



Cedar Rapids Community School District Facility Master Plan Process *Committee #13 Outcomes*

Committee District Level Discussion

Committee Meeting #13 was held on October 10, 2017. At this meeting, the committee participated in an activity designed facilitate development of a plan of action for the Facility Master Plan.

Table Breakout Results:

Table 1. Community Hub/Future

- Hold meetings at existing community events like NewBo Market, School ball games, engage citizens with activities to engage them
- Who to ensure are there? Resources from community like Boys and Girls Club, United Way, Jane Boyd, WIC, Share, community food banks, community health sites, etc.
- Great idea that enhances the value to the community, but don't over-commit scarce resources. This is costly.
- Be intentional in design to support community access; including key cards, (and inaccessibility to academic portions)
- Discuss ideas for closed schools
- Discuss upgrades to some MS/HS (part of the future plan)
- We MUST assure that we work with community and city. This is the future of education. If students are to be Future Ready, they need to be in the community.
- Childcare options in building.
- Preschool in all elementary buildings

Table 2. Capacity/Enrollment

- Move from 13 new schools to 14 or 15 schools - Keep 2 "grey boxes" on table near the "heat" *
 - Concern
 - place for daycare
 - place for students
 - coming back to district
 - Remedy
 - building a little extra
 - capacity
 - less 450 schools
 - Concern
 - great explanation of 600 building, makes 450 schools argument seem very weak
 - Johnson needs to be 600 so they can meet present capacity on that side of the city.
 - Make sure pre-school is planned in each building-effective way to attract/retain families.
- *Move 450 capacity schools to tier 3- leaves option for larger capacity

Table 3. Save/Funding

- Support Extension- 20 years
 - Funds Elementary plan w/ no tax increase (No diversions)
- Active Lobbying
 - Creative proposal linked with similar initiative

Table 4. Historical Significance

- List of preservation alternates
- The CRCSD should not limit its options through the lens of historic preservation. That is not the business that they are in.
- Find ways to preserve/incorporate PARTS of history in new buildings.
- Leave it up to community hubs/neighborhoods and preserve pieces that are significant
- Working cooperatively with historical preservation
- Interests in determining appropriate facility design
- Identify possible plans on non-utilized buildings too.
- Preserve parts of historical buildings in new building

Table 5. Project Timing (ES vs Secondary)

- Replace Elementary that are in worst condition first
- The tiers as presented provide a good formula/structure.
- Hoover in Tier 3 is a concern – needs are more urgent
- Some schools need more capacity, replace sooner
- Needs to continue to be adaptable over time (living plan)
- Produce a family/student centered “mapped building plan” (i.e. like Iowa City)
- If SAVE passes, put elementary first. If not, referendum should include work at Elementary and MS and HS and District (Kingston)

Table 6. Communication – Other

- Don't focus on \$3 million-dollar savings (estimated, not inclusive- i.e. transportation, etc.)
- Choose a positive approach to messaging-advantages 1st
- On “Elementary Sites Unknown” chart, identify the school that the “unknown” school will be paired with (i.e. Arthur-Garfield)
- Consider testing community forum content with a test group
- Make sure to communicate that it is a living plan some are concerned about the “large” size of elementary's (600).
- Stress that we are not losing neighborhood schools but creating community hubs
- “Virtual Benchmarking” – develop a way to show the new schools vs current reality
- Communicate to community the variety of people from the community on committee- not school district focused, but community focused.
- The fact of the matter is that school district is competing for students where families have a choice. We need to re-invest to provide a quality of education that these families expect. Not just district to district (CRCSD/LinnMar/Coll.Comm.) but community to community (Cedar Rapids/ Iowa City).