

FACILITIES ADVISORY TEAM COMMITTEE MEETING  
Thursday, June 4, 2009 – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Administration Building

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** M. Ginalski, J. Delorme, A. Danquah, B. Cameron, K. Murdock, J. Reilly, S. Romans, P. Webster, T. Decker, R. Kimble, J. Tobia, M. Whittenhall, M. Roe, M. Franklin, R. Gillespie, K. Monastra, J. Meteer, J. Castiglione, R. Gosden, R. McMaster, J. Robbins, R. Smith, C. Woodcock, T. DeVoe

**ABSENT:** T. Tunney, B. Pierce, K. Wilson-Houck, N. Jakobson, A. Knowles, S. Bathrick, V. Zingler

**RECORDER:** K. Dutcher

**VISITORS:** There were several visitors in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m. by Facilitator, Mr. Danquah. He reviewed the objective of the meeting and the agenda.

Mr. Cameron, Mr. Murdock and Mr. Eccleston, Director of Transportation, provided a virtual tour of the bus garage in East Corning and the District's storage facility which is housed at the Dresser Rand site in Painted Post. Mr. Eccleston discussed the "pros and cons" of the current bus garage building. Mr. Murdock reviewed the difficulties with the Dresser Rand storage site as well as noting its convenience in proximity to the District Office Building.

Mr. Ginalski noted that the Bus Garage must also be considered as a need in the District.

Mr. Ginalski reflected on the Demographer's report relative to elementary attendance boundaries (Geo-coding) that was provided at the May 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. He asked if anyone felt if there were any surprises. It was surprising to many at the number of students who were bussed in from surrounding areas, specifically Beaver Dams, to attend Kent Phillips Elementary School. Only 12 students were actually from the Houghton Plot area. It was noted that, "Kent Phillips is not a neighborhood school but, in fact, a school in a neighborhood". The cluster at Erwin Valley was also a surprise to many. There is a misperception that just moving the attendance boundaries will solve the attendance issues.

Mr. Ginalski asked if anyone felt this information would be valuable at the secondary level. The group felt that it would be a valuable piece of information to have.

Mr. Ginalski talked briefly about the process and how we got to where we are now. He noted that architects, financial advisor, construction manager and central office personnel have met in conjunction with the committee to help build agenda's each week. He noted that one of the steps in moving forward is to discuss closure of buildings. It was determined that the District would be best served if the following buildings were closed: Kent Phillips (move to Winfield and Gregg), Lindley-Presho (move to Smith), Frank Pierce. He raised the questions, "what would we do with Corning Free Academy, Northside Blodgett and Board of Education Building?" In conjunction with that information he reviewed a plan involving a Pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade design configuration and Pre-K to 4<sup>th</sup> grade design configuration.

Mr. Robbins reviewed the Pre-K to 4<sup>th</sup> Grade and Pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade building designs for each elementary school. He noted that each plan had dedicated spaces for music, art, etc.

Mr. McMaster provided a handout which presented financial information relative to the Pre-K to 4<sup>th</sup> Grade and Pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade building plans. The group discussed this information.

Mr. Smith provided a handout showing the timeline for a December 2009 vote versus a May 2010 vote. The cost difference would be an increase of approximately \$7M.

A two-group activity followed that allowed discussion and reaction to the “Pros” and “Cons” of the Pre-K to 4<sup>th</sup> Grade and Pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade building configurations focusing on:

- 1) Classroom Instruction
- 2) Cost
- 3) Community Support
- 4) Equity

The two groups then shared their responses. It should be noted that they felt a December 2009 vote was necessary. Common areas of agreement were:

	Pre-K to 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Pre-K to 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade
<b>Classroom Instruction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Common Areas (gym, Café, etc).</b></li> <li>• <b>Specials (music, band)</b></li> </ul>	Usable  Enough students to run a beginning program	Challenging  Provides continuity
<b>Community Support</b>	Creates a change in middle school configuration by moving 5 <sup>th</sup> grade	Maintains what is currently happening; reduces issue of moving 5 <sup>th</sup> graders
<b>Cost</b>	Didn't discuss-not enough information	Didn't discuss-not enough information
<b>Equity</b>	There would be equity in class size	There would be equity in class size

The group will conduct the same activity at the next meeting looking at the secondary grade levels.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. The next meeting will take place on June 11 at the Administration Building at 6:00 p.m.