

**Minutes of the Special Board Committee Tier Two Facilities Meeting  
Community Unit School District No. 4, Champaign County, Illinois  
Mellon Administrative Center, 703 S. New Street, Champaign, Illinois  
May 19, 2016, 6:00 p.m.**

**Committee Members Present**

Amy Armstrong, Sam Banks, Laura Berg, Jamar Brown, Steve Carter, Brad Diel, Chris Kloepfel, Will Kyles, Carly McCorry, Tim McMahan, Alan Nudo, R. Dee Shonkwiler, Jane Solon, Laura Weis, Jewell White

**Public Comment**

Bruce Hannon spoke about what he likes about the plan. He feels the plan is suitable for an urban school and infill development. The plan reuses and enhances the current building. A field house is a great idea. A parking structure would be ideal versus tearing down houses. The Burnham house, YMCA and the Church could be used as classrooms or class projects. The football field at Centennial can be shared. Phase referendum is good idea. He doesn't like the equal number of students at each high school. It creates more bussing and data shows numbers have declined in the past decade.

Prudence Runkle – concerned about the same number of students at each high school. There is greater opportunity for more students at Centennial High School. She questions the number of 3400 because of the number of high schools that are available. She feels the number at public high schools will not be expanding. She likes idea of phasing so the building could be added onto at a later time. Elementary/middle school numbers don't necessarily relate to high school numbers.

The link to Susan Appel's letter is:

<http://facilityplanning.champaignschools.org/sites/planning/files/Susan%20Appel%205.19.16.pdf>

The link to Brian Adams letter is:

<http://facilityplanning.champaignschools.org/sites/planning/files/Brian%20Adams%205.19.16.pdf>

The link to Thomas Garza's letter is:

<http://facilityplanning.champaignschools.org/sites/planning/files/Thomas%20Garza%205.19.16.pdf>

**Communications/Correspondence**

All communications and correspondence can be found on the Tier Two Facilities website: <http://facilityplanning.champaignschools.org/community>

**Preliminary Budget Presentation: Central and Centennial**

This presentation can be found on the Tier Two Facilities website:

<http://facilityplanning.champaignschools.org/sites/planning/files/Champaign%20Unit%204%20Tier%20II%20Presentation%2020160519%20V1%20PRINT%20Rev.pdf>

Karl Gnad, Managing Director from Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District talked about transportation costs if Central High School were to be built at Interstate Drive. There are a lot of unknown variables at this time and he cautioned that the numbers were preliminary. There currently is a base level of service around Central High School. There is not a base level of service at Interstate Drive. The link to the document is: <http://facilityplanning.champaignschools.org/sites/planning/files/Central%20at%20Interstate%20Drive%20for%20Web.pdf>

### **Thoughts and Comments from Committee Members**

- It's about the children and what citizens are willing to pay for. The school must be a 21<sup>st</sup> century school. We can compromise on the building but not the programs. Academic programs must be supported.
- What are we allocating (square footage) to athletics and to instructional space?
  - Gym space – PE is mandated by the State of Illinois
- Construction is disruptive. What does the phase in process look like?
  - Plan does not include phasing at this time. There are ideas on phasing that will be discussed. There are also costs associated with phasing.
- What was the allocation and square footage involved in the last two referendums?
- More than one referendum will be needed to all of the projects as well as dollar amounts.
- What is available in 2024 for 1%?
- What is the disruption factor for Central if we go to 1700?
- What is in it for people south of Kirby?
  - Shorter bus routes – work with MTD
- What is the longevity of a bridge?
  - Depends on what it is made of
- How much does a parking garage cost?
  - 250 car deck would cost 8.5 million
- Numbers are based on a wish list. What is the actual number for the taxpayers? It would be helpful to have the numbers broke down a little more. As much information that can be put out would be helpful. List costs and benefits.
- Compare apples to apples with current Central and Interstate Drive.
- Not in favor of equal high school size.
- From City perspective – what is the cost to tax payers for fire, police service and roads at the Interstate Drive location?
- No energy for Interstate Drive location.
- Is it possible to build on top of Central?
  - Is the building designed to add on vertically? Would need structure retrofit and there would be architectural challenges. Building codes have also changed over the years and a structural analysis would be needed.
- The conversation needs to be had as a community if Central stays on its current site. The Village of Savoy would like a Town Hall Meeting following May 26<sup>th</sup> and before the June 9<sup>th</sup> recommendation.
- Is November the best time for a referendum or should we wait until Spring?
  - This is a Board decision
- The Committee's charge is to come up with a long-range plan. What does the Committee recommend for a referendum?

- A majority of the Committee was in agreement to take the Interstate Drive location off the table as a consideration.
- Comfortable with 1500 at Central – not 1700
- What does Centennial want? Prioritize.
- Please go to the Tier Two Facilities website and review past minutes and documents <http://facilityplanning.champaignschools.org/>

### **Public Comment**

Joe Williams – People do want a high school where they can have everything. An equal number of students at both high schools is not just about athletics. He is a proponent of 1700/1700 for academic reasons. He spoke about equity. More money should not be spent to build something that is not equitable. Plans that went to Tier Two were scaled back significantly. Centennial is already in a different class because of their size. Preservation of tradition should be thought about as well.

Meeting adjourned: 8:38 p.m.

Next meeting: May 26, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.