

The Board of School Trustees of Madison Consolidated Schools conducted a Work Session on Thursday, July 16, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. at the Administration Building, 2421 Wilson Avenue, Madison, Indiana.

The following attended the Work Session:

Dr. Ginger Studebaker-Bolinger	Mrs. Angelia Upchurch
Mrs. Joyce Imel	Mrs. Maria Canada
Mr. Carl Glesing	Ms. Jill Deputy
Mrs. Linda laCour	Mr. Pat Dryden
Mr. Rob Kring	Mrs. Jennifer Dew
Mrs. Lee Ann Imel	Mrs. Janet McCreary
Dr. Katie Jenner	Mrs. Missy Demaree
Mr. Mike Frazier	Ms. Tara Hayes
Mr. Jim Miller	Mrs. Tara McKay
Mrs. Bonnie Hensler	Mr. John Colsen
Mr. Kevin Yancey	

Mrs. J. Imel welcomed everyone to the Work Session. She said she was presenting a summary of the community conversations regarding the facilities. Mrs. J. Imel said there would be no public comments. She said the board would welcome questions following the work session or questions could be emailed to them.

Mr. Frazier updated the Board on the facilities following the storm:

Deputy Elementary School

Power lines and poles were down.

Madison Consolidated High School

Extensive damage done to the library: carpet was completely flooded, ceiling tiles ruined, new math books ruined, water under the book shelves, and smells musty and moldy.

E.O. Muncie Elementary School

Water came up through the drains, up out of the floor into the classrooms. Has been agued four times this year.

Mr. Frazier said this has set us back on getting school ready. He said tiles, carpet and shelves will have to be replaced.

Mr. Frazier said some say to "hire more maintenance". He said a preventive maintenance plan is in place.

Mr. Frazier said pot holes were being replaced today at the Junior High School.

Mr. Frazier said maintenance is continuing putting band aids on issues but soon than later something must be done.

Mr. Frazier said we are trying to save tax dollars and there are those that say we are making things up.

Mr. Frazier said he appreciates all the work Mrs. J. Imel has done listening to the community. He said the board has difficult decisions to make. Mr. Frazier said he was disappointed in the crowd.

Mrs. J. Imel said after the referendum failed the facility issues still need to be addressed. She thanked Dr. Studebaker-Bolinger for being supportive of the community conversation idea. Mrs. J. Imel said she conducted 12 meetings with each board member attending three meetings. Mrs. J. Imel thanked Mrs. Ashley Schutte, Communications Coordinator for her help scheduling the meetings. Mrs. J. Imel said letters of invite were sent to those who responded to a survey to attend the target conversation.

Community Conversations  
*Summary of Learning*

**Let's think about.....**

*As a community, what we need to do today in order to impact where our school district is in 20 years.*

**Introduction**

**Purpose** – collaborative communication with community

**Position** – Board members have various perspectives

**Proposal** – structured, consistent community meetings

- 12 total meetings between May 4<sup>th</sup> and May 27<sup>th</sup>
- Approximately 350 participants
- Small and large group discussions

**What we heard.....**

**NOT** to do:

- Do not band-aid problems, it is wasting time and money
- Do not tear down E.O. Muncie (historic, most valuable land)
- Do not renovate Anderson (damp area, traffic nightmare)
- Do not put anything sports related on any future referendum
- Do not enlarge auditorium

Mrs. J. Imel commented on the above responses:

- We do not have the money to do an overall fix.
- There is more acreage at E.O. Muncie to be used for something
- E.O. Muncie does not have the best traffic flow
- We have a right of way at Anderson
- We are only allowed to use 15% from Capital Projects on athletics
- Would utilize the auditorium if it was larger (not large enough to hold all MCHS students)

**What we heard.....**

**TO** do: Maintenance

- Increase maintenance staff
- Create Maintenance Advisory Council, including building custodians
- Hire maintenance engineer
- Maintenance plan for major issues
- Maintenance plan for minor issues so they do not develop into major issues
- Daily log using maintenance checklist
- Generate monthly, detailed maintenance report to watch for trouble areas or track trends
- Develop and begin a maintenance plan for one building location which is in the best shape

Mrs. J. Imel commented on the above responses:

- Could possibly contract a maintenance engineer
- Work with Ivy Tech class to develop a maintenance plan

**What we heard.....**

**TO do:** Marketing/PR

- Work heavily in Public Relations
- Radio spots
- Booth at basketball games
- Tent at football games
- Reach senior citizens
- Advertise strengths in iMovies
- Post virtual tours
- Newsletter
- Monthly financial report
- Increase enrollment

**General Comments**

- Move 5<sup>th</sup> grade to Madison Junior High
  - Conversation about after-school care
  - Stay on elementary eLearning schedule
  - Need recess and playground
  - Totally separate from 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Do not move 5<sup>th</sup> grade to the Madison Junior High

**\*\*Overall, it was approximately 50/50 on moving 5<sup>th</sup> grade to Madison Junior High**

- Move 9<sup>th</sup> grade back to the Madison Junior High
- Move 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade to the Madison Consolidated High School
- Make the current Madison Junior High a K-6 building
- Bring pre-school to the Madison Junior High
- One central cafeteria for all schools except Deputy OR at least one for Madison Junior/Senior High
- Schools not really as bad as reported
- Schools in deplorable conditions
- Have we considered private funding? Utilization of a capital campaign? (ex: Kokomo Schools)
- Involve all organizations within Madison district – “Our schools are crumbling, our kids are suffering because of it.”
- How do we increase enrollment?
- Take \$2 million dollars and make as large, visible impact on improving a facility as best you can. “Hit a home run – NO – hit a grand slam home run!! concentrated effort to show success in one facility area.”
- Build a new state of the art elementary school
- Have another referendum
- Opportunity to reshape the entire corporation
- Have buildings more accessible for the community needs and interests (ex: cooking classes, senior citizen activities)
- Target one major area at a time and focus money there before moving to other areas of need (ex: electrical)
- Burn E.O. Muncie down
- Condemn Madison Consolidated High School
- Have more teacher input on facility planning
- “BE BOLD”
- Begin with the end in mind
  - What will our school district look like in 20 years?

- How will what we do now affect our facilities in 20 years?\*
- \*\*Discussed curriculum and staff are moving in the right direction
- \*\* Need to consider continued use and impact of eLearning initiative
- Tie vision, strategic plan, and facilities plan together to demonstrate continuity of purpose.

Mrs. J. Imel commented on the above responses:

- Wasn't for 5<sup>th</sup> grade move to the Junior High in the beginning but now is excited about the possibilities
- Cafeteria funding won't help with the maintenance of buildings
- Why wouldn't anyone want to attend MCHS: Ivy Tech Partnership, Fine Arts Academy, AP courses (wants facilities to match great things occurring at schools)
- Custodians do a great job, buildings are just deteriorating
- \$2 million dollar bonds – problems are too extensive
- Where to build a new elementary school?
- A referendum needs to be community led
- The high school meeting was very positive – parents are elated with the curriculum, said they would do whatever they had too
- The pool is open to community members
- BE BOLD – feels a sense of urgency
- Some people are never happy
- Is ready for the board to say what needs to be done

### **Moving Forward**

<b>NEEDS</b>	<b><u>Compile</u></b>	<b>WANTS</b>
<i>The community needs to see three plans:</i>		
Plan A with Cost – BIG plan to fix everything		
Plan B with Cost – Middle-of-the-road plan		
Plan C with Cost – What we can live with		
Need to know cost of new construction vs. renovation		

### **Things we can't control:**

- State funding
- Charter School status
- Enrollment

### **Three trends for focus:**

- Maintenance
- Communication
- Solutions

Mrs. J. Imel asked the board for their thoughts.

### High School

Mr. Kring asked if the board had approved tearing down the E wing? The Board members indicated tearing down E-wing had been discussed but not approved. Mr. Frazier said it had been discussed as well as security for all schools. Mr. Frazier said the HVAC and roof in the B and E wing are on their last leg. He said it would cost \$550,000 for a new roof and HVAC in that area or \$350,000 to tear down B and E wing. Mr. Frazier said if B and E wings were tore down there would be new handicapped bathrooms downstairs and the office would face the highway. Mr. Frazier said the library would be moved to the old small gym and the cub café would be in the high school atrium. Mr. Kring asked about securing the entryway if B and E wing weren't demolished? Mr. Frazier said

possible blocked hallways. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said removing the B and E wing would reduce costs. Mrs. J. Imel expressed concerns about putting that much money in the B and E wing. Mrs. laCour asked if tearing down B and E wing could be covered in a \$2 million dollar bond? Mr. Frazier said yes as the old small gym is a large empty room and the library could be housed there at a small cost and the cub café would be moved to the atrium. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said many students use the library during lunch. Mr. Kring asked if the B and E wings were tore down the bad sewer pipe would be replaced? Mr. Frazier said yes. Mrs. J. Imel said it makes sense to tear down the area. Mr. Kring and Mrs. L. Imel were in agreement. Mr. Glesing aired concerns about the project being completed with a \$2 million dollar bond. Mrs. L. Imel said a lot needs to be done. Mr. Glesing said contractors should bid lower as they no longer have to pay the common construction wage. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said they could bid with options. Mr. Glesing said E wing wasn't built to last. Mrs. J. Imel asked Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger to begin the bonding process at the August board meeting. Mrs. J. Imel said not to spend a lot of money at the high school at this time. Mr. Frazier said the carpet will have to come up as the smell is bad in the library.

#### E.O. Muncie

Mr. Frazier said something has to be done. He said the augers would be cleaned out. He said the traps may not be working. Mr. Frazier said there was a minor leak in the library.

Mrs. J. Imel said per the community conversations maintenance is key.

Mrs. J. Imel asked the board on working with Ivy Tech on a preventive maintenance plan.

#### 5<sup>th</sup> grade move to Junior High School

Mr. Glesing said he like Mrs. J. Imel had reservations but said if handled properly he would support the move. Mr. Glesing said the Junior High would need to be operated as two separate building and add an Assistant Principal. He said it is a waste of taxpayer money not to utilize the Junior High. Mrs. laCour said after school programs would need to be offered.

Mr. Glesing said he has mixed feelings about what to do with E.O. Muncie.

Mrs. J. Imel asked where do we go regarding the 5<sup>th</sup> grade move? She suggested meeting with all 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to see how this move will look, what are the challenges and benefits? Mrs. J. Imel suggested having the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers meet with current 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers.

Mrs. J. Imel said we have a very strong band leader and it would be worth exploring band for 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

Mrs. laCour suggested having 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade parent meetings to receive input.

Mrs. J. Imel said the idea of moving 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade to the high school bothers her. She said there are 16 rooms available at the Junior High.

Mrs. J. Imel said we hope to have preschool in every building. Mrs. laCour asked if there would be two classes at Deputy? Mrs. McKay, Preschool Coordinator, said we don't have enough students enrolled for two rooms.

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said if the 5<sup>th</sup> grade is moved to the Junior High that will leave 17 sections with availability to house the students at Lydia Middleton, Rykers' Ridge and Anderson Elementary. Mr. Kring asked if the Junior High was in good shape? Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the Junior High was in good shape.

A discussion ensued regarding drop off for 5<sup>th</sup> grade at the Junior High School.

Thoughts – E.O. Muncie and Anderson

Mrs. laCour asked what could be done with the swamp area at E.O. Muncie. Mr. Frazier said it would cost \$7.3 million dollars to redo E.O. Muncie and \$10 million dollars to build a new school. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger reminded the board this would take a petition remonstrance or referendum. Mrs. laCour said the community is for keeping E.O. Muncie open. Mrs. J. Imel said other things must be done at the high school. Mrs. L. Imel suggested a smaller referendum. She said community members have told her they would support a smaller referendum. Mr. Glesing said ground is lost by doing \$2 million dollar bonds. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said several \$2 million dollar bonds could be done in one year if they are specific to a building.

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said we have two facilities that are draining the corporation; E.O. Muncie and the High School. Mr. Frazier said we have the space available if the 5<sup>th</sup> grade is moved to the Junior High. He said the utility savings if E.O. Muncie was closed would be \$104,000 a year. Mrs. laCour said the board is looking at the results from the community conversations. Mrs. J. Imel said the board has to do what is best for students and be fiscally responsible.

Mrs. J. Imel said there is opposition to re-opening Anderson Elementary. She said it makes sense to renovate Anderson and the traffic flow and dampness could both be taken care of. She said the building being closed is an issue.

Mrs. L. Imel said the high school is the first priority. She said the high school is the center of our community. Mrs. L. Imel said the high school brings traffic to our community. She said the bathrooms are an embarrassment, and the teachers have been dealing with terrible conditions for too long. Mrs. L. Imel said she was told by someone they voted “no” on the referendum because of the auditorium. She said people need to see what our students in theatre are doing. Mrs. L. Imel said the sound system is in poor condition. She said all high school students can’t fit in the auditorium. Mrs. L. Imel said we need to utilize the auditorium. Mrs. L. Imel said to address the high school issues: locker rooms, bathrooms and classrooms then address E.O. Muncie.

Mrs. J. Imel said we need a needs list and a wants list. Mrs. laCour said to remember what is a need for some is a want for others. She said there is a gray area.

Mr. Kring suggested holding more work sessions. Mrs. J. Imel said she feels a sense of urgency; there are issues that have to be addressed. Mrs. J. Imel said she was willing to have more meetings; what is the focus? Mr. Kring said the status of the high school B and E wing and meet with 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents and teachers.

Mr. Glesing said there needs to be more community participation.

Mr. Frazier said security for all buildings is important.

Mrs. J. Imel said she agrees to begin the high school and security bond process. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said there is a cost benefit with doing bonds at the same time. Mr. Frazier said time is our enemy.

Mrs. L. Imel said she does want something done at E.O. Muncie but the high school must be done immediately. She said build vs. renovate is a tough decision.

Mr. Glesing said there comes a day when something exceeds its value. He asked if Lydia Middleton was a right decision.

Mrs. J. Imel said she wants to be proud with decisions when she leaves the board.

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Secretary  
BY: ps

ATTEST:

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