



Facilities Planning Task Force

April 20, 2017
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Welcome

Co-Chair and Executive Administrator on Special Assignment Rob McElroy welcomed everyone to the first meeting of this task force and gave an overview of the agenda. Co-Chair and Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Steve Clarke thanked everyone for dedicating their time over the next several weeks to the work of the task force. Rob then introduced Superintendent Dr. Greg Baker.

Introductions/Task Force Charge/Vision/Parameters

Dr. Baker addressed the group, starting with introductions around the room. He shared that the work and recommendations of this committee will influence students, families and the community for many years to come. He noted that the facilities planning task force that met during the 2012-13 school year laid some groundwork that will be helpful for this task force. Similarly, this task force will likely provide information that will be helpful to a future facility task force. The hope is that this group can work together to prepare for a potential ballot submission as early as February of 2018. He asked that everyone bring their perspective to the group, and to also be sure to give consideration to the two students who are members of this task force. Some time was spent recalling the specific projects that were included on the 2013 bond measure. Some of those projects have been completed, others are still in progress or not yet started. Dr. Baker noted that when a bond measure is put to the voters, much of the anticipated construction costs are estimates, and for that reason some of the upcoming bond measure will be allocated to replenish the capital funds account. Dr. Baker then reviewed some of the ideas that have been talked about for the 2018 bond, as well as future bonds.

Group Norms

Rob directed everyone to the group norms found in each individual's binder and reviewed the norms with the group. He asked that task force members take a moment to discuss the norms with those seated near them, and then asked if there were any suggested changes, additions or deletions. It was agreed by all that the presented norms would be accepted and followed.

Bond/Levy 101

Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Simone Sangster gave an overview of the individual funds that comprise a school district budget (general fund, capital projects fund, debt service fund, associated student body fund and transportation vehicle fund), as well as the sources and uses of the funding. She then gave more detail about bonds and levies and gave some comparisons of nearby school districts' comparative tax rates.

2013 Bond Review/Current Status of Projects

Executive Director of Capital Projects and School Facilities Ron Cowan referred to the Bond Projects page in each person's notebook which lists the projects that were approved by Bellingham voters in 2013. He then reviewed the progress on each of those projects. He also distributed a summary of district projects that have been completed with the 2013 bond measure.

Preview Future Work/Agendas & Questions

Rob gave an overview of some of the work that will take place over the next several weeks, which will include this task force obtaining more detail about some of the 2013 bond projects that remain to be completed.

Steve again thanked the task force for being here today and noted that he is excited to begin this work with them.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

*Next Meeting: April 27, 2017 3:00-5:00
Central Services Office*

Inquiry Questions to be addressed at next meeting:

1. Is there any community outreach or an opportunity for broader community input through this process?
2. Total cost for everything on the list?
3. Storm water regulations: The State of Washington Department of Ecology I think updates storm water regulations every five years (NPDES permit). Last time, in 2013, may have affected Sehome cost – caught the last task force unawares maybe? Are we up to speed on what storm water regulations will go into effect at the state level in 2018, so we can anticipate those costs?
4. Is the 2018 bond amount fixed, or will the task force have a say in how big it is?