

The Board of School Trustees conducted a Work Session on Thursday, July 24, 2014, at the Administration Building, 2421 Wilson Avenue, Madison, Indiana, at 5:00 p.m.

The following members of the Board of School Trustees were present:

Mr. Todd Bass, President  
Mr. Carl Glesing, Vice-President  
Mrs. Linda laCour, Secretary  
Mrs. Joyce Imel, Member  
Mrs. Lee Ann Imel, Member

The following Central Office Administrator was present:

Dr. Ginger Studebaker-Bolinger, Superintendent  
Dr. Katie Jenner, Director of Learning and Title Programs  
Ms. Bonnie Phillips, Director of Finance  
Mr. Mike Frazier, Director of Systems, Operations, and Auxiliary Services  
Mr. Jim Miller, Director of eLearning  
Mrs. Angela Vaughn, Director of Special Services  
Mr. Mark Wynn, Corporation Attorney

The following attended the Work Session:

Mrs. Ashley Schutte	Mrs. Cara Fox
Mr. Larry Henry	Mr. Dick McCracken
Mr. Robin Henderson	Ms. Linda O'Neal
Mr. Pat Dryden	Mr. Drew Garrett
Mr. Andrew Forrester	Ms. Jill Deputy
Mrs. Tracy Ahlbrand	Mrs. Missy Demaree

Mr. Bass opened the Work Session.

Topics for Discussion were:

- 1) Transfer of Property
- 2) Facility Improvement Priorities
- 3) Current Facility Utilization
- 4) Public Comments: Pertaining to Agenda Items #1, #2, and #3

### **Transfer of Property**

Mr. Wynn said Lancaster Township would be meeting Friday to discuss the Dupont property. A discussion ensued regarding the lot parcels on the property. Mr. Wynn suggested Madison Schools retain lots #3 and #4 and transfer lots #5, #6 and #9 to Lancaster Township. Mr. Wynn said the Trustee would like to tour the building. Dr. Studebaker-Bolinger said the building transfer would be voted on at the August board meeting.

Mr. Glesing moved parcels #5 & #6 be transferred to Lancaster Township, seconded by Mrs. laCour, the Board voted, 5-0, and the motion carried.

### **Facility Improvement Priorities**

Dr. Studebaker-Bolinger distributed and discussed the Compiled Building Evaluations.

E.O. Muncie Elementary School

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the potential construction costs to bring the total facility up to “good” level overall, based on \$170/square foot of new and renovated construction would be \$7,924,688.

Mr. Bass said in order to repair plumbing and electric the walls would have to be torn out and if remodeling is done the building area would have to be brought up to code. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said there is no money available. Mr. Frazier said there is one handicap accessible bathroom. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said there isn’t enough money to maintain and repair E.O. Muncie. Mr. Frazier said the fire alarms have been up-graded in all buildings. Mr. Frazier said the canopy was removed. Mr. Bass said we are correcting what we can. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the entire school had been cleaned. Mr. Frazier said we must work on clutter. Mrs. laCour asked about the water fountain. Mr. Frazier said the pipe inside the walls leak. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said we are dealing with old piping.

Madison Consolidated High School

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the potential construction costs to bring the total facility up to “good” level overall, based on \$190/square foot of new and renovated construction would be \$33,253,622.00.

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said work was being done:

- Asphalt walk to the middle school
- Walk area to the tennis court
- Work done on the freshman baseball field
- Work on speakers at the football field

Mr. Frazier said the bricks are falling off of the E-wing. He said it is a moisture issue.

Mr. Frazier said the power supply source is outdated and old. Mr. Bass said there isn’t a specific place to cut all electric.

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the technology equipment is in an old broom closet.

Madison Junior High School

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the potential construction costs to bring the total facility up to “good” level overall, based on \$180/square foot of new and renovated construction would be \$12,210,268.00.

Rykers’ Ridge Elementary School

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the potential construction costs to bring the total facility up to “good” level overall, based on \$170/square foot of new and renovated construction would be \$3,266,880.00.

Anderson Elementary School

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the potential construction costs to bring the total facility up to “good” level overall, based on \$170/square foot of new and renovated construction would be \$2,443,587.00.

#### Deputy Elementary School

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the potential construction costs to bring the total facility up to “good” level overall, based on \$170/square foot of new and renovated construction would be \$2,089,162.00.

#### Transportation Building

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the potential construction costs to bring the total facility up to “good” level overall, based on \$170/square foot of new and renovated construction would be \$516,638.00.

#### Administration Building

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the potential construction costs to bring the total facility up to “good” level overall, based on \$170/square foot of new and renovated construction would be \$410,054.00.

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger explained security for the administration building was included in a Grant and it must be used for the administration building. She said the grant money can't be transferred. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said this was a \$100,000.00 matching grant. She said the grant was written for the administration building as the other schools would have had security upgrades through the referendum.

#### Lydia Middleton Elementary School

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the potential construction costs to bring the total facility up to “good” level overall, based on \$170/square foot of new and renovated construction would be \$1,732,670.00.

Mr. Frazier said the control issue has been taken care of and paid from Bond dollars. He said the chimney needs a stainless liner. Mr. Frazier said the unit on top of the gym had been replaced.

Mr. Frazier said five compressors had been replaced at the high school.

#### Current Facility Utilization

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said we have more area at the high school. She said we aren't utilizing the high school to its full capacity.

Mr. Frazier said there are issues in the “B” and “E” wings. He said those wings would have been demolished if the referendum had passed.

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger reported on the current facility utilization:

- Junior High School – 10 empty classrooms and 3 labs empty. Mr. Bass stated the Junior High could house 300 additional students. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the Junior High could hold another grade level.
- Rykers' Ridge Elementary School – four open classrooms.
- Anderson Elementary School – 12 classrooms and one library (currently use four classrooms).
- Deputy Elementary School – one open classroom
- Lydia Middleton Elementary School – four open classrooms
- High School – four open classrooms

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger informed the Board Preschool would be offered at Deputy Elementary School.

Mr. Bass asked if there was enough space to absorb the students at E.O. Muncie into other facilities. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said if a section was moved to the Junior High then other elementary buildings including Anderson could absorb the remaining students.. Mr. Frazier said Lydia Middleton could become a three section school.

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger gave the following options:

- Anderson Elementary becoming a Pre K, kindergarten, and first grade building with potential for the remaining buildings to absorb grades 2-5
- 5<sup>th</sup> graders moving to Junior High with remaining students moving to Lydia Middleton and Anderson.

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said modifications would be need to be made to make these options work.

Mrs. laCour asked if Deputy and Rykers' Ridge would be left along. Mr. Bass said the Board isn't advocating closing schools. Mr. Glesing said these are long range plans. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said good decisions need to be made. Mrs. laCour asked if the 5<sup>th</sup> graders would be self-contained if they were moved to the Junior High. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said some school corporations have 6-12 schools. Mr. Frazier said busing would be an issue. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said there may be a need to re-district. Mrs. J. Imel said E.O. Muncie is in the worst shape. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said if the decision was made to utilize Anderson Elementary the pre-school would be displaced. She said there are no easy solutions.

A discussion ensued regarding student transfer requests. Mrs. L. Imel said Lydia Middleton was flooded with students last year. She asked if there was a hold on transfers. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the size of classrooms at Lydia Middleton are small. She said we try to meet the desires of parents. Mrs. laCour said Seymour has open enrollment across the board this year. Mrs. J. Imel said in the past there had been talk about moving students who reside at Woodside to Lydia Middleton and those living at Hereford Lake to Deputy. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said enrollment numbers should stabilize by the end of August.

Mrs. laCour asked how much would be saved by closing E.O. Muncie. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said utilities, water, transportation, and maintenance. She said there would be no staff saving. Mr. Frazier said you have to consider the long term cost of maintaining and fixing up the building.

Mr. Glesing asked what is going to happen 12-18 years down the road; is our community going to grow or decline.

Mrs. laCour asked if there were any legislative updates. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said the property tax cap will cost our corporation \$400,000.00. She said next year the transportation fund will lose \$129,000.00 due to funding. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said she and Ms. Phillips attended a personal property tax seminar and our corporation may lose 25% of our funding. She said we cannot offer services without funding. Ms. Phillips said the personal property tax issue will affect the homeowners and agriculture. She said she will be asking to speak at the City and County Council meetings. Ms. Phillips said we can't take a loss in revenue as we are struggling with the tax caps.

Mr. Bass said he hopes everyone understands this is coming from the State.

Mr. Glesing said we currently don't have money in Capital Projects to repair all of our facility needs and it is going to get worse.

Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said Whitley County may lose 50% due to the personal property tax issue. Ms. Phillips said this is a state-wide issue. She said we cannot maintain the transportation department as is. Mr. Frazier said there is discussion about broadening the "walk zone". Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said there aren't sidewalks in all areas. Mr. Glesing said it isn't feasible without sidewalks. Dr. Stuebaker-Bolinger said it would be difficult to ask parents to have their kindergarten students to walk to school.

Mr. Bass said some referendums that passed were because schools would have closed without the funding.

Dr. Studebaker-Bolinger said there are many elementary needs with no solutions for the high school.

**Public Comments**

Mr. Robin Henderson asked how much Madison Schools was losing due to TIF. Ms. Phillips said some but not a significant amount. Mr. Glesing said there is very specific usage. He said there is a Bill studying to limit, reduce and abolish TIF. Ms. Phillips said in 2013 4% of the property tax went to the TIF Fund, \$1.178 million dollars.

Mr. Andrew Garrett suggested community involvement in assisting with repairs. Mr. Frazier said he met with local contractors. He said free labor is a great idea, however liability becomes an issue.

Mrs. laCour thanked the audience for attending.

Mrs. L. Imel moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Mrs. J. Imel, the Board voted, 5-0, and the Work Session was adjourned.

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Secretary  
BY: PS

ATTEST:

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