

**West Fargo Public Schools
Planning & Development Committee Meeting
July 20, 2020 - 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
WPFS YouTube Channel**

Attendees:

Committee Members: Jon Erickson; Jim Jonas; Dan Schaeffer

District Staff: Beth Slette; Levi Bachmeier; Jeff Goebel; Alicia Severson

Media: None

1. Bus Refueling Station
 - a. The district is looking at placing a fueling station next to the transportation center at an approximate cost of \$352,000
 - b. The district would be able to diversify the fuel to diesel and propane
 - i. Propane is less expensive and more cost stable.
 - ii. Propane creates less carbon emissions by 80%.
 - iii. Propane busses are more cost effective on the maintenance end.
 - iv. The district's goal would be to convert ½ of its fleet to propane busses in 7 to 10 years.
 - c. Would reduce employee hours and travel to current fueling stations.
 - d. Increase competition for fuel bids.
 - e. Possible cost savings in fuel is a half a million dollars over 15 years.
2. Review of Horace Elementary Addition Project Budget
 - a. There is a need for more infrastructure as we expand Horace Elementary
 - i. Traffic problem exist before and after school on County Road 17 and we would look to move this traffic off of the road to help with the traffic flow.
 - ii. Three options to complete this project
 1. Just the 12 classrooms planned and no infrastructure
 2. 8 classrooms plus the infrastructure at the same cost as the 12 classrooms alone
 - a. Administration recommends this and use the cost of the four classrooms to add on possibly to another building that might need the space before Horace Elementary
 3. 12 classrooms and the infrastructure
 - a. Almost 2 ½ million dollars more than anticipated

3. Refunding of 2011 Bond Debt (Levi)
 - a. Based on analysis we would not be money ahead to refinance now. The recommendation would be to stay the course for now until they are traditionally callable and then aggressively refinance.
4. Update on Agreement with AT&T at Essentia Stadium
 - a. \$1,500 per month rental and a concession stand on the north side of the facility. One side will house the generator for the cellular tower.
 - b. Working on finalizing that agreement.
 - c. Light pole will be replaced, and the lights will be rehung on the pole that is also the cell tower.
 - d. Agreement would be for 10 years.
 - e. Administration is pleased with the current agreement.
5. LEC Study Update
 - a. Approached by the city of West Fargo looking for space closer to the downtown and partner with them.
 - b. Opportunity to share larger meeting spaces with a connection
 - c. YHR hasn't completed their study quite yet, so we don't have the final cost comparison on their plan vs. this plan.
 - d. There is potential to buy out properties around us by the city to build a new city hall and then create a connection between the two buildings for shared common and meeting space.
6. Concrete Improvements Across the District
 - a. Authorized a study to be done by MBN engineering.
 - b. Went out for bids and we rejected that. Hoping to come back again.
 - c. Nothing that is dangerous. We have done hazard mitigation. We have some crumbly asphalt in areas in playgrounds where if we were to drive equipment on it, it would be destroyed.
 - d. Bid, and award in January and the work aimed to be done by the end of next summer.
 - e. Will be an item on the board meeting for next Monday for this.
 - f. There are already funds in the budget for this projects.
7. Rock vs. Mulch Update
 - a. Mulch blowing onto the football field. Want to move to small pea sized rock so it wouldn't blow onto the football field.
 - b. Roll this into our standard operating procedure around our buildings.
 - c. Dark almost black pea sized rock.
 - d. Costs a little more upfront but saved in the long run.
8. Discussion on Hiring a Demographer
 - a. Look at a company to do year to year projections as well as long term projections.

- b. Levi will work on bringing a proposal to the entire board at a future business meeting.
- 9. Johnson Controls
 - a. Jeff and I will work to get this done by the first October meeting.