

The Board of Directors of the Cedar Falls Community School District in the County of Black Hawk, State of Iowa, met in special work session pursuant to the laws and rules of said Board at the James L. Robinson Administrative Center, 1002 West First Street, Cedar Falls, Iowa, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by the President and the roll being called there were present Deon Senchina in the chair, and the following named Directors: Susan Lantz, Jenny Leeper, David Williams and Joyce Coil. Others in attendance were: Mike Wells, Superintendent, Douglas Nefzger, Director of Business Affairs and Dan Conrad, Director of Secondary Education. Also in attendance was student representative Andrew Stensland. Others in attendance: Lisa Sesterhenn, Brett Meyers, Brad Leeper, Gary Koenen, Sarah Eastmen, and Emily Christensen.

President Senchina called the meeting to order and reported that the business and action to be taken at tonight's meeting will be focused on student achievement.

Superintendent Wells began the work session by reviewing the average projected British Thermal Units (BTU) per student that will be needed in the new facility. Mr. Wells also reviewed the renovations and additions that had been added to the high school since the year 2000.

Board members reviewed and discussed the article "New Construction vs. Renovation for Older School Facilities" by Clif Greim. Discussion from this article centered on health and safety concerns, parking, asbestos, exterior exits and system upgrades to HVAC, electrical, plumbing and kitchen

Program changes discussed over time include: increase in special education programming, ELL programming, technology, project based learning, collaboration space, athletic/activity programs and technical programs.

The group then discussed the pros and cons of renovation:

Pros include:

- Potential cost is less expensive
- Use of current location
- Sentimental attachment
- Re purposing the existing facility
- Honoring past investments

Cons include:

- Flow of building
- Parking
- Staging of educational programs
- Hidden/unknown/unseen renovation costs
- Continued use to the annex
- Costs of a new facility
- Land availability

The Board read portions of the book "The Language of School Design, Design Patterns for 21st Century Schools" by Prakash Nair, Randall Fielding & Jeffery Lackney. The Board then discussed from this book the following:

1. "Ford Model" classroom based model
2. "20 Learning Modalities" that a physical school should support
3. "Learning studio" which consists of a classroom or series of classrooms with different breakout/flex/activity areas for students and teachers to engage.

The Board then discussed the current High Tech High in San Diego California. High Tech High is a project based learning school. Questions were asked if the data from a newly constructed facility using a High Tech High design has improved student achievement.

Mr. Wells then reviewed the current square footage of the current high school, proposed remodeled high school and of the proposed new high school.

Gary Koenen, Athletic Director for the Cedar Falls Community Schools reviewed activities that are held off campus, these activities included:

- Men and woman's cross country
- Football games at the UNI Dome
- Golf meets held at Pheasant Ridge
- Swimming held at Holmes Junior High
- Marching Band: practices held at off site
- Cheer leading practice held at other elementary schools and churches
- Dance team practices held at other elementary schools and churches
- Wrestling practices held off campus due to lack of space
- Men and women's bowling
- Robotics: District currently rents facility in the industrial park
- Men and women's soccer using CVYSA or University Northern Iowa fields
- Men and women's tennis at Robinson Dresser Park or at Peet Junior High School
- Trap shooting at the Black Hawk Co. Park
- Baseball and softball at Robinson Dresser Park
- Hitting facility in the industrial park

Mr. Wells reviewed possible locations for a new high school. Six general locations scattered along the western and southern edges of the community were discussed. Mr. Wells shared tentative enrollment projects from RSP & Associates. Enrollment projections show the need to potentially redistrict the District's elementary schools and/or construct a 7th elementary or a restructure the district from its current PK-6 / 7-9 / 10-12 to a PK-5 / 6-8 / 9-12 structure. The discussion then centered on repurposing the current high school should a new high school be constructed. Possible ideas include:

1. Administrative offices
2. Moving Informational Technology Services back to the high school
3. Potential special education school
4. Career academy location
5. Community programs
 - Children's Theater
 - Community Language Program (UNI, Hawkeye, CF)
 - Cedar Falls School of Dance
 - Cedar Falls Children's art Center
 - Artist Residency Program
 - Bid Sister/Big Brother
 - Boys and Girls Club
 - Science and Robotic Clubs
 - Junior Achievement
 - TAP Program
 - Heritage Center-Historical Society
 - City Recreational Center II
 - Alternative Program
 - Music Exploration/Recording Studio
 - Transportation Services
 - Bus and Maintenance Services

Mr. Wells reviewed the funds that have been spent on the high school since 2000 and how to potentially repurpose the facility.

Mr. Wells reviewed the historical energy costs for the high school and the high school annex. Mr. Wells also discussed River Hills Schools and the costs associated with operating the school.

Item No. 3 - Adjournment

Director Lantz moved and Director Leeper seconded the motion to adjourn. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Coil, Senchina, Williams, Lantz and Leeper. Those voting "no" none. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:58p.m.

Secretary

President