

Strategic Facilities Planning Committee
Willow Kindergarten Gym
February 11, 2014

Scott Rose welcomed all returning attendees; a building tour was conducted.

★ No real surprises noted in the building

- Question was asked about asbestos in the building and if there is a plan in place.
 - All buildings have an asbestos plan in place, most all friable asbestos has been removed from the buildings or it is enclosed. Some under the gym area however nothing is accessible to the children.

Tonights meeting: Review the draft plan for presentation to the LGSD Board. Make adjustments, refine our plan. We will identify what we would like to accomplish in Phase One and items not included will fall under Phase Two or be re-assessed in four to five years. All items we have discussed will go to the board.

The information will be a recommendation to the board, items that they should explore. They will look at and evaluate for their long range facility plans, could poll the community, other components could affect their plan. The recommendation will go to the board on February 26th and be presented by two people from this committee, not including board members or LGSD employees.

★ **General:**

- Refer to kindergarten additions to the schools as “neighborhood” kindergarten rather than “community centered”
- Remove oldest (ahead of school buildings)
- Add comment about security and safety environment

★ **Scope:**

- Change the number of classrooms at Island City to seven (replace modulars and add three for kindergarten).
- Add food service warming/prep area and include the replacement of the gym floor; increase cost to approx 3,325,000
 - Discussion ensued over the use or removal of the modular classrooms and security and safety issues they present to both Island City and Central Elementary schools. A vote was taken to include four new classrooms at Island City (16 Yes 7 No) and add the food service warming/prep area (17 Yes 6 No)
 - Concerns were brought up about the lack of dollars specified for LHS vs the larger amount and changes for Island City. - Part of the \$10,000,000 allocated for Critical Capital Needs are for LHS.
- Greenwood: Add one new classroom, rearrange other classrooms and add two kindergarten classes to model the current two classes per grade group. Maintain the computer lab as it is. Draft plan called for three kindergarten classrooms.
- LHS Improvements - CTE, Gymnasium and Auditorium:
 - CTE program: Discussion about what to include for their programs, look for private partners; is it feasible in La Grande to count on partnerships?. LHS is currently creating a CTE Committee to research what types of programs LGSD should offer, ideas to incorporate, programs and research partners. Could incorporate community meeting opportunities/ programs to include the rest of the community. Create a program and a building that can be expandable. Place the

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new building on the unused softball field next to student parking lot and save the tennis courts for repair at a later date.

- Remove the dollar amount from this item for the time being. Place a footnote on this item stating “size and breadth of program to be determined”
- Give the CTE Committee time to make recommendations on programs to be offered to the board
- Change name from CTE to Industrial Arts (Building) LGSD needs to have the CTE program well defined if they expect the voters to support this effort
- Central - Classroom size could be increased from 900 -> 960 sqft.
- Discussion about the dollar differences between the schools and what can be done with the money allotted. Must work on items that are critical for code/life safety. Not all schools will receive the same allotment due to future plans to replace
- Gymnasium and Auditorium Improvements were agreed upon as defined
- Critical Capital Needs
 - Add cooling for LHS upstairs west building
 - LMS exterior doors will be reviewed further
 - Explain LHS roofing repairs previously and future plans
 - Willow - Discussion about future plans after kindergarten moves back to neighborhood schools. Only the four classrooms will be moving out of Willow, the rest of the building will remain in use
 - Kindergarten moving to neighborhood schools enables better educational support services for students. Library, Counseling, Special Education services with more frequency; currently only one day per week. Alternative plans for Willow could include:
 - Incorporating pre-school into LGSD’s curriculum programs. Ready to learn schools. ODE states school should be a P-20 program
 - House online computer education, such as an online education center for home school and other students.
 - Tear down old portion of building and move modulars to Willow for District Office staff. Retain gymnasium for community use

★ **Funding:**

- The group discussed the amount of the tax rate with a cap not to exceed \$1.99 per thousand of assessed home value. We could structure the bond/funding options for 25 years and step the tax rates (i.e. for the first 10-12 years the tax rates drops from \$1.99 to \$1.25 and you build in bonding capacity for another bond). Put parameters in the recommendation to the LGSD Board for different funding scenarios.

The committee membership list was reviewed with the following comments/corrections:

- ★ Remove Steve Soldavini
- ★ Remove Graves, Laurie

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- ★ Update Mark Harris
- ★ Remove names of committee members that have not participated in the meetings

★ **Closing Remarks**

- Base plan increased approximately \$2,000,000 at Island City
- Decreased temporarily at Greenwood
- Committee agreed as to the scope of work
- Make the work cost effective and affordable to community
- Make the tax base rate under \$2.00 per thousand
- Part of the CTE (Industrial Arts) investment reduced by \$1,000,000; bring in partners
- Look at different funding mechanisms to reduce cost, grants available to research and incorporate if possible
 - Presenters nominated for presentation: Ken Shelton and John Warness. Mayor Porkorney also volunteered for the presentation to the LGSD Board on February 26, 2014. All members were invited to come to the board meeting.

Submitted by:
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