

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF JEFFERSON

FACILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

A meeting of the Facility Advisory Committee of the School District of Jefferson was held on Wednesday, June 22, 2022, in the Jefferson High School Library. Superintendent Urness called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., with the following members present: Emilie Shoop, Peg Beyer, Chris Schmidt, Beth Krahn, Ben Warborg, Ryan Mundt, and Jen Pinnow. Absent: Jeff Laesch, Francis Langer, Tonya Umbarger, Roger Ganser, Dale Gaugert, Susie Schuld, Jim Pratt, Lynn Enke, Leah Thorp, and Lindsay Knoebel Baneck.

Others in Attendance: Superintendent Charlie Urness; Valerie Schmitt, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent; Laura Peachey, Director of Business Services; Tim Graffin, Maintenance Director, and Mark Peterson, Athletic Director along with planning partners from Findorff: Erika Freeman and Jessica Darling and Eppstein Uhen Architects (EUA): Andy Lyons.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Ben Warborg, seconded by Susie Schuld, to approve the minutes from the April 20, 2022 committee meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

COMMUNITY SURVEY DEBRIEF: Superintendent Urness reviewed the community survey with the committee, gave a summary of the results, and asked for committee feedback.

ADVISORY RECOMMENDATION PRESENTATION: Superintendent Urness reviewed the information that will be presented to the Board at the June 27th Board meeting. This presentation will include:

- Facility Advisory Committee planning background and process
- Facility, learning environment, and maintenance needs
- Option development & refinement
- Community facility survey summary and results
- Committee recommendation to the Board
- Next steps

FACILITY SURVEY SUMMARY: Erika Freeman from Findorff reviewed the community survey summary asking the committee for feedback on highlights to include. Highlights were:

- Over 1,100 respondents, which is an above-average response rate
- 85% of all respondents believe the District is delivering a high-quality education
- 57% of all respondents would support option 1
- 35% of all respondents would support option 2
- 51% weighted support for up to a \$34 million referendum for facilities updates
- Respondents indicated the additional projects tested in the survey were not a priority to address at this time

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: The committee discussed options for a recommendation to the Board. The final consensus on a recommendation to the Board was to form a facility referendum for November 2022 not to exceed \$34 million. The scope of work should reflect the highest priorities identified in the community survey, keeping all five district buildings operational, which include but are not limited to:

- Improving safety and security at Sullivan and East Elementary Schools
- Updating site and learning environments district-wide
- Updating technical education and agriculture classrooms and labs at the High School
- Updating the priority 0-2 of district-wide maintenance projects

The committee also discussed making an additional recommendation to the Board to consider a second ballot question on the November 2022 ballot to address softball fields or consider a facilities referendum in April 2023 for the athletic complex that was tested in the survey.

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Members of the committee expressed that the Board needs to put a plan in place for when and how to address the inequity of the softball fields. They understood that although the athletic complex tested as a low priority, the softball fields could be pulled out and addressed independently of the remainder of the needed fields. The Committee also understood the need to include restrooms and concessions if a softball field were built which adds costs to the project. Their recommendation is to create a plan for the softball fields and implement it as soon as possible.

NEXT STEPS: Dr. Urness discussed the next steps the Board will need to take from this point forward. Planning

ADJOURN:

Meeting concluded at 7:45 p.m.

Valerie Schmitt, Scribe