

Minutes of Work Session

Board of Education Ogden City School District

Thursday, February 1, 2018 · 5:00 PM · 1950 Monroe Boulevard, Ogden Utah

President Heiner called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Dr. Rich K. Nye, Superintendent, was excused from the meeting. The following were present when the meeting convened:

Members Present:

Jeff N. Heiner, President
Douglas B. Barker
Don E. Belnap
Nancy Blair
Susan Richards
Joyce Wilson

Members Absent:

Jennifer Zundel, Vice President

Staff Present:

Zane K. Woolstenhulme, Business Administrator
Paula Bosgieter, Executive Assistant
Jer Bates, Public Information Officer

1. Capital Projects Report

Business Administrator Zane K. Woolstenhulme explained the Capital Projects Committee, Board Leadership, and Senior Staff have met to develop a set of scenarios for discussion. They've also given consideration to school consolidation. Two guiding principles were followed while considering all options:

1. Operationally: to maximize facility resources and fiscal responsibility to taxpayers and provide safe learning spaces for "the whole child"
2. Academically: honor our mission, vision, and values while prioritizing equity and access as a strength of the diversity of our population. We seek to provide facilities that enhance the learning experience to better prepare all of our students academically for college and career options.

Mr. Woolstenhulme proceeded to review five options for the board's consideration. Each option included lease revenue bonds ranging from \$25M to \$50M, General Obligation (GO) Bond referendum in either 2018 or 2019, and school consolidation. The board discussed each option and carefully considered the impact of each scenario. It was noted that the Capital Projects Committee recommended the first option discussed, which includes the following projects:

- Lease revenue bond to build the Ben Lomond High School gymnasium and two junior high Gateway Centers
- General Obligation Bond in 2018 to replace Horace Mann Elementary, Taylor Canyon Elementary, TO Smith Elementary, Hillcrest Elementary, and Wasatch Elementary
- School consolidation that would affect Gramercy, Horace Mann, Heritage, Bonneville, Taylor Canyon, Polk, Hillcrest, James Madison, TO Smith, and Wasatch elementary schools.

Vice President Jennifer Zundel joined the meeting at 5:15 p.m. Mr. Woolstenhulme explained financial graphs to the board and expressed his concerns. Each lease revenue option will require a truth in taxation hearing every year to provide an increase in property tax revenue. He explained how lease revenue bonds may be used and added they are a useful tool for financing in our district.

Mr. Woolstenhulme shared that a structural engineering study of Polk would cost approximately \$22,000. He recommends we move forward with an RFP so the board will have this information to guide decision making regarding Polk School. Board members expressed concerns and considerations for each option presented.

Board Member Susan Richards left the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Mr. Woolstenhulme reviewed the schedule of visits regarding the architect selection process for the Ben Lomond Gymnasium and Mound Fort Innovation Center projects. These on-site visits will take place during the month of February.

2. Lease Revenue Bond Options

a. Solidify Public Hearing Date for Lease Revenue Bond Parameters Resolution

Mr. Woolstenhulme recommends moving forward with a lease revenue bond for \$25M for the Ben Lomond High School gymnasium. A public hearing could be held on March 1, 2018. He also recommended to proceed with an RFP to conduct a structural engineering study of Polk Elementary School.

b. Other Related Matters

President Heiner stated he is pleased with the efforts of the Capital Projects Committee and the guiding principles put in place. Board members expressed concerns with the school consolidation options and noted that all options discussed include closing Gramercy Elementary.

President Heiner asked for comments from those in attendance. Ogden Education Association Clay Kirkham recommended informing the staff and community of Gramercy Elementary as soon as possible, as well as the Taylor Canyon and Polk communities. Human Resource Director Jessica Bennington expressed the concerns with staffing and recruiting new teachers. Polk Principal Maridee Harrison expressed her concerns and stated this word will be out among the staff tomorrow morning. Public Information Officer Jer Bates would like to emphasize to staff that any possible school closures would not mean any employees would be laid off; employees will follow the students. Mrs. Bennington will work with Superintendent Nye to develop a communication plan.

Lincoln Principal Ross Lunceford shared his concerns and comments. President Heiner then opened the floor to those in attendance. Principal Lunceford responded with a statement regarding concerns with the failed referendum. Community Member Amy Huntington stated she stands by the recommendation of getting input from the community. She also shared that she came from a community where two schools were taken over by the city and transformed to community centers. She supports moving forward with the structural assessment of Polk. Community Member Sue Ann Burton stated she stands by the proposal submitted by Ogden Education. She recommends planning where students are going to go before we close any schools, and also where students will go while schools are being constructed.

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.ogdensd.org

President Heiner adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

President

Business Administrator