

West Linn – Wilsonville School District

Long Range Planning Committee Meeting
Administration Building
22210 SW Stafford Rd – Tualatin, OR 97062



Project: LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Date: January 28, 2014 – 7:00 PM

Recorded by: Remo Douglas

Meeting Minutes

<i>Attendees:</i>	Jerri Bohard	Tom Miller
	Doris Wehler	Gretchen Katko
	Tim Woodley	Superintendent Bill Rhoades
	Norm Dull	Karina Ruiz
	Regan Molatore	Michael Jones

New Business

Mtg – Item *Discussion/Action Item*

1. Check-In: Tim Woodley called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
2. Roll Call – David Lake and Kent Wyatt absent.
3. 4th Quarter Financial Report:
 - a. Turf Fields Recommendation

Generally the 4th quarter report presents good news. All projects have adequate funding for remaining scope, with remaining program contingency. The report will go before the School Board February 3. Along with it go a recommendation to replace turf on two high school football fields. The decision was made in a meeting including LRPC members and high school and District administrators. This is due to great success over the course of a bond. This will generally use the remaining bond funds, less other minor work already underway.

Regan asked about procurement. Tim confirmed that it would be advertised in the DJC and elsewhere as required by ORS. The District could also notify big players in the market. The bids would be received at a certain date and time, and barring issues with the state, the District would select the low responsive bidder. Tim will converse on the subject with the Board.

Tom asked about funding for estimating and planning for new sunset and advance

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road schools, and other scope. Tim confirmed that there is funding to help with these items, to give us sureness of estimates and intended plans.

4.

Bond Summit Planning

a. Bond Project Scope & Presentation

Tim initiated a conversation about the project list as seen in the draft table of contents. First, the new middle school. This has been on the books for some time. The reality of Wilsonville area growth is undeniable, and all middle school are above capacity, despite Wood Middle School having portables on site. Is the 400 student middle school the correct answer?

Tim asked for comment on the idea of a 700 student middle school, with the notation that the school would initially be a K-8 in order to also address the projected capacity issues at the primary level, largely in Wilsonville. Mike Jones noted that naming scheme would be important. Perhaps there would be a poor reaction to saying middle school, but then having K-8. Mike suggested calling it a K-8 outright.

Tom noted that this could be a ‘psychological block’ in the way with the notion of changing how education is done in the District. Tom thought this may be a stumbling block to passing a new bond. He noted potential fears of having a kindergarten student in proximity to eight graders.

Jeri noted that this could be perceived as overbuilding, due to the recent two new primary schools.

Doris thought it would be good to focus on the middle school, then perhaps start the conversation about primary in a few years when capacity will truly become an issue. Then people would be on board. “Portables or expansion?” Bill noted that it is important to be thinking ahead about space needs, rather than changing the educational model due to space constraints (in response to comments about an option to shift what grades attend school levels).

Tom noted the importance of design influenced by the educational model, rather than building for one level, but using it for another

Mike and Jeri reiterated the idea of ‘understood needs’. Middle school capacity and sunset replacement are those understood needs. The worry is that going beyond that would lose too many votes.

Regan asked about the idea of the ‘combined’ school. Could some of the primary school area be built as flex space initially, to serve Art Tech and STEM etc.

Tim went further with the combined school discussion. How do we phase the construction of such an eventual campus that is acceptable to voters? “What is the start to this campus?”

Tom wanted to conserve the notion of the combined schools. Also, the idea that

primary schools have over twice as many grades as middle school is key to understanding the continuous need for primary school capacity. “every vote counts”. The idea of it is the public’s bond.

Regan and Jeri talked about the issue of bonding capacity and spacing. Leaving some remaining capacity will allow a subsequent bond sooner. If we max out, it would be 15 years before another bond.

Jeri reiterated the struggles of being a middle schooler and the tough time that a crowded school can give them. To lose the vote over other issues would be a disservice to the middle schoolers. The importance of the middle school capacity is huge. The message must be that the middle school need is real. But still... how big is it?

Tim talked about the idea that there are locations for portable classrooms at several primary schools that could provide interim capacity if primary isn’t directly addressed by the bond.

Doris talked about the importance of keeping the message that advance will be a combination site, sooner or later.

Tom wondered if trumpeting the combined site would be poorly received. Jeri noted that a lot of parents have both primary and middle students and like the idea of going to one place.

Bill talked about the idea of distances between home and schools. Bill talked about the history of boundary adjustments for primary.

Tim brought the conversation back to the question of whether the middle school would just be the focus of the advance road site for the time being, with the knowledge that a double school site would exist in time. It felt definitive in the group that middle school should in fact be the focus.

Tim stated that \$40 million at the advance road site could be used to develop a middle school and art tech site. With good design they could be accommodated appropriately with needed proximity and separation.

Tim talked about the history of closing Wilsonville primary and building boones ferry primary. It was a first phase of boones ferry initially. The idea was to use the proceeds from Wilsonville primary to help build Boones Ferry. Eventually the building was fully constructed. The point of the discussion was that there were options to eventually accommodate the final goal.

The group generally agreed that proposing a 700 student middle school could be acceptable to the public. They understood the need, and it would generally be in line with typical process of waiting for excess enrollment, then build a full school and allow it to fill in the coming years.

Tim also noted that with a full design, and alternate bid packages, the District

could leverage funds to the extent available, but not more.

Gretchen noted that 2 middle schools per high school (no sharing) would resonate with people in West Linn. Tom noted that with Sunset as a piece for West Linn, the public wouldn't have a problem with the idea of the middle school.

The next subject: Sunset primary replacement capacity. Tim noted that a 450 student design would roughly accommodate the Sunset boundary area, since actual capacity is slightly lower than design capacity.

Tim noted that there is initiative to reinvest in West Linn. Commented on the reworking of 43. In light of this and the existing school condition, a 450 student school would be appropriate at Sunset.

Norm voiced concerns about increased size of the school causing problems with the size of the site. Initial conceptual design was closer to 300.

Doris noted that the bond title should say 'replace sunset primary school'.

Tim talked about the concern that the District is running out of major projects in West Linn to balance against needs in Wilsonville. Wilsonville is projected to expand much more than Wilsonville based on landuse constraints.

Tim moved the conversation to STEM/STEAM initiatives. Noted that middle school STEM needs would be better understood with the progression of a new middle school design process. Primary is already engaging in this in the curriculum. The high school level needs broader space than is currently available. What is contemplated for the high schools is: at Wilsonville High there is a metal building between WHS and Boeckman. Repurposing this building would provide a space for high school robotics in Wilsonville. For West Linn High, there is some portion of the space in the 700 building (lower level). This would be accommodated as part of a large remodel of that building for various high school uses. The notion of a skybridge from the second floor of the high school to make it a part of the larger school.

Tim talked briefly about various options for expanding the stadium without complicating the 700 building remodel. It is important that they remain separate and be vetted. It was noted that Wilsonville currently has more seating in its stadium than West Linn.

Tim brought up the idea of a roofing project. The last time it was done in a broad scope was around 1996. The need is real for roofing again. Tim also discussed a few other stewardship needs briefly.

The group felt more confidence in the identification and description of some of the major bond components.

In discussing a potential auditorium for WHS, it was noted that there is an equity

issue. Tom noted that the history of the District is not well known generally in the public. Doris recalled that the City of Wilsonville may be considering the construction of a public facility that may include a performing arts center.

5. February 22, Bond Summit

Summit will run 8:30 - 2:30

Doris noted that someone from the new large apartment complexes should be present at the summit. This is a large voting group and should have a voice.

6.

Next Meeting: TBD