

MINUTES OF BOARD WORKSHOP  
Monday, August 24, 2009

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Facilities Planning and Update
- IV. Adjournment

The workshop meeting of the Board of Education of the West Des Moines Community School District was held on Monday, August 24, 2009, at the Learning Resource Center, 3550 Mills Civic Parkway, West Des Moines, Iowa 50265.

- I. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by President Mark Lyons at 5:22 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call** – The secretary noted the following Board members present: Mark Lyons, Terry Tobin, Susan Moritz, Jill Hansen (left at 6:31 p.m.), Tom Suckow (arrived at 5:32 p.m.), Milton Cole (arrived at 5:25 p.m.) Absent: Barbara Burnett
- III. **Facilities Planning and Update** – Superintendent Tom Narak referred Board members and those present at the workshop to the outline of the workshop. Chief Financial Officer Kurt Subra introduced Jeff Blosser, from RDG Planning and Design.

Blosser talked about the plans for the Crossroads Park Elementary School construction project. He reviewed the current footprint of the school and noted planned additions and changes. The planning committee considered parity with schools throughout the district, planning remodels and additions accordingly, Blosser said. The project planners have completed the schematic design phase and are heading into design development. He described the proposed footprint at Crossroads Park, including relocation of special education rooms, relocation of the office and additional space for kindergarten, music, art and a cafeteria. In response to a question from Dr. Narak, Blosser said the renovated driveway and parking lot would not be affected by the addition at the school. Blosser responded to questions from Board members regarding specifics of the design. In response to a question from Tobin, Subra said the current design is estimated to be within the project budget. In response to a question from Hansen, Blosser said the plan to tear down some of the building and add new space is cost effective. Subra said the estimated budget is larger than some of the recent projects because of the amount of new construction and the school's student population. Ben Bruns from Weitz Company responded to questions from Board members on estimated construction costs. In response to a question from Tobin, Bruns explained the costs and benefits of LEED certification. Cole requested the actual cost savings involved in tearing down the community room and constructing new space. Subra said most of the Crossroads Park project would be funded through the state-wide sales tax monies.

Stephanie Morrison from Weitz presented an update on the project at Indian Hills. She expressed appreciation to the contractors who worked to get the school ready for occupancy on August 20. She also praised the work of district staff. Morrison described the work remaining to be completed over the next month.

Morrison said the Crestview project is in the demolition phase at this time. Some new walls are going in, she said. She described the work completed over the summer and areas that will be addressed in the near future. The project is on schedule for the June 2010 completion. The scope has been expanded due to the favorable bids, she said. Morrison responded to questions from Board members. Dr. Narak said Crestview will be represented in the public art piece on 86<sup>th</sup> Street, designed by Sarah Grant.

Subra reported that various sites in the district are under consideration for relocation of Walnut Creek Campus. He proposed that the choices be narrowed and an architect begin to develop a conceptual design for fitting the Walnut Creek program into various facilities. Dr. Narak said a number of alternatives are being explored. Subra said RSP Associates has produced a report on the residency of 2008-09 Walnut Creek students.

Subra reviewed the planning timeline developed in March 2009. Site-based study groups would convene in September with a response from the Superintendent due in late October. Community forums would be held with other types of feedback solicited in early November and a final recommendation would come to the Board later that month. Tobin suggested the building team work be posted on the district web site when it is available. Lyons stressed the importance of directing community members to the location of the information. Dr. Narak suggested that the minutes from the site-based teams be posted and opportunities for comment provided.

Board members and workshop participants received a copy of the preliminary plan for Stilwell Junior High School. Subra described the contents of the document and noted that the preliminary plan for each school would contain the same types of information. He said the site teams and architect would be working from this preliminary document as they prepare their report.

IV. **Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

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Kay Rosene, Board Secretary