



INFORMAL MINUTES

A meeting of the Board's School Improvement Bond Committee Meeting came to order at 4:35 pm at the call of Committee Chair Andrew Scott in the Willamette Conference Room at the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N Dixon Street, Portland, Oregon, 97227.

There were present:

Committee Members

Andrew Scott

Staff and Other Attendees

Kara Bradshaw – Executive Assistant, Board of Education
Marina Cresswell – Senior Director, Office of School Modernization
Dan Jung – Chief Operating Officer
Cynthia Le – Chief Financial Officer
David Roy – Interim Senior Director of Communication
Kevin Spellman – Bond Accountability Committee

Agenda Planning

Dan Jung stated that meeting is more conversational than future meetings will be, in order to figure out what the cadence and priorities would be. It was decided to plan on meetings every other week through the end of the year, and then move to a monthly schedule. Additionally, Director Scott would like to have every other month work session with the board (30 minutes).

The Bond Accountability Committee charter amendment will be on the next board meeting.

It was noted that the Bond Performance Audit is done by an outside auditing firm. It covers contracting, operations and filing systems, and they make recommendations based on their observations. Dan Jung asked if the performance audit should go to sub committees and the full board. Director Scott said the audit report should go to the sub committees, the Bond Accountability Committee, and the full board, but that any presentations could be done at just the subcommittee and BAC level (i.e., not the full board unless the board requests it).

Dan Jung noted that there will be funds left over from the 2012 Bond and that there needs to be discussion regarding what they want to do with the savings, either wrap up some things from the current projects, or work on other projects that fit within the bond language. Some items suggestion for consideration are work on Roosevelt Phase 4 (which would add a 10,000 addition half maker space and half CTE space), Improvement Projects (largely incremental seismic improvements), Grant Bowl (the softball field was put on hold to make sure that there were funds and the location wouldn't be idea, so softball is playing in the Grant Bowl and so funds could add to the Bowl to make additions, such as lights and seating). Director Scott asked if there is there any way to roll over some of the 2012 funds to the shortfalls in the 2017 bond. Kevin Spellman stated that he thinks they should keep them separate, because there is work that hasn't been completed from the 2012 projects, and because it has a good success rate.

Director Scott asked if there was any ranking of facility needs that are based on any consistent criteria. Dan Jung replied that there isn't anything recent that has been done. Director Scott would like to think about how far along we are in developing ranking criteria, not just for the bond, but also for all projects. Making sure that we applying objective criteria including our focus on equity. Even if the criteria were not fully flushed out, it would be good to apply what we have to decide on where to apply the savings from the 2012 bond. What are the criteria used to decide where to apply capital budget. Marina Cresswell has information on what the city uses, and will send it to Dan Jung.

Future bond planning

Dan Jung stated that each planning item is broken out into different teams and it will be important to invite the correlating team members to committee meetings when the topic comes up. If the board opts to put a bond on the ballot in 2020, referral should be made by summer 2019 at the latest. Needs continued work on the scope.

Director Scott asked how the substantive side and the political questions come together. Dan Jung said that the question is how big is the pie and how big are each of the slices. Facilities will work to identify that, and then the committee can weigh in, before a recommendation is made to the board. After a recommendation is made to the Board, then community engagement begins. Cynthia Le stated that they are working on the financial side. They are identifying how long the 2017 bond will last and so they can project when they'll need to request another bond. They want to make sure that the tax rate stays the same.

It was questioned whether we should ask for the bond again for 4 years, as in previous years, or if it should be an eight year bond period. Claire Hertz states that the advantage to a larger length of time is that you can add more projects to the list, which will help more people feel like their needs are being addressed, as opposed to communities pitting against each other to get their project done. Another advantage to an eight year bond is that it is a lot of work for staff to put together a package every four years. Cynthia Le noted that even though two four year bonds cost the same amount of money to tax payers, the bigger over all amount of an eight year bond could cause voters to feel like it would cost more.

Director Scott said it would be nice to put together three packages, since the information is already being put together, and asked if that was realistic to do before coming to the board, or does the district need more input? Dan Jung said that because the relationship with the board they could put together some high level plans and share it with the board, but that it would be better to present to the public once one plan was decided on so that it would be easier to synthesize the data.

Teen Parent & Health Clinics

Review discussion on the importance of including teen parent centers and health clinics in all new/modernized high schools. It has been said that there may not need to be one in each school. Claire Hertz said that they were put in when the student need was much higher (due to changes in poverty levels). There are still a few that need services. Do we want to continue to put them in every school when the need isn't there as much? We will need to get current statistics. It is also hard to get providers into the schools now, as they have moved closer to the need (in East County). Director Scott mentioned we should also look at what the proximity of the health services in the area.

External Cost Estimating Analysis

The district has contracted with professional cost estimators to look at comparable school modernization projects to see if our costs are in line with what other similar projects cost. It has been done and the data is being looked at. The outside contractor had a hard time finding the data, and then had a hard time putting it into words.

Next steps

- Schedule the next meeting.
- Assign a board member as a liaison to the Bond Accountability Committee.
- Audit reports.
- Draft future agendas in advance so that materials can be produced in advance.

Adjourn

Committee Chair Andrew Scott Adjourned the meeting at 6:02 pm.

Submitted by:

Kara Bradshaw, Executive Assistant
PPS Board of Education