

SAC Meeting 3/20/26 – Holmes Middle School

Overview

The meeting discussed the FCCLA program's success, with 13 qualifiers for Nationals last year, and the upcoming state competition in Denver. Kyle Chamberlain, principal of Holmes Middle School, highlighted the school's involvement in the \$750 million bond proposal for District 11. The bond, if approved, would fund a complete rebuild of Holmes Middle School. The school also plans a landscape project to improve the front entryway, beginning this spring. Enrollment is strong, and recent hires include a special education teacher and an outdoor education teacher. The CMAS assessments are scheduled for April 6-10.

FCCLA Program Overview and Achievements

- FCCLA involves presentations and state competitions, with students competing in Denver this April for Nationals (Washington DC).
- Last year, 13 students from the school qualified for Nationals, which was held in Florida.
- The program has led to various school projects, such as bike safety signage and traffic light improvements.

Discussion on the Bond Project

- Discussion of the \$750 million bond proposal for District 11, emphasizing its significance and the need for community support.
- The bond would impact 54 schools and facilities, with a focus on reducing the tax implications for homeowners.
- The bond is in the exploration stage, with plans to present it to voters in November 2026.

Rendering and Design Plans for Holmes Middle School

- Renderings of a modernized update of Holmes Middle School shared, emphasizing the importance of a connected campus.
- The new building would be constructed while the current facility remains operational, minimizing disruption.
- The design includes open spaces, collaborative learning areas, and modern amenities like large windows and air conditioning.
- The community will have input into the final design, with plans to start construction within the next year.

Community Involvement and Bond Information

- Community members are encouraged to visit the District 11 website to see how much money has been allocated to each school.
- The bond allocation dashboard shows the impact of the bond on different schools, with Holmes Middle School receiving a complete rebuild.
- The community is encouraged to provide feedback and support the bond proposal to ensure the best possible outcomes for students.

Challenges and Opportunities in the Bond Process

- Discussion on the challenges of convincing voters to support the bond, given past experiences and community trust issues.
- The district is working to address these challenges by providing clear information and engaging with the community.
- The district is committed to being transparent and accountable in the use of bond funds, ensuring that the community's investment is well-managed.

Current and Future Projects at Holmes Middle School

- Discussion on the ongoing projects at Holmes Middle School, including a front entryway landscape refresh.
- The project includes removing split rail fences, installing new bike racks, and creating multi-tiered seating areas.
- The district is also working on improving signage and increasing vegetation on the school campus.
- These projects aim to enhance the appearance and functionality of the school, preparing for the potential construction of a new building.

Teacher Hiring and Program Development

- Special education teacher, a dyslexia specialist, and an outdoor education teacher are all new hires.
- The school is also expanding its gifted magnet program, with plans to add more teachers and students.
- The focus is on hiring exceptional teachers and providing them with the resources they need to succeed.
- The school is committed to maintaining a strong teaching staff and offering high-quality educational programs for students.

Action Items

- Identify someone who will serve as the bond liaison and parent support (boots-on-the-ground) for Holmes Middle School's bond outreach and coordination
- Collect school/community priorities and submit those ideas to District 11 for the bond planning (information due soon; board decision expected in August for a November ballot)
- Invite community members beyond just parents to attend the Coronado feedback meeting to gather broader community input

People in attendance: Tamara Forrest, Kayleigh Glaspie-Biondo, Ryan McAllister, Uriah Kimmig, Denise LaPlante, Deb Busier, Rachel Denkwalter, Jennifer McCall, Lauren Blazis Walker, Kyle Chamberlain