

FACILITIES ADVISORY TEAM COMMITTEE MEETING
Saturday, January 24, 2009 – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Calvin U. Smith Elementary School

MINUTES

PRESENT: J. Delorme, A. Danquah, B. Cameron, K. Murdock, S. Romans, P. Webster, T. Decker, T. Tunney, J. Tobia, M. Whittenhall, M. Roe, M. Franklin, R. Gillespie, K. Monastra, J. Meteer, V. Zingler, K. Keeney

ARCHITECTS: C. Woodcock, J. Robbins, R. Smith, R. Gosden

ABSENT: J. Reilly, J. Tobia, N. Jakobson, K. Wilson-Houck, A. Knowles

GUESTS: R. McMaster

RECORDER: K. Dutcher

VISITORS: There were several visitors in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by the Facilitator, Mr. Danquah, who thanked the Committee for their commitment to the process.

Mr. Danquah highlighted the objectives of the meeting:

- To propose an elementary plan that provides equitable facilities for all elementary students
- A plan that provides for adequate and appropriate instructional space for the students and the teachers
- A plan that provides efficiency
- A plan that is affordable to the taxpayer.

Mr. Danquah asked several questions and said that the quality of the answers will help to determine a facilities plan that will support the education needs of our District for the 21st Century:

- What is emerging in educational practice that affects the way we think about elementary?
- How is the demographic composition of our community changing the way education should be delivered?
- What will today's and future taxpayers be willing to support?
- How can we deliver elementary education in a more efficient and effective manner?

The group proceeded with a tour of Calvin U. Smith Elementary School

A list of positives and challenges was developed following the tour of Calvin U. Smith:

Positives

Well maintained

Layout/use of space

Central Location/accessibility
Large media center
Some nice small group areas
Pride in school
Acreage for expansion
Nice entranceway

Challenges

Parent/bus drop off
Some rooms crowded
Storage
Handicap accessibility
Health facility cramped
Heat/Ventilation/Regulation
On a septic system
Staff/adult bathrooms

Mr. Bill Cameron, Public Information Coordinator, along with Mr. Jeff Robbins, Hunt Engineers and the Elementary Subcommittee provided a Powerpoint presentation of their recent tour to Pine City, Parley Coburn and Fassett Elementary Schools. It was noted that Pine City was a very small elementary school that is now a larger school, Parley Coburn, which is also a historical building, went from a Junior High School to a large elementary school and Fassett Elementary was formerly an Alternative High School that was renovated into an elementary building. The group noted that all the school designs had attention to detail, had a lot of natural light and were just beautiful schools in every aspect. It was further noted that these schools were not just paint and wallpaper but all systems were considered from generators and boilers to room size and handicap accessibility.

Mr. Danquah asked for a reaction of the slide show from the group and it was noted that many people expect that the plan that the group will come up with will solve everything. As evidenced in Elmira, the community will have to be educated that the process will happen in pieces over time; the schools are not grandiose but they are well thought out and meet the education needs and standards.

Mr. Jeff Robbins from Hunt Engineers reviewed the Program Study of Calvin U. Smith Elementary School. He highlighted the existing floor plan, what is SED minimum and what is required for the education program for this building.

Mr. Robert Gosden, Educational Consultant, defined for the group the criteria in which the team should responsibly invest in elementary facilities to assure equity for children's educational needs as well as what taxpayers can afford?

The Committee broke into four groups to come up with their list of criteria and came back together to develop a list of common criteria which was reached by consensus:

- Building size/enrollment/equity
- Maximize state aide/tax impact
- Health/safety/security
- Dedicated relates arts spaces
- 900 square foot minimum classroom space
- Operating costs to include staffing efficiency, also to include "Green" design
- Multifunctional space
- Special Education needs must be met in buildings
- Pre-K will be in all buildings
- Building renovations will enable instructional technology growth for future years
- Storage (instructional and building use)

- Custodial space/storage
- Eliminate portables

Due to the lateness in time, the group discussed whether they should continue on with meeting to finish the agenda items, or schedule a new meeting for Thursday, January 29th. By consensus the group agreed to continue the meeting on Thursday, January 29th at 6:30 p.m. in the District Office.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.