

Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting

October 16, 2025

Meeting Minutes

Administrators Present: Kody Godsey, Kevin Kritsberg, Jeffrey Matzner, Matthew McFarland, Josh Reynolds, Vanessa Sanders, Belinda Wallen, and Jeffrey Williams

Board Members Present: Tim Seigman and Jeremy Davis

Public Present: Julieta Booz

Topics for Discussion:

1. Discuss future use and renovations at Eisenhower Elementary School
 - a. Mr. Reynolds indicated there were appraisals done on Eisenhower Elementary School, 120 East Broadway, Gettysburg, that showed it was worth approximately \$2.6 million. The district held off discussions for future use of the site until completion of the demographic study.
 - b. Ms. Wallen noted that a recommendation from the demographic study was to keep all buildings, including Eisenhower, due to the potential for expansion in the future.
 - c. Mr. Davis questioned the \$11 million estimated for the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) renovation work that would be needed at the facility down the road. He asked about the possibility of expanding James Gettys Elementary, if there was a need due to population growth.
 - d. Under school code, Ms. Wallen said once you do a construction project like the HVAC work at James Gettys Elementary, you cannot touch it for 20 years.
 - e. Ms. Wallen also shared that our growth capacity for special education is far outweighing what the district budgeted due to the Lincoln Intermediate Unit (LIU) discontinuing services.
 - f. Ms. Wallen indicated they've had to send students to other placements due to the lack of space, noting this issue was not addressed in the demographic study but was included in the 2025-2028 Comprehensive Plan.
 - g. Dr. Matzner said the Comprehensive Plan showed special education students returning to the district over a three-year period, which was accelerated due to the LIU's change.
 - h. The district is evaluating options to bring the rest of the special education students back for the 2026-2027 school year and looking at costs.
 - i. Mr. Reynolds recommended a district-wide space assessment to examine the square footage needed for classrooms due to building floor plans being the same as when the buildings were constructed over the past 50-plus years.
 - j. Mr. Seigman asked if we currently have space for students.
 - k. Dr. Matzner said we do have some space available, including classrooms run by New Story that could be run by our own staff. He indicated he knows some districts have kindergarten through second grade buildings and third through fifth grade buildings, but the larger obstacle is how far Franklin Township Elementary is from other areas of the district.
 - l. Mr. Seigman asked when the lease expires with Vida Charter School, which operates out of the Eisenhower facility.

- m. Ms. Wallen noted Vida's lease expires in 2027, so they would be working on that process in 2026.
 - n. Mr. Davis asked for the number of special education students that are returning to the district.
 - o. While the numbers fluctuate, Dr. Matzner said he would check with staff and share that information.
2. High School Gymnasium Athletics PA System replacement
- a. Mr. Godsey reported that the gymnasium sound system produces poor-quality audio with frequent squeaking and echoing, making it challenging to use effectively.
 - b. Mr. Williams noted that the system consists of many parts from other buildings dating back 25 years, with the exception of a controller and processor purchased in 2009.
 - c. Mr. Williams indicated it would cost approximately \$58,000 to replace the entire system, including cabling and speakers. The cost may be slightly lower since they replaced the controller last month, he said.
 - d. Mr. Seigman asked what kind of sound system and referenced the horns used in the past.
 - e. Mr. Reynolds clarified that this is just a public announcement system, which is separate from the scoreboard system that functions properly.
 - f. Mr. Seigman asked where the funding is coming for this project.
 - g. The money would come from the athletic equipment renewals funding previously approved and set aside, according to Mr. Reynolds.

The next meeting will be held on November 20, 2025 at 4 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Administration Building.