Community Engagement Task Force

Princeton Public Schools
December 10, 2024

Meeting Materials on the Princeton Website

bitly

AGENDA

1. **Welcome & Quick Recap**
   a. Overview of previous discussions
   b. Framing today's focus: prioritizing facilities
2. **Facility Tour Observations (Group feedback)**
3. **Exit Ticket Comments (Your individual observations and thoughts)**
4. **HS Student Survey Results**
5. **Teacher Survey Results**
6. **Facility Needs in Other Buildings/Grounds**
7. **Todd Rapp Presentation**
8. **Small Group Activity - Prioritizing Our Goals**

Summary of Previous Meetings

- Options for bonds, referendums, etc. & the impact on the community
- Financial Outlook of the District
- Needs/Concerns of Educators
- General Mindset of Minnesota
- Tour of High School Facilities

Takeaways

- There are **many options** for constructing the most effective option for the district with the least impact on the community.
- Continuing on the path of what we have, coupled with what we do, the **district will run out of operational money in two years**.
- The district's educators are excited to offer cutting edge classes and programs that will equip and serve EVERY student with a competitive, quality education.
    - The lack of resources are preventing them from fulfilling this:
        - lack of storage space
        - lack of equipment
        - lack of classroom space
        - lack of safe spaces for tool usage
    - The wishlist of resources needed for classrooms, activities, and athletics is long
- **Minnesotans are feeling strained monetarily** and as such are only willing to pay extra for items that are necessities, not wants.
    - There needs to be buy in from the community of what those needs are
    - We will get a personalized view of Princeton in January

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Facility Tour Observations

- CTE
- Original 1964 Building
- Athletics Areas
- Boilers/Chillers

Group Notes

CTE TOUR

- Too small
- Safety/space in shops
- Ventilation issues
- Missed opportunities for students because of lack of space, outdated equipment, etc.
- Classes aren't near each other
- Storage
- Spaces are filled with projects
- No a/c
- Workflow issues
- One room used for so many classes/storage
- Residential kitchen only
- Classes go to other rooms (or hallways) for labs
- These teachers and their classes are amazing
- Mismatched furniture in rooms
- Greenhouse space and age, walls, lifespan
- No physical classroom in welding
- Babies, sewing

Group Notes

ORIGINAL 1964 BUILDING TOUR

- Size of stairwells is unsafe
- Not enough bathrooms
- Classroom size too small
- CT rooms are not built for the programs & expansions:
  - FACS-storage, hoods, etc
  - Science-sinks, hoods, etc
  - Art-storage, kiln room
- Hallway size too small during passing or using lockers
- Lunch lines too long-space not large enough for the number of students
- Subjects are too spaced out to collaborate:
  - SPED is throughout the school
  - English not all together
- No AC in choir/band rooms; large group of students in those spaces all at once
- No AC in actual kitchen

Group Notes

ATHLETICS TOUR

- No activities have enough space!
- Spaces don't fit needs:
  - Gymnastics, wrestling, baseball/softball, robotics: equipment moving
  - Athletes risk injury moving equipment
  - Time spent moving equipment should be spent practicing
  - Overlapping sports need same spaces
- Everything is inadequate:
  - Robotics doesn't fit in their space
  - Limits participation to students of ALL needs
  - Running water
- Outdoor flushing toilets
- More locker spaces, tennis teams sometimes change in cards
- Light switches
- Spaces being used from 6am to 10pm
- Pool closing soon for 2 months (March-April 2025)

Group Notes

BOILER/CHILLERS TOUR

- 2.4 Million
- Can’t be piecemealed together
- Current boilers are well past life expectancy (2x)
- Replacement would reduce risk of unexpected maintenance and cost
- AC is over double the life expectancy
- Pool: Drain is deteriorating

EXIT TICKET COMMENTS FROM 11.19.24

What was the most surprising or eye-opening aspect of the facilities you toured?

Space

Safety

Impressed

Bathrooms

Air Quality

Infrastructure

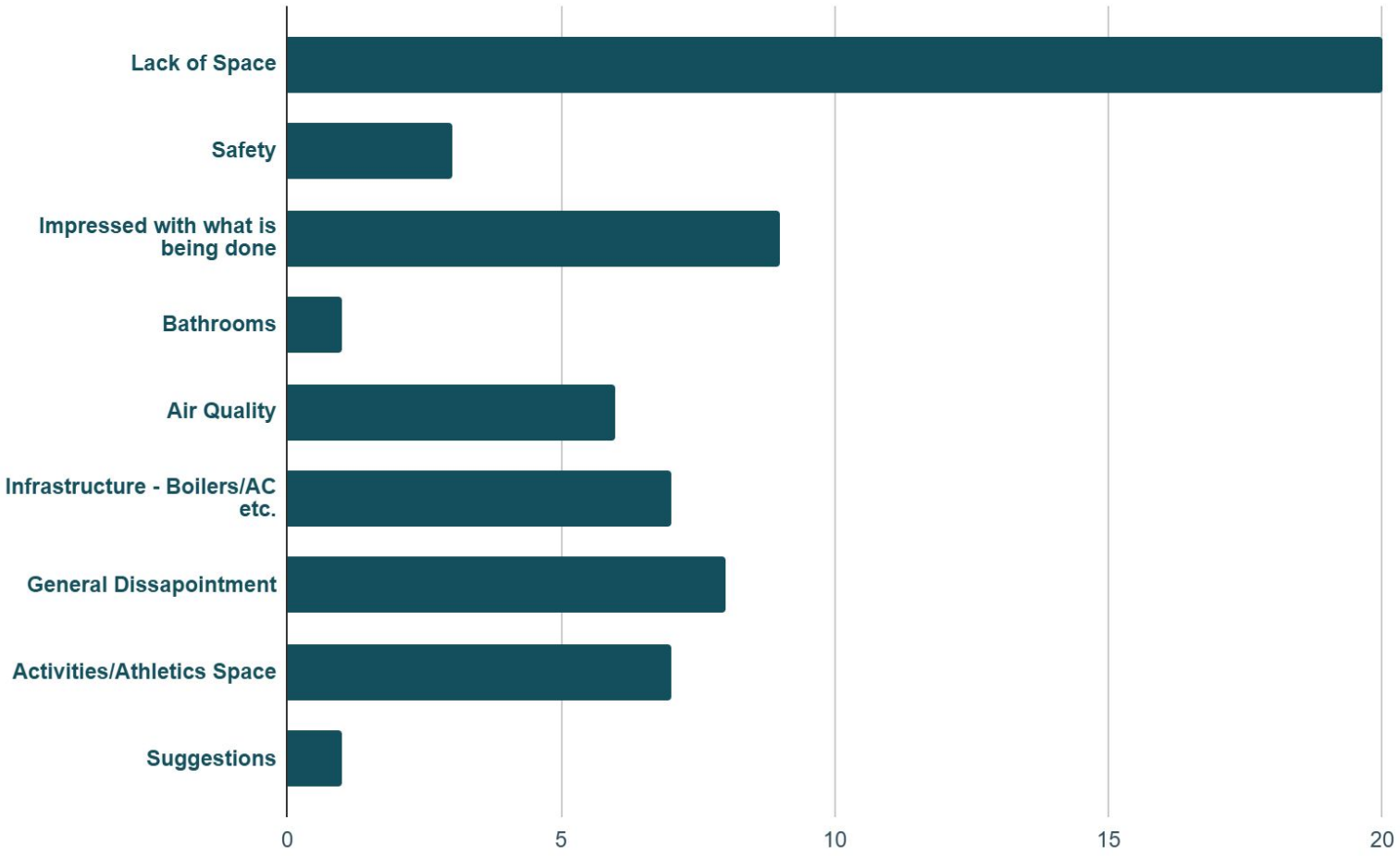
General

Disappointment

Activities/Athletics

Suggestions

- lack of space - 11
- The amount of kids involved in CTE with limited space - 1
- classroom sizes - 4
- lack of space in hallways & stairwells & this is a safety concern - 4
- safety in labs - 1
- safety issues - 1
- Impressed with the way teachers use the limited space they have. - 7
- kids put in a lot of work to do their activities - 1
- proud to see the upkeep - 1
- inadequate bathrooms - 1
- lack of airflow - 3
- air quality - 3
- fixes are inadequate in the long run - 1
- Inadequate - 1
- Inefficient - 1
- Not surprised! - 2
- missed opportunities for students - 2
- there's too much to list - 1
- How little can be done to slowly update critical infrastructure - 1
- old equipment - 6
- no running water in concessions - 2
- some sports/activities not accessible year round for practice - 1
- Pool Problems - 1
- students are changing in cars/sheds - 2
- locker room size - 1
- teachers should be grouped by subject - 1


Lack of Space
Safety
Impressed with what is being done
Bathrooms
Air Quality
Infrastructure - Boilers/AC etc.
General Dissapointment
Activities/Athletics Space
Suggestions
0
5
10
15
20

What improvements or changes do you think would have the greatest impact on student learning and well-being?

- "I think we need to start over" - 4
- Increased space in CTE - 7
- Large lunch room area - 1
- More room - 6
- Wider stairwells - 1
- Proper ventilation - 1
- Space in CTE for safety - 4
- Improved safety of equipment - 1
- Updated lighting - most areas were poorly lit with old fixtures - dungeon like - 2
- Temperature - 1
- Up to date equipment - 5
- "guts" of the building in top shape for comfortability -
- "making sure we can keep the heat on"
- Cost savings for other needs -1
- Better desk & work space - 2
- Community center/fieldhouse to use during winter - 2
- Outdoor plumbing - 1

Re-do

Space

Air Quality

Safety in CTE

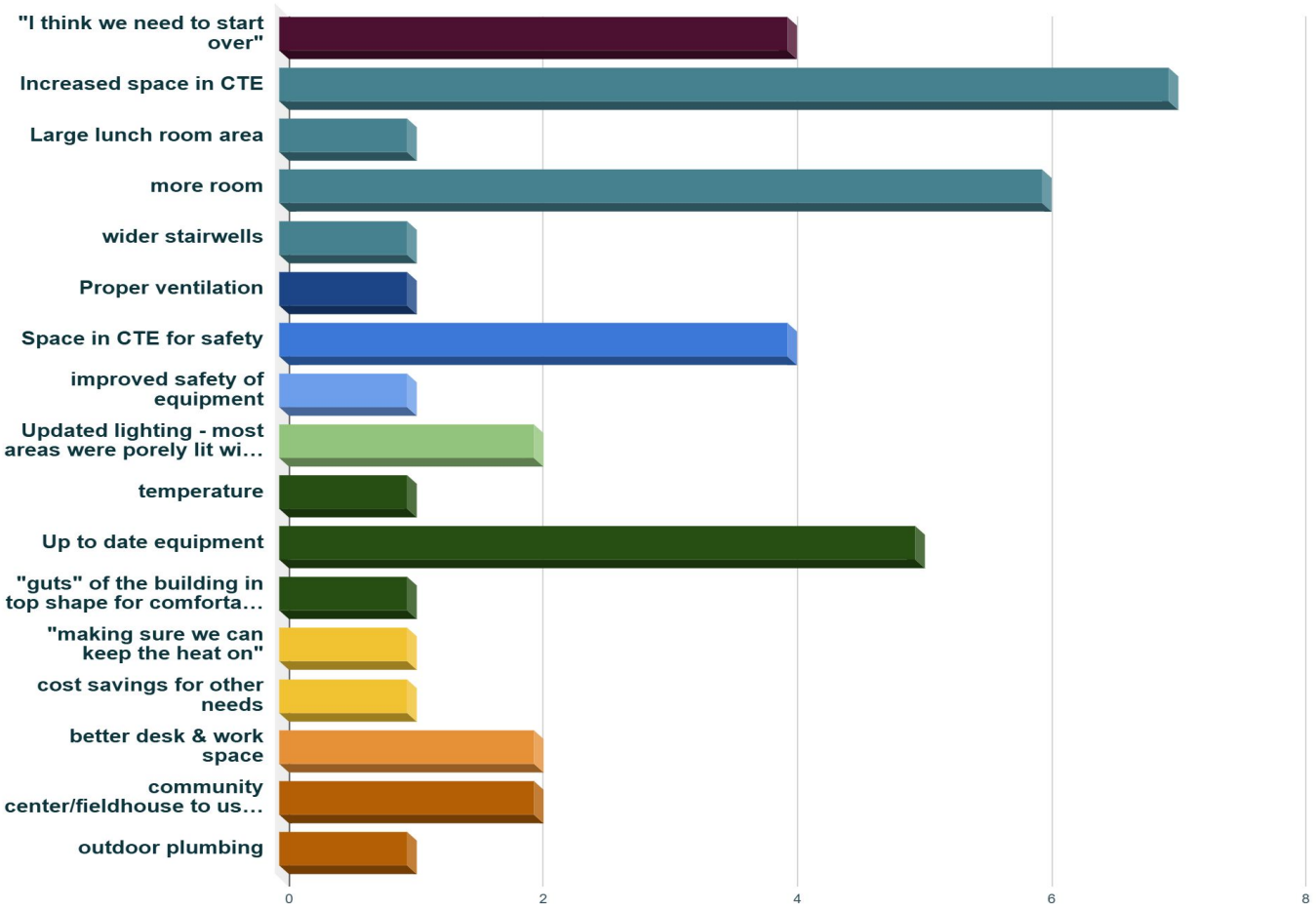
Lighting

Temperature

Cost/Savings

Classroom Spaces

Activities/Athletics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outdoor plumbing
0
2
4
6
8

What questions or concerns do you still have after seeing the current state of the facilities?

- How can we use facilities to attract families?
- "Need to get a bond going ASAP"
- How do I see the rest of the building?
- Put videos and tours online for community to see
- Safety issues are a top priority
- Need to update utilities before all parts are obsolete
- How can we engage the community more?
- How can we improve classroom sizes, spaces w/o a new building?
- Cost difference between making needed improvements vs. new building?
- "How long can we continue to sustain our aged infrastructure?"
- "How much more will be spent to try to fix infrastructure as needed?"
- "I hate that our students and teachers have to deal with this every day."

High School Student Survey Results

Linked here

Teacher Survey Results

Linked here

Princeton Family Center
Community Education - Community Engagement

Princeton Family Center - built in 1950 to be a hospital, addition added onto in 1962, remodeled in 2016 to create more of a Family Center environment.

- 43,000 square feet - spaces include seven Preschool classrooms, an ECFE classroom, a parent room, an infant room, a Tiger Club room, a lunch room, a gym, two conference rooms, and 20 offices for Family Center and District staff.
- We currently serve 200+ preschool students and 30+ tiger club students at the Family Center.
- When Preschool Tiger Club goes over 30 students, we use the lunch room or a conference room for overflow.
- We do not have capabilities to increase to an 8th Preschool classroom in our current facilities.

ISD #477 - Facilities Rental

An average year of five building's rentals:

- Over 4,000 community requests, which results in over 25,000+ participants using school facilities
- The number above does not include the 1,000+ school user requests each year. This includes anything before or after school and includes meetings, concerts, and other outreach or school sponsored events such as Prom, Conferences, and Graduation to name a few.
- During the 2023-24 school year, our buildings were used for an additional 63,516 hours outside the school day, as we run rentals from 6am to 10pm.
- These additional hours are hard on our facilities and staff, as many of these hours fall on the weekend.

Rapp Strategies Presentation

Linked here

Intermediate & Student Services Discussion

Linked here

Group Discussion
Prioritize Facility Needs

- Think on your own - list specific needs important to you
- Share your needs to your small group
  - Create a list for your group
  - Prioritize the list
- Share your list with the large group