

05.03.19

Here's what's been going on during the past week:

- 1. On Thursday (April 25), we had the opportunity to celebrate our good news bond story publicly at the 2019 WASA Region 108 Community Heroes Awards Luncheon, where we honored Joe Lupo (in person) and Wendy Lawrence (in absentia) for the incredible work they did as leaders on the Bond Task Force and Co-Chairs of the Bond Campaign Citizens' Committee. Since Astronaut Wendy had a previous engagement at NASA on the day of the awards luncheon, we are planning to repeat the presentation to both Joe and Wendy at the May 28 School Board meeting.
- 2. When the Oversight Committee met with the School Board on April 23, one topic of conversation focused on the resources Committee members need from the District to fulfill their mission. Together, they decided the "human resources" they need include (1) a district point of contact who they can rely on for regular information about the progress of bond projects, and (2) a district staff person who can assist with scheduling and announcing meetings, taking and publishing minutes, and otherwise assisting with the logistical operation of the Oversight Committee. This week, we made the determination that Mark Deebach and Tammy Bengen, respectively, will fill these two roles.
- 3. On Tuesday (April 30), a district team held its first official planning meeting with representatives of Dykeman Architects. The agenda included (1) a discussion of the general timeline for the design phase of the project; (2) plans for gathering staff and public input during the design phase; (3) selection of pre-design consultants (like surveyors, archeologists, and geo-technicians); and (4) necessary preparations for seeking approval to pursue taking a GC/CM (General Construction/Contract Manager) approach to building the new high school, as recommended by Ferndale community members who have expertise in the construction trades.
- 4. As part of the meeting with Dykeman, we reviewed a graphic prepared by the architects to illustrate a draft community engagement plan for the design phase of the high school project. Although this is a draft and will be updated and customized for our community, we are including it <a href="here">here</a>.
- 5. On Tuesday evening (April 30), Jeremy Vincent and I made a presentation to the CTE (Career and Technical Education) Advisory Committee about (1) the bond work that has been accomplished since the February election, (2) some of the next steps coming up during this spring and summer, and (3) ways community members can be

involved in the process. Regarding the latter, Principal Vincent helped meeting participants access the district's online Thoughtexchange to answer the question: "What is most important to you as we move forward with the bond projects?" He explained that all responses, which are anonymous, will be collected, collated, and reported back to the community within the next two weeks.

- 6. We met with the City of Ferndale this week to continue the conversation about Old Main. The City Council recently approved a contract for consulting services to perform an assessment of the Old Main building to determine if it is feasible for the City to continue moving forward with the conversation.
- 7. Oversight Committee members have completed their initial review of construction-related consultants (surveyors, archeologists, geo-technicians, etc,). We appreciate getting the chance to hear their thoughts before moving forward with hiring.
- 8. We are working with our construction attorney to review contracts with the various construction-related consultants we need to hire at this stage in our process.
- 9. We have also been preparing financial information and working with our Bond Counsel in advance of our first Bond sale, which we anticipate will occur in June or July.
- 10. We are working with our construction attorney to review contracts for consultants.

If you have questions or comments about any of this, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Linda