

## MEETING NOTES

Meeting #3

Tuesday, November 5, 2019

Leo Adams Middle School

### 1. WELCOME

Assistant Superintendent Tim McClure welcomed the committee and reviewed the meeting agenda with the group.

### 2. MEETING #2 RECAP

Assistant Superintendent Tim McClure reviewed how the tax rate is set up, comparing the M&O and I&S portions of the tax rate. He explained how the M&O is used for day-to-day operations and expenses and I&S is the bond, or debt, portion. He showed an example of a \$5,000 tax bill and how those funds are dispersed.

McClure reviewed the Templeton Demographic report from the last meeting and highlighted how NISD is the fourth fastest-growing district in DFW. The full demographic report, including the enrollment projections, can be found on the Meeting #2 presentation on the website.

McClure showed a potential schedule to keep up with growth, showing new elementary schools in the next seven years, two new middle schools, an expansion at Northwest High School and another new comprehensive high school in 2027-28. Templeton's report shows HS#4 could be needed in 2024, but McClure pointed out that is without any changes to the current attendance boundaries.

He reviewed the committee's questionnaire responses. The majority of respondents said the district should plan for as many years as it can afford. McClure explained this is in line with the administration's thought process as well. This is a little different than how the district has planned in the past, having a bond election every four years (on average). 50% said the district should plan for as many new elementary schools that it can afford in the next 10 years. 35% said the district should plan for as many new middle schools that it can afford in the next 10 years. 80% said the district should include the new high school (HS#4) in this bond program.

*Questions:*

- 1. If you pass a bond election, will you have enough money on the M&O side to pay more teachers needed for the new students?**

Yes. McClure explained how the state funding works and how the district will plan for staffing.

- 2. Will we need to consider changing attendance boundaries?**

Yes. McClure explained how the district does this each year now.

- 3. If we plan for a 10-year bond, would we have another bond in 3 years? 5 years? 10 years?**

McClure explained that if the district plans for 10 years of growth, it's safe to say that the district wouldn't start planning for another bond sooner than 5-7 years, but beyond that, it's hard to predict.

- 4. Will we know the attendance boundaries by the January LRPC meeting?**

No. McClure explained it's too early to begin the boundary process for schools that are not yet planned. Attendance boundaries are considered annually, regardless of bond planning.

- 5. 10 years seems like a long time. Is that too far out to plan a bond?**

McClure explained how that's one of the challenges and how costs are escalated out for future years and not knowing what the economy will look like in the future.

- 3. CONSENSUS** – McClure asked the committee to define consensus. Committee members discussed and debated how many people would be considered a consensus. They discussed a majority, 2/3 of the voting committee, ¾ of the voting committee, etc. Several committee members pointed out that through the prioritization process that they'll be able to reach consensus with a large majority – or potentially all of the committee – easily.

#### **4. REVIEW POTENTIAL PROJECTS**

Assistant Superintendent Tim McClure reviewed the number of schools needed for growth and outlined departmental needs and potential projects for consideration.

#### **GROWTH PROJECTS**

The majority of the committee agreed to the need for all projects shown for growth, two questions were asked:

- 1. Do we need to consider a third middle school for growth?**

That will be considered based on enrollment projections and length of bond, as determined by committee.

## 2. What about a performing arts center?

Based on last committee, that's a reasonable question. It would need to be on a separate proposition.

## DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

### ATHLETICS

- A program overview was provided, showing that 4,900+ students participate and how many accomplishments were earned in 2018-2019. The achievements were in every sport.
- Potential athletic projects included:
  - Enlarge high school gyms (NHS, BNHS, EHS)
  - Athletic ticket booths (NHS, BNHS, EHS)
  - Concession stand with restrooms for soccer and football (BNHS)
  - Cover batting cages (NHS, BNHS, EHS)
  - Concession stand for baseball and softball (EHS)
  - Renovate middle school weight rooms (CTMS, Pike, Medlin)
  - Renovate Texan Stadium
  - Resurface tennis courts (CTMS, Pike, Wilson, Tidwell)
  - Add tennis courts at Medlin (they currently use the city courts)
  - Employee Wellness (fitness) Center

### Questions:

#### 1. What about coach's offices in some of the older campuses?

Athletic director Joel Johnson explained that we can add this to the list, but based on what was presented, the other projects are more kid-centered and would be prioritized first.

#### 2. What is your thought on a second stadium?

Athletic Director Joel Johnson said as long we are operating three high schools, we are fine. It will also depend on which other school districts (and how many high schools and how many stadiums they have) we are paired with for district play.

#### 3. Is there anything needed at NISD Stadium?

It's very well maintained, but HVAC, flooring, roofing may be needed as it continues to age.

### FINE ARTS

- A program overview was provided, showing that 100% of students participate at the elementary level, and 75% of secondary students are enrolled in a fine arts program at the secondary level. The fine arts programs have earned many achievements.
- Potential fine arts projects included:

- Upgrade/Replace Kilns
- TV Displays in Fine Arts Offices
- Network Drops at Stage Audio
- Replacement of Sound Systems
- Extend Concrete at High School Band Practice Area to Accommodate Percussion

McClure explained that the 2017 bond program included many fine arts projects.

*Questions:*

**1. Can we just pour some concrete for the band?**

McClure said that the district will consider this and similar items as we work through the budgeting and prioritization of the bond. The district may identify items that can be paid for out of M&O budget and would not need to be included in a bond proposal for I&S funds.

**2. Can we ask the department heads prioritize each project by the next meeting?**

Yes. The lists will be prioritized by the department leaders and shared with the committee.

**CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)**

- A program overview was provided, showing that nearly 80% of high school students participate in CTE and 90% of middle school students. McClure and CyLynn Braswell (executive director of college and career readiness & innovation) explained the positive impact the CTE programs have on students and how many awards they've earned in recent years.
- Potential CTE projects included:
  - Advanced Manufacturing Program (BNHS)
  - Construction Management Program (NHS)
  - JROTC Program Needs (NHS)
  - Paint Booth at Ag Shop (BNHS and EHS)
  - PLTW (Project Lead the Way) Labs at Middle Schools
  - Skills for Living equitable upgrades (CTMS, Medlin, Pike)

*Questions:*

**1. What capital needs would be required for CTE programs?**

Braswell explained it would be equipment, furniture and additional square footage as needed.

**2. How are the locations determined for the programs?**

Based on student interest and the advancement of programs currently existing at those schools. These programs would be considered incubator programs that may expand to additional campuses in the future.

### **3. Why would we not include JROTC at all campuses?**

Braswell explained that based on student interests, and the requirements of the Department of Defense (DOD), they're starting with Northwest HS. The district is working with the DOD to identify future opportunities at other schools with various military branches.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

- NISD serves 2,865 students in special education.
- Potential Special Education Projects include:
  - Update Life Skills Room (CTMS and Medlin)
  - Classroom Upgrades for Equity (Hatfield, Prairie View)

*Questions:*

### **1. Don't we have special education at every campus?**

We have special education students at every campus, but some of the programs are based on student population, and are operated on a more "regional" basis, serving multiple campuses.

### **2. What about playground surfacing for special education students?**

That is something we'll look at during the next meeting when we review capital improvements and equity.

## **OUTSOURCED OPERATIONS**

- McClure gave an overview of the outsourced operations in MISD (transportation, food services, after-school care and custodial services)
- Potential Outsourced Education projects:
  - New buses for growth (5-7 buses for year)
  - Anytime/anywhere Wifi access on selected buses (long trip buses: academy buses and extracurricular buses)
  - Facility upgrades at West Operations Facility

*Question:*

### **1. What's the life cycle of buses?**

In our current bus fleet, we have no buses older than 2018. Replacement of buses highly depends on mileage and maintenance. Our expectation would be to try to get a minimum of 10 years out of our buses. The acquisition of the West Operations Facility helps toward this goal. The 5-7 buses shown per year is due to growth (additional students and additional bus routes).

## **SAFETY & SECURITY**

- McClure gave an overview of the district's safety and security operations.

- Potential Safety & Security projects include:
  - Replacement of Radio Repeaters
  - Call Center at Facilities Services
  - Conversion of Analog Radios to Digital Radios
  - Provide a Police Station (police department)

## TECHNOLOGY

- McClure explained how there are two divisions of technology in NISD: the Instructional Technology Department and Technology and how they're different. The committee also saw the department's accomplishments.
- Potential Technology projects include:
  - Device Refresh for teachers and students Districtwide
  - Data Center Upgrades
  - Infrastructure Replacement Districtwide
  - Replace Remaining Projectors with TVs Districtwide (Partially completed from last bond)
  - Informacast PA Districtwide (Upgrade to district standard)
  - Replace Existing Fiber (backbone within campus) 20 Campuses
  - Updating to district standard (faster network)
  - Cell Phone Boosters (within campuses) Districtwide
  - Security Camera Replacements Districtwide
  - Resilient Fiber Connectivity for Future Growth
  - Access Control Updates Districtwide
  - Independent Phone & PA Connectivity for each campus
  - Re-cable fiber within buildings

## 5. PRIORITIZATION: RANKING FACTORS

Tim McClure explained that it's common for school districts to have greater needs than what they can currently afford, making prioritizing potential projects an important and necessary step in the overall facility planning process.

The LRPC will utilize a prioritization process designed to allow for a comprehensive evaluation of projects, requiring evaluators to consider a consistent series of issues before identifying an overall priority level. The rating factors and associated questions should be used to guide valuable discussion, weigh pros and cons and consider the overarching priority of a project.

Committee members discussed adding "equity" as a factor, but decided to keep the four categories that were presented because equity is included in "Benefit to Students" as well as the fact that some projects are designed to provide equitable solutions.

## **6. CLOSING**

McClure reminded the committee that the next meeting would be at 6 p.m. on November 19 at the district's newest high school, V.R. Eaton High School. Tours of the campus will begin at 5:30. He'll be sending out a map to show where to park and which door to enter.

### **Additional questions and conversation that arose after the meeting:**

1. Should we consider lockers/storage at the tennis courts for player's equipment and belongings?
2. Should we consider a planetarium/astronomical observatory or additional science-focused projects?
3. Can we add parking at Seven Hills Elementary?