

High School Space Study Committee Meeting  
March 30, 2017

Summary

Welcome – Chair Jim Orndoff

Margot Zahner introduced Danait Tmedhin, 8<sup>th</sup> grader from Skyline Middle School who will be joining the Committee.

Mr. Orndoff noted that comment cards were provided on each table for public comments/questions.

Craig Mackail presented on:

- 1) High School enrollment comparisons with other school divisions (on website).
- 2) Prior School Board action/conversation to address high school space issues (on website):
  - Reviewed High School Discussion Timeline
  - Mobile units – next year will have a total of 8 at the high school, current cost--\$840/month to rent (units add classroom space, not capacity)
- 3) Review of annex and add-on building options prepared by Moseley Architects:
  - Their task was to study and give the School Board good information on how to expand capacity from 1,350 to 2,150.
  - RFP was written to build an annex noting that if built, athletic fields had to be replaced. After meeting and talking with high school staff, architects felt an addition would be a better option.
  - Discussed annex and an addition – location, pricing, both would accommodate 800 students.
  - VMDO Architects has been hired to do a study on a stand-alone high school facility – will get their report in April.
  - Discussion held on annex vs addition – both options still give us one really big high school.

Cynthia Prieto, HHS principal, shared additional high school information and reviewed alternative schedule concept:

- with a large enrollment, many high school students miss out on opportunities.
- in favor of having two high schools – more opportunities
- referred to document “Growth at High School--Last Three Years” (on website)

- discussed how class sizes have grown and the benefits of having smaller class sizes.
- auditorium will not hold all students when have bigger activities, e.g. pep rallies—four/year.
- community and culture – gets more diluted the larger the number grows.

Nate Hissong and Peter Norment, HHS staff members, shared and commented on their experiences regarding: class sizes, sense of stress on teachers due to oversized class sizes, overwhelming for some students who come in to the high school, limited access to programs, going to school on an alternate schedule would cause more problems.

Dr. Kizner commented that the alternative schedule analysis is on the website. Transportation would be a huge issue for this type of schedule.

#### Comments/Questions:

- Mr. Orndoff commented that what he is hearing is that it looks like we are looking at the new high school option, but would like to know what the options look like from a cost stand point regarding property tax, where is city going to get the money from, what implications will be for a \$50 million and \$100 million endeavor, etc.
- Deb Fitzgerald referred to the Davenport & Company, financial advisors, report that has worked out many different scenarios and presented to City Council at their February 28 meeting (see City's website—agenda item #7C Report from Financial Advisors)
- A question was raised on where there is available property locations. Dr. Kizner commented that the preference would be east side of 81. On Thursday, April 27, the architects will present information to the Committee and give possibilities. Dr. Kizner reminded Committee to keep in mind that some land might not be for sale and Council still needs to give approval. If a decision was made today the earliest we are looking at is 2020.
- Mr. Orndoff asked for a straw poll vote on the three options for a long-term solution -- building a second high school was the favored choice.

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- Dr. Kizner reminded the Committee that if they are dissatisfied with the school board or city council's decision they need to make it known.
- Group decided that they did not need to meet next week, April 6.

### Homework:

- Review Davenport & Company's report to City Council.
- Think about what questions you may have for staff as it relates to the second high school (program issues, athletics, etc.). Send your questions to Dr. Kizner before the April 20 meeting so he has time to prepare responses.
- Digest all the information provided and talk to people in the community.

With no further discussion, Chair Orndoff adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m

**Next meeting: April 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.**