that have open bottoms on every floor - again, doesn't matter if it's gender neutral or single sex; just please consider adding them somewhere.
- Ensure that all spaces are designed to be inclusive of students and staff with various disabilities. For example, design Burbank so the preschool for kids with disabilities and the preschool for typical kids aren't separate. They should all be included in the same rooms. Make sure all digital elements of the schools are accessible. For example, deaf students need closed captioning and they need flashing lights instead of sound fire alarms, etc.
- Yes, under 2A, fiscal responsibility of the Guiding Principles. The existing board members who then at the time voted for the two large TIFs that benefit only the City (more income taxes) and Continental, while draining the schools of valuable resources owe a detailed explanation on why they chose to turn down \$3MM of annual, recurring real estate tax revenue between phases 1 and 2. This occurring at a time when the need for future funding was known and anticipated.
- The documents used to arrive at the five year forecast are a crock of s---. Over the last decade the enrollment studies that the school district pays for routinely overestimate annual districtwide enrollment by ~10%. This has larger ramifications to Andy's five year document which is then used to justify ever greater expense loads and need for new levies. This practice needs to end !
- On the Guideline of transparency, nothing could be further from the truth. It is more than symbolic that you the deciding parties would choose to meet tonight under the cover of complete darkness during a time window, inaccessible to most within the district.. Hiding. On a weeknight, during the darkest time of the calendar year, before the reversion of DLST. A time when parents need/ought be with children at home. Shame on this fraud
- Looking forward to being involved
- Community space that has external entrance that can be used at non-school times - creates buy-in w/ non-parent, community members.
- Let me know how I can help.