

PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Independent Citizen's Bond Oversight Committee

Wednesday, October 8, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

PUSD Boardroom

Meeting Notes

Attendance:

G. French, member of the community

Mrs. French, guest

Rosa Lopez, parent

Michael Bishop, Assistant Superintendent – Business Services

Patti Cummings, Director of Facilities

Jaime Pace, Project Manager McCarthy Co.

Bruce Cox, Superintendent, McCarthy Building Co.

1. Mr. Bishop welcomed everyone and introductions were shared.
2. Previous minutes were reviewed with an emphasis on the purpose and roles / responsibilities of the committee.
3. A highlight of the phasing plan was reviewed with several schematic pictures in handouts.
 - a. The new joint use library will be bid in the next phase of work beginning Spring, 2009. This project will be shared use with the City offering possible community use after school and weekends. After a brief overview of the scope of work, several concerns were voiced by members:
 - i. loss of grass on Downey Avenue making the school too institutionalized, and
 - ii. use by community after school and on weekends may cause parking issues.
 - b. Design drawings are in progress for two new mini-gymnasiums to be completed Summer 2011 for Zamboni and Alondra Schools, which will become middle grade schools in 2009-10.
 - c. Design drawings for a two-story classroom building with restrooms and library/media center at Keppel School are moving through the State Architect process. This building will replace 14 portable classrooms.
 - d. Several concerns were raised regarding various schools:
 - i. Are there plans to add to the cafeteria at Paramount High School? Staff explained the reasons the cafeteria could not be expanded due to structure and code issues. Also there are so many positive choices for students using kiosk stations with different food menus and the smaller gathering areas where students can eat with friends.

- ii. A comment was made that the District should not expend any additional funds on Collins or Lakewood Schools since each resides in other cities. Staff explained that these homeowners are paying part of the local bond and should have access to Measure AA funding, as planned. Due to the reconfiguration for 2009-10 Lakewood K-5 students move to Collins. Lakewood School will be studied for housing other programs. Collins is planned for a renovated student drop off area to provide safer ingress/egress.

- 4. A financial update led to a discussion regarding the current problems with “Wall Street vs. Main Street” and how the District will be impacted in selling future bonds. With a goal to complete all projects by 2012, the District will need to coordinate alternative ways to bridge funding.
 - a. A handout was reviewed that demonstrates the planned projects and estimated budgets. Current expenditures and balances were discussed.
 - b. A summary chart handout demonstrates the account activity, including potential funding sources.
 - c. There was concern for the District to demonstrate to the community that expenditures are not all athletic driven. A suggestion was made by a COC member to construct an academic project in next phase rather than gyms and field house. Staff explained the library is next in line; however, the coordination of phasing projects is a very integral process throughout the campus and minimizing student disruption is a key factor to phasing .
 - d. A concern regarding lack of ROP and Vocational Tech programs at PHS was discussed. Staff shared the process used in selecting the Career Technical Education (CTE) pathways – (1) Medical Health and (2) Media and Support Services, which will be incorporated into the project construction. Medical Health will have three classrooms in the Science Building. A renovation of technology rooms for CTE programs will expand technology to include 4 classrooms for media and support services.
 - e. A historical review of new construction projects totaling over \$130,000,000 led to discussion of lack of community information using past and future bond dollars. Suggestions of a newsletter (door-to-door) would be more effective for the community as a whole rather than only focusing on the District website and local papers. Staff will explore this.

- 5. The meeting was adjourned and COC members were invited to tour the new Athletic Stadium.