



Abilene ISD Master Facility Planning Committee
Meeting 4 Notes
Thursday, May 10, 2018, 6 p.m. at Cooper High School

- **Welcome** – Dr. Karen Munoz, Principal of Cooper High School and Dr. David Young, Superintendent

- **Meeting 3 Recap** – Mike Breckenridge, Co-Chair
 - Departmental Presentations
 - 2013 Facility Assessment Overview
 - Enrollment Projections
 - Grade Alignment Discussion

- **Summary of Potential Projects** – Steve Hafer and Tim Hopkins, Huckabee
 - New Replacement Considerations
 - CTE Considerations
 - Abilene High Program Considerations
 - Cooper High Program Considerations
 - Clack Middle School Considerations
 - Craig Middle School Considerations
 - Mann Middle School Considerations
 - Madison Middle School Considerations
 - Shotwell Stadium Considerations
 - Capital Improvement Considerations

In discussing a **possible New CTE Facility** it was brought up that a previous bond issue in 2008 failed that had planned for a new Tech Facility. The committee discussed reasons for possible failure of the bond:

- Issue of where to put it
- Message to the public was not good
- This was before House Bill 5 which is now encouraging technology and career tech programs
- School administrators were not involved with the citizen committee
- The Tech School plan was not specific enough

Committee discussion regarding the current project list:

- Taylor ES, current site has significant deficiencies (narrow residential streets, adjacent to very busy street).
- Dyess ES- important to the military families in that area
- Austin ES- no comments were made regarding the possible replacement of Austin ES.

- New CTE Facility – potentially very beneficial to the community, deficiencies with current ATEMS campus, ATEMS located within the new facility would not be a problem for students because they are already blending AHS and CHS students.
- New Athletic Facilities – these types of facilities tend to retain students and help in recruiting new students, the drive-by factor needs to be improved, AISD is very far behind in these facilities, the old fields are hurting students (misc leg and ankle injuries because of the poor condition of the fields), people have a choice and are competitive and will go where the nicer facilities are located, sports attracts people.
- They want to be a destination school district, people will come to be a part of something new (like the CTE facility).
- They are competing against non-public schools as well.
- Fine Arts- these programs can support many more students than athletics (limited space on sports teams).

- **Grade Alignment Considerations**

The committee is not charged with making a recommendation to the Board regarding possible grade organization.

- Mike King from Huckabee led a discussion on research regarding transitions, 6th graders, and grade level alignments.
- Focus on 6th Grade
- Small Group Discussion
 - Three Options to Discuss:
 1. Continue with current grade level alignment
 2. Form a special committee to continue studying the grade level alignment, putting a hold on facility planning.
 3. Study how to better serve 6th grade students within their current buildings.
 - Most tables agreed to option 3. One table said they felt unqualified to make this decision and feels this committee is here to focus on facilities. They feel somewhere between option 1 and 3. One committee member shared an idea to build new buildings for an 11 & 12 campus and a CTE campus; make Abilene High and Cooper High 9 & 10 grade campuses; and create 6 & 7 grade campuses.
- The Supt spoke to the issue and said that AISD will make this a priority to study 6th grade instruction.
- The committee did not want to take additional time for AISD to study grade organization and felt that that discussion could detract from the bond issue.

- **Grading Criteria**

- Overview of Prioritization Process
- Grading Criteria Activity
 - Following the activity and discussion at each table, the grading criteria were ranked in the following order:
 - Urgency Need / Benefit to Students (tied for 1st)
 - Attracting/Retaining Students

- Value
- Equity

- **Questions**

- If we built a CTE facility, would we still bus students?
 - Most likely. We currently bus students and we could still bus them in the future to a new facility if necessary.