

**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  
April 14, 2016, 7:00 p.m.**

**Committee Members Present**

Amy Armstrong, Sam Banks, Jamar Brown, Laura Berg, Steve Carter, Brad Diel, Paul Faraci, Craig Hays, Chris Kloeppe, Will Kyles, Tim McMahon, Luz Murillo, Alan Nudo, Craig Rost, R. Dee Shonkwiler, Laura Weis, Jewell White

Amy Armstrong and Kathy Richards are working with Administration to make sure the community is aware of the work being done regarding facilities. A flyer was created to assist the Committee as they talk to community members. Post cards will be available at the next Tier Two Facilities meeting.

**Public Comment**

Kathy Harper – lives just north in the 600 block of Washington. She has plans on making improvements to her home and wanted to know how the plans for Central High School will impact her property value. She is also concerned how the neighborhood would access Prospect Avenue if there were street closures.

**Central High School Options Including Athletic Fields**

The link to the presentation is:

[http://facilityplanning.champaignschools.org/sites/planning/files/Champaign%20Unit%204%20Tier%202\\_20160414\\_V4%20%281%29.pdf](http://facilityplanning.champaignschools.org/sites/planning/files/Champaign%20Unit%204%20Tier%202_20160414_V4%20%281%29.pdf)

The link to Principal Joe Williams' letter is:

<http://facilityplanning.champaignschools.org/sites/planning/files/Joe%20Williams%2527%20Comments%20-%204.14.2016.pdf>

The letter from Landmark Illinois can be found on the Tier Two Facilities website:

[http://facilityplanning.champaignschools.org/sites/planning/files/Central%20High%20School%20and%20Neighborhood\\_School%20District%20Letter.pdf](http://facilityplanning.champaignschools.org/sites/planning/files/Central%20High%20School%20and%20Neighborhood_School%20District%20Letter.pdf)

The link to Athletic Director John Woods' letter is:

<http://facilityplanning.champaignschools.org/sites/planning/files/John%20Woods%20Letter%204.14.16.pdf>

**Public Comment**

Mary Schultz – Would be helpful to give architects clear parking guidelines so they have better direction. Can we close Lynn Street? If more properties were available it could change the footprint. If staying Central are we renovating entire building?

- Board President Chris Kloeppe has had conversations with the City and feels strongly that closing Lynn Street is an option.
- It's possible that more land could become available. It's out there that the District is interested.
- Would renovate entire building - extensively
- The Team has worked on many projects in neighborhoods. They are experts and capable to do what we need them to do in tight spots.

Consider construction traffic and the pros and cons with new construction versus renovating. Consider how the schedule is impacted with summer work. Construction workers will be working longer hours. ADA access with crosswalk – how would that work? Have play fields on

top of parking structures. There would be an extreme cost to this. Would rather spend money on the school and not on increased MTD costs.

- O'Shea is on board and will work on the scheduling

### **Thoughts and Comments From Committee Members**

- Appreciated Joe Williams' comments.
- The committee has not given up their Thursday evenings to not be successful. It is time to come up with a plan and implement it. It is complicated and the community needs to hear this.
- What is the accommodation for parking? Would lose parking if classrooms were expanded at Centennial. How would that impact Jefferson Middle School?
- How long does a renovation last?
- What about the historical aspect?
- If cost are the same it makes sense to renovate.
- A parking lot does not honor the Burnham house. Could the house be used?
- There is water in the basement at Central. How is this being addressed? How do you solve issues that you don't know about right now?
- Poll community – new vs. renovation
- Consider safety of kids when making decisions. Wishes there was a better alternative for parking.
- Interstate site should be eliminated.
- MTD costs will increase tremendously at the Interstate site.
- Do not understand why both schools have to be the same size.
- It is unfair to say athletics is driving the discussion.
- Will MTD provide costs?

### **Committee Goals:**

1. Identify long range facility plan for the next 20-25 years. What can be done now?
2. Consider the District's finances and recommend a number for the referendum.

Time of meeting – 6:00 p.m. will be the new start time of the Tier Two Facilities Meetings beginning on Thursday, April 21, 2016

Meeting adjourned at: 8:55 p.m.