

The Olentangy Facilities Committee Meeting
October 1, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.
Olentangy Administrative Offices- Berlin Room

In attendance for the Facilities Committee were:

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| ☒ Eisenhower, Frank | ☐ McCaughey, Kevin |
| ☐ Eisinger, Brian | ☒ Rogers, Greg |
| ☒ Fouss, Andy | ☒ Scott, Mark |
| ☒ Gilliam, Jarrod | ☐ Smith, Wesley |
| ☐ King, Dave | ☒ Troxell, Joe |

Also in attendance were Dr. Jack Fette (OLSD), Jeff Gordon (OLSD), Anna Marie Howey (OLSD) and Michelle Murphy (OLSD).

Frank Eisenhower called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the night's agenda and the minutes from the September 10, 2025, meeting.

Joe Troxell moved, and Jarrod Gilliam seconded the motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Jarrod Gilliam moved, and Joe Troxell seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2025, meeting. Motion carried.

District Enrollment-

OLSD's Dr. Jack Fette shared a PowerPoint presentation with members in attendance relevant to this year's enrollment projections and reporting. A copy of the presentation is available upon request through the district's Business Office.

Dr. Fette addressed that in the ten-year outlook, the district's student enrollment growth appears to slightly slow from the previous reporting predictions for the same time period. Instead of an increase of 5000 students in the next ten years, it appears that the enrollment growth may more likely be around 4000 students. While this change may slightly defer the dates when new district buildings are needed, it is not likely enough to eliminate the need for any of the new buildings forecasted or the buildings on this ballot.

Dr. Fette reviewed numerous graphs depicting the continued and steady enrollment growth within the district. Population growth in the county is anticipated to continue at a rapid growth rate into the 2030's. Single family building permits for the year are over 800 and multi-family permits are still numerous as well. The continued area growth will directly impact the district's need for new school buildings. At the current time, the district's immediate needs are for Elementary #18 and High School #5. Future needs are believed to be as follows:

- Elementary #19- needed by 2029-2031
- Elementary #20- needed by 2032-2034
- Elementary #21- needed by 2034-2035

There is still a need for Middle School #7, but some “flat years” at the middle school level are forthcoming, which may allow for programmatic adjustments to be made to accommodate the growth. Max enrollment per middle school building is around 1250 students, but it can’t be achieved without additional staffing and adjustments to work through the strain that it puts on the building, staff, and educational process.

Dr. Fette believes it unlikely in the forecast for there to be a need for High School #6. Once High School #5 is open, the district should be able to function in a more optimal condition at the high school level for the foreseeable future. Currently, OOHS and BHS have the largest high school enrollments within the district.

Dr. Fette, shared a facility “Utilization Chart” by grade level in the PowerPoint presentation. The chart, using color coding, provides a clear and concise depiction of projected building capacity percentages for the upcoming school years. Dr. Fette indicated that district buildings would be “well utilized” in the 80 percent range because it would give the buildings options for growth and change. OLSD’s buildings are far exceeding this utilization rate, which does not allow for much flexibility. Members believed the chart to summarize the district’s upcoming facility needs nicely (in a condensed and direct format). They suggested that Dr. Fette incorporate this information into a summary page for the enrollment forecast reporting to the Board of Education (BOE).

Dr. Fette noted that regardless of the outcome of the bond issue in November (pass or fail) the district will have the need to redistrict students. Dr. Fette also advised members that it is important to keep in mind that programs such as Preschool, SLC, OASIS and ACT impact the space available in specific buildings at any given time. These programs are thriving at OLSD and continued growth within these programs impacts the space available for the district’s traditional educational programs.

Preschool enrollment numbers remain one of the most difficult to predict because of multiple variables (1/2-day kindergarten, state vouchers, etc.). Currently, new home sales are resulting in more district enrollment growth than the sale of existing homes within the district. Multifamily enrollment growth does not appear to be as impactful as in the past. In his review, Dr. Fette adjusted the “variance calculations” for this year’s reporting downward from 10 percent to 5 percent. He wants our numbers to continue to be accurate, but he also does not want to artificially “pad” the numbers to depict excessive growth.

Members thanked Dr. Fette for his presentation and entered into a brief discussion regarding the information shared. Questions from members were addressed and a few formatting changes were suggested.

Chair Frank Eisenhower called for a motion from members to recommend the presentation of this year’s Enrollment Projections Reporting to the Board of Education.

Member Joe Troxell moved and Co-Chair Mark Scott seconded the motion. All were in support of the motion, and none were opposed. Motion carried.

With the committee's recommendation above, Dr. Fette plans (with the assistance of Chair Frank Eisenhower) to share this year's enrollment projections reporting with the Board of Education at the 10/16/25 BOE meeting.

Facilities Master Plan-

Prior to this evening's meeting, Jeff Gordon emailed an updated copy of the district's proposed Facilities Master Plan to members to review. Mr. Gordon incorporated items and edits identified at the 9/10/25 Facilities Committee meeting into the updated plan for final review and discussion at this evening's meeting. A copy of the plan is available upon request through the district's Business Office.

Chair Frank Eisenhower believes the document to be very concise and a good reference document for the community. Member Greg Rogers really liked the site plan drawings for the proposed new schools included in the plan. Member Jarrod Gilliam noted a brief edit needed for Appendix G, the appendix is not titled like the others. Mr. Gilliam would also like to see updates to the Facilities Master Plan annually (or every two years at most) so that the document remains a current resource for the district and the community. It was suggested that the document be updated every fall with the enrollment projections process.

Chair Frank Eisenhower called for a motion from members to recommend that the Facilities Master Plan be shared with the Board of Education at an upcoming meeting.

Co-Chair Mark Scott moved, and member Greg Rogers seconded the motion. All were in support of the motion, and none were opposed. Motion carried.

Chief Operations Officer, Jeff Gordon, hopes to share the Facilities Master Plan information with the Board of Education at the 10/16/25 BOE meeting.

Influencers-

Tariffs continue to be an issue that could largely influence construction pricing and supply in the future. At this time, members are hearing about tariff amounts of 10 percent or more on lumber and OSB. This would have a direct impact on new construction project costs nationally.

Members also made mention of the passage of HB96, which changes the previous process in which construction notifications are required to be issued/handled.

Pending state legislature continues to impact the way in which schools are funded. The clawback provision is especially harmful to the school funding process. If the state continues to underfund OLSD and put clawback provisions into effect, OLSD will likely need to be on the ballot every two years requesting funding from the community. This is not a good situation for Ohio schools or their community members.

OLSD's state report card results were tremendous (especially considering the large size of the district). It is hoped that this leaves residents feeling supportive when deciding how to vote in November.

***Frank Eisenhower called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Joe Troxell moved, and Jarrod Gilliam seconded the motion. Motion carried.***

The Facilities Committee meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

The next monthly meeting is tentatively scheduled for 11/5/25.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Gordon