

Planning Advisory Committee Meeting #6 Summary

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 26th, 2019

LOCATION: Sheridan School District Office, 435 S. Bridge St., Sheridan

TIME: 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

In Attendance

Committee Members Present

Michael Griffith
Ken Piontek
Matt Ross
Barbara Running
Dean Rech

Staff and Consultants

Steven Sugg, Superintendent, Sheridan School District
Robert Collins, DAY CPM
Allison Brown, Facilitator, JLA Public Involvement

Audience / Members of the Public

None present

Overview

- This meeting was a final approval of the guiding principles, a discussion on the tour of Faulconer-Chapman School, and a discussion on the list of possible projects for both Sheridan High School and Faulconer-Chapman School.
- The next meeting will be held on March 19th, 2019.

Welcome & Agenda Review

Allison Brown, JLA Public Involvement, welcomed the committee and reviewed the agenda.

Guiding Principles

Robert Collins, DAY CPM, reviewed the guiding principles with the committee. The guiding principles were the following statements, agreed upon by the committee at an earlier meeting:

- Facilities and grounds that are safe, sound, size appropriate and provide an inspiring and inviting learning environment.
- Preparing our students for their future, utilizing current and appropriate technology and equipment.

Bob asked if the committee felt comfortable with these statements, and the committee confirmed them. Bob offered a suggestion to change the second statement to read:

- Provide and utilize current and appropriate technology and equipment to prepare our students for their future.

Bob stated that he felt that this put more emphasis on the facility, rather than the student or the curriculum. The committee agreed, and confirmed this statement. The final guiding principles for the Sheridan LRFP now read:

- **Facilities and grounds that are safe, sound, size appropriate and provide an inspiring and inviting learning environment.**
- **Provide and utilize current and appropriate technology and equipment to prepare our students for their future.**

Discussion of Faulconer-Chapman School and Sheridan High School Tour

The committee was given a list of possible projects (compiled from notes from the tours, and the lists submitted electronically by committee members). Bob kicked off a conversation with the committee to share their thoughts and reflections from the tour of Faulconer-Chapman School (FCS), since the committee did not have time to discuss their thoughts at the end of the tour in the last meeting. This conversation naturally touched on thoughts and perspectives on Sheridan High School (SHS), as committee members reviewed the project list with Bob.

Some key notes from this discussion include:

- Bob asked if the committee felt that the entrance at FCS felt secure, and the group confirmed that it felt generally secure
- Could doors be further in to have a visitor entrance area and create a buffer space between the school and the outdoors?
 - Bob clarified that this is called a vestibule, and typically locks electronically. It would be key to have a clear line of sight from a vestibule to people approaching the school.
 - The group discussed how this might be possible at FCS, by modifying the existing configuration. The location of the bathrooms near the entrance pose a potential problem here.
 - One committee member asked what type of glass is used typically for these kinds of entrances. Bob noted that typically bullet resistant film, glass or sheetrock is used for safety.

- The old gym at FCS needs attention:
 - Floors need repairs, as their current condition poses some liability issues. The hope is that a solution could be found that is cost-effective, while also lasting and fitting the multi-use purpose of the building.
 - Bathroom/locker rooms (which currently have a temporary partition) need to be updated. The hope is that these could be both secure and nice looking.
 - The group discussed the use of the old gym. Steve confirmed that this space is often used by the community (for youth sports) and by the school. Updating this building would provide more opportunities for use by both school and community.
 - Improved use of the old gym at FCS would help alleviate some of the demands for gym space at SHS.
 - The general consensus was that the old gym does not need to be bigger, but instead be fit to purpose.
- The outside area of FCS poses some challenges:
 - The 'donut ring' of dirt around the school means that dirt is tracked into the school, and doesn't keep the building clean.
 - There is a hope for better landscaping overall.
 - There's a sewer hole near the building
 - There's little outdoor lighting, and it's very dark (especially considering the foot traffic of students going to and from school in the winter months).
 - Covered play area becomes a basin in the rain
 - Could there be some kind of wind-blown rain guard solution put in place to make this space better?
 - The garbage pad needs to be bigger, with more lighting
 - This was on the list of projects for the last bond measure, but was never completed
- There currently is no indoor space for hands-on activities (like a maker space)
 - This would be a great opportunity to meet the needs of different learning styles, and could help alleviate some behavioral issues, especially with middle school students
 - Could some of the unused classrooms be converted for this purpose?
 - There was some discussion on a small woodshop space. The group agreed that this would need to be in a separate building. There was then some discussion on improving and utilizing the wood shop at SHS, and offering opportunity for middle school students and teachers to come down to that campus to use the shop.
 - The group felt it would be useful to explore the feasibility and cost of a separate wood shop space for FCS
 - Could the rooms that currently serve as computer labs be converted for a maker space (building robots, 3D printing, etc.)
- The mop rooms at FCS have water damage and holes, and need repairs. The downstairs mop room needs a water-resistant wall covering, and the upstairs mop room is not properly fitted or suitable for purpose.
- Science rooms don't seem to be fit to purpose.

- Sinks contain garbage: are they useful?
 - The hooded lab station doesn't work (but would be useful for teaching)
- Room 215 has a pillar in the classroom that creates a blind spot. There was some discussion of whether this could be fixed, or if this is a permanent feature of the room.
 - Could this room be repurposed to serve as a maker-space room?
- Windows and natural light are limited in the school. Hallways don't have exterior walls, and the interior classrooms don't have any access to natural light.
- The carpet in the Title I room needs to be replaced.
- Heating and cooling units at FCS are located on the roof, which has presented consistent issues (cracks, shaking, leaks). The group hoped that a complete repair (not a temporary fix) could address these issues).
- Could something be done to help the upstairs hallway feel less cramped (ie lifting the ceiling, adding a skylight)?
- The server room doesn't have any ventilation, and could use a cooling unit.
- The band and music rooms need soundproofing and improved lighting.
 - These rooms could also benefit from increased storage for musical instruments.

The group also addressed some key issues they saw that SHS:

- The group briefly discussed if a vestibule might be an option at SHS, and how walls might be moved to make this a possible configuration. The general agreement was that the entrance needs to be addressed and updated at SHS.
- The shop room needs an update, and the group raised the question of whether it should be expanded, or a new shop built?
- The group noted that the cafeteria glass wall in SHS needs to be addressed for security and safety purposes.
- The old gym at SHS also needs improvements. More gym space would be beneficial to students, and offer the school district opportunities to host games.
- Classrooms need rewiring, although there is recognition that there are limitation with this due to the age of the buildings.
 - The hope was that more outlets could be put into classrooms, which currently have very limited electrical capacity
- The group agreed that the modular classrooms need to be addressed.
 - Currently, these modular buildings serve as 6 classrooms, present a host of security issues, and some are used for storage. They are aging and will not serve for much longer.
 - There was discussion on the possibility of building a new wing of the school that could be connected to the main building. Many felt that this would be a good solution.
 - There was some discussion on the importance of including bathrooms in a new wing. Some felt that this could help with behavioral issues with students wandering halls, while others raised the point that bathrooms are expensive and the current bathrooms would not be too far away.
 - Could a new wing also accommodate dedicated storage space?
- Updated fire suppression measures are needed in all rooms

- Fire and clock systems (including PA system and security/motion detector systems) need an upgrade
- Classrooms could use deckless heat pumps
- Science classrooms need a major upgrade (sinks, hooded vents, etc.)
- All floor tiling containing asbestos should be removed
- There has been a request for additional space for the art room
- The gym requires a seismic upgrade
- The entire campus needs fencing
- Exterior lighting around the campus
 - The group discussed the level/timing of lighting, and whether more or less lighting would be deterrent to possible mischief
- The stadium needs a new ramp and bathrooms
- There is a need to think about security in the new gym and management of access

Some additional thoughts were added/clarified via email after the meeting by a committee member. These include:

- The “donut ring” of dirt around the Faulconer-Chapman school building is connected to putting in larger entrance cement pads at exist, and proper dirt/rock/water removal systems at the doorways.
- Improving landscaping at FCS will require new soil, in addition to dedicated staff time for maintenance and landscaping. Care of landscaping has not always been a priority for the School District in the past.
- The west side of FCS (where an issue with the garbage pad has been identified) also requires better utilization of the area to provide adequate garbage pickup and turnaround areas for trucks, including widening of the road, additional lighting and parking space.
- The gym at FCS does not need seismic upgrades, but the old gym at SHS does require those upgrades.

Next Steps

At the end of this discussion, the group discussed next steps and upcoming meetings.

- Bob will be working on an assessment list for the State requirements for a facilities grant. This information will be shared with the committee at the next meeting.
- The next meeting is on March 19th. Part of that meeting will entail a presentation from Carol Samuels from Piper/Jaffray, to explain how a bond measure might work for Sheridan School District.
- The group will continue to work on their list of projects, and work toward a prioritized list of recommended projects for the School Board.
- The meeting in April will be moved to April 9th. This meeting should include some report on the demographic research conducted by PSU, and should help the group with their prioritization of projects.