

**BRISTOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY APRIL 29, 2020**

The Operations Committee met on Wednesday April 29, 2020 via Webex online meeting platform

Present: Committee Chair Eric Carlson, John Sklenka, Chris Wilson and Karen Vibert

Also Present: Jill Browne, Angela Cahill (QA&M), Timothy Callahan, Dr. Catherine Carbone, Cathy Cassin, Chris Cassin, Kim Culkin, Dan Davis (QA&M), Mike Dietter, Jennifer Dube, Carly Fortin, Sam Galloway, Kristen Giantonio, Rusty Malik (QA&M), Thomas O'Brien, Rob Puzio, and Allison Wadowski

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Commissioner Carlson

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 26, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING

On a motion by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Sklenka, it was unanimously voted to approve the February 26, 2020 meeting minutes.

3. FEASIBILITY STUDY REVIEW

Dr. Catherine Carbone Presented:

This is the initial draft of the feasibility study has been worked on over the last 6 weeks.

The rationale for the feasibility study is

- Building needs call for a comprehensive facilities plan that ensures students meet clear and challenging expectations through personalized learning experiences in well-appointed schools
- Utilization of space in grades Pre-K – 8 must better support student learning that is informed by current and projected enrollment
- Predicted enrollment requires BPS to adjust the cost structures of its systems

The guiding principals for the feasibility study are:

- Great teaching and learning in every school
- Equitable school facilities and access to innovative pathways
- Fiscal sustainability

Intended goals and outcomes from the feasibility study are:

- Ensures equity for all students to attend well-appointed and safe schools
- Sustainability sized and structured school district that ensures equity through consideration of demographics and socio-economic status
- Improved operational efficiency
- Improved instructional conditions for all students and staff
- Expand opportunities for teachers to collaborate in teams and departments to ensure equitable and high-quality instruction

- Operate schools that are fiscally responsible
- Consistently applied grade configurations aligned to an educational philosophy

Rusty Malik Presented:

After a quick overview of the existing facilities, Rusty Malik presented the options to the committee. There are four options:

- Option 1: Pre-K Specialization, K-4, 5-8, 9-12
 - Parity at K-4 schools with 5 classrooms per grade level and a capacity of 574 at 100% utilization except for West Bristol with 7 classrooms per grade level and a capacity of 805 at 100%
 - New Pre-K center at Northeast site or Exgewood with the option of full day Pre-K
 - Parity at 5-8 schools with 2 teams per grade level and a capacity of 768 at 100% utilization and 1 team per grade level at the Arts Magnet School
- Option 2: Pre-K Specialization, K-5, 6-8, and 9-12
 - The K-5 schools range from 3-5 classrooms per grade level and capacities ranging from 414 to 690 at 100% utilization
 - New Pre-K center at Edgewood with the option of full day Pre-K option at Chippens Hill
 - The 6-8 Schools with 2 teams per grade level at Northeast Middle School and Chippens Hill Middle School and 1 team per grade level at West Bristol School, Greene-Hills School, and the Arts Magnet
- Option 3: Pre-K Specialization, Mixed K-8 and 9-12
 - Parity at K-5 schools with 4 classrooms per grade level and capacity of 552 at 100% utilization
 - New Pre-K center at Northeast site with the option of full day Pre-K
 - The 6-8 schools with 2 teams per grade level at Northeast and Chippens Hill and 1 team per grade level at West Bristol, Greene-Hills, and the Arts Magnet
- Option 4: Mixed Pre-K -8 and 9-12
 - Elementary schools with 4 classrooms per grade level and capacities ranging from 552 to 603 at 100% utilization except for Ivy Drive with 3 classrooms per grade
 - Pre-K classrooms at multiple schools
 - The 6-8 schools with 2 teams per grade level at Northeast and Chippens Hill and 1 team per grade level at West Bristol School, Greene-Hills School, and the Arts Magnet School

After the presentation, the following questions were asked:

Commissioner Sklenka

1. What determines building condition (poor/fair/good/excellent)? The last study rated buildings differently.
2. Can we get an itemized list of renovations that have been done (and are to be done) at each building?
3. "If Memorial Boulevard ever gets built", when are we planning redistricting? Will it happen before or when/if it comes online?

4. "I was under the impression that Memorial Boulevard would alleviate our space issue - is that not the case?
5. When will this feasibility study be done?
6. Many of these plans call for "add classrooms" or "add this or that", what is the plan for these additions?

From the Public:

Kristin Giantonio

1. Would like any information regarding upgrade costs and general info, (i.e. tech, A/C, classrooms)
2. What is the definition of *parity*? Would like this defined for the committee and the community.
3. How are we getting commissioner and community feedback before any of these options are taken off the table?
4. What are our continued costs due to COVID? I am certain this poses an "unintended gigantic cost to school districts", and should we be moving forward at this time?
5. I would like to see an Option 5, which includes the possibility of not opening MBIAMS.

Jeff Caggiano felt it is extremely beneficial to look at all the options and to get the administration, teachers, and others involved. Innovation is important while considering the options.

Commissioner Carlson stated, at this point, we can make our own suggestion/option.

Commissioner Vibert stated it is very important that redistricting occurs only once.

The questions and comments will be reviewed and discussed at the full board meeting to include all commissioners on May 6, 2020.

4. REVIEW OF NEMS GYM FLOOR REPLACEMENT BIDS: TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY

Timothy Callahan Presented:

The lowest qualified bid came in \$25,000.00 under budget and that will be added to the contingency of the project. The bid scope includes a complete gym floor and new bleachers that will hold 466 people. The contractor would like to start as soon as possible. The total bid was \$156,652 from Kenvo Floors.

On a motion by Commissioner Sklenka and seconded by Commissioner Carlson, it was unanimous to accept the bid received by Kenvo Floor Co., Inc, in the amount of \$156,662 for the gym floor replacement at Northeast Middle School as specified in contract 2C20-065, and to forward it to City Council for formal award of a contract for such work.

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the committee. The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tara Landon