

Facility Committee Meeting

November 19, 2013

6:00pm

The Facilities Committee met on Tuesday, November 19, 2013 at 6:00. The meeting was located at the De Soto School District Central Office.

Dr. Burkeen shared that the purpose of the meeting was to:

1. Come to a consensus concerning the major building projects
2. Come to a consensus concerning other projects

Dr. Burkeen shared the following concerning the Junior High/Senior High Campuses:

A revised plan was shared from the October 22 Facilities Committee Meeting.

Dr. Burkeen met with the Fine Arts Department after the October 22 meeting and gathered suggestions, namely suggestions to separate the band and choir rooms.

A current Science Room in the Junior High was discussed as the best option for music/choir.

A special services room will be relocated to a current Science classroom.

The following questions were asked:

How many total rooms would be added to the Junior High campus?

Dr. Burkeen shared that there would be one total room added to the current facility.

Was enough space being added to the Junior High campus in the form of classrooms?

Dr. Burkeen shared that additional space was not necessary.

The revised plan of the current cafeteria at the High School was discussed. During the October meeting a question was raised concerning the ability to separate this space for use by the

Junior and Senior High Management classrooms. The revised plan illustrated a delineation of the two spaces.

Dr. Burkeen shared that the long-range Master Plan shows a wrestling room constructed under the new cafeteria.

A question was raised on whether or not this space could be used for baseball and/or softball. Dr. Burkeen said that the concern would be the height of the ceiling. She said that she had spoken with the Fine Arts Department concerning the possibility of this space being a “Black Box Theater” as well as a space for drama practice.

Questions were asked concerning the proposed wrestling facility?

Would this facility be a concrete box?

Dr. Burkeen answered that there would be rough-in for water and the room will have electricity. The size of the room will be 4000 square feet and will have an outside entrance only.

Is there a custodial closet planned for the wrestling space?

Dr. Burkeen said that any type of closet could be constructed; however, this would take away from the square footage.

Continued concerns were shared surrounding the lack of water supply in the proposed wrestling facility. Dr. Burkeen shared that there was access to water outside of the wrestling facility.

When the high school was rebuilt after the 2003 storm, was there discussion concerning a wrestling room being built above the current weight room?

Dr. Burkeen shared that the intention was that the weight room could be built upon, but that this space may now not be adequate in size.

Dr. Burkeen said that the long range plan was for the secondary campus to become a high school and for a middle school to be built that could house sixth, seventh, and eighth grades.

Would it be more cost-effective for the district to build upon existing structures, such as the weight room instead of having to chip rock as may have to be done to construct the proposed wrestling facility?

Mr. Kromm shared that rock may not be a factor until one reaches 30 feet of the 44 feet needed.

Will the new cafeteria space have a moveable partition?

Dr. Burkeen shared that there would be a partition.

How many lunch shifts will there be? How many are there now?

Dr. Burkeen shared that there will be 3 lunch shifts and that there are currently 4.

Concerns were raised about the amount of time needed to feed an increased number of students. Dr. Burkeen shared that this would be researched and addressed.

Dr. C. Freeman shared that he had heard the following talking points:

1. Is the planned wrestling room/space the best idea and/or usage of space?
2. Water is needed/necessary for the proposed wrestling space. David Kromm shared that lines could run laterally from the upper cafeteria in order to provide water for the room.

Further questions were raised.

How much will doing each project cost right now?

Dr. Burkeen said that the district must look at spending wisely on education and safety.

If water cannot be added to the wrestling space, is this the best usage of the space or would it be better for baseball/softball?

Coach Phipps was asked about the ceiling height needed for a practice facility for a batting cage. He shared that ideally a ceiling height of 12-13 feet would be appropriate. Dr. Burkeen shared that the space would have rafters and would have the appropriate ceiling height.

Would the mats be rolled and stored elsewhere so that the room could be used for other activities?

Dr. Freeman shared that the thought was to leave the mats out on a daily basis but to cover them appropriately so that others could use the space.

The discussion turned to the projects that were proposed on the Vineland Campus. Dr. Burkeen shared that there would be a net gain of 2 classrooms in the current gym facility as well as boys'/girls' restrooms and the library. There would be a gain of 3 Special Services classrooms in the current library facility. The top floor would house the music department, a new hallway, Coaches Offices, and a VPO Room/Concession Stand. The top floor would also house 3 future classroom spaces. The 3 classrooms would be listed as an alternate bid.

Mr. Grindstaff shared that the 3 future classrooms were very necessary. He reiterated that his numbers are growing quickly and the space is much needed for classrooms. Mr. Grindstaff said that he must advocate for these rooms for his building.

The following questions were raised:

What is the proposed flooring of the new gym?

Dr. Burkeen shared that no definite decisions have been made and that costs would be evaluated.

Will there be a retractable curtain in the new gym?

This decision has not been finalized.

Will the gym be able to house two volleyball nets for a tournament and, if so, will the bleachers be such that they can be pulled out partially?

There was discussion surrounding this question. Further discussion is needed to define if the space will be utilized for things such as volleyball tournaments.

Dr. C. Freeman listed the following as continued talking points for the Vineland Project:

1. Is a retractable screen needed in the new gym?
2. What will be the material of the gym floor?
3. Will the gym be used for secondary campus tournaments?

The next task of the Facilities Committee was to break into small groups and prioritize needs by category.

Dr. Burkeen and Dr. Freeman called the group together after 10 minutes and shared that the next meeting would be on Tuesday, December 17 at 6:00 at Central Office. Dr. Burkeen shared that she would be asking the School Board to schedule a December work session in order to discuss the proposals so that a final approval could occur in January. Dr. Freeman shared that

Facilities meetings would continue to occur and that a campaign committee would be established after the January School Board Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Mahn