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

1. The big news this week is that we have been approved to use General Contractor/Construction Manager, or GC/CM, process for the design and construction of the new Ferndale High School. The General Contractor/Construction Manager method allows the general contractor to participate as an adviser during the architects’ design of a major construction project. This improves communication, because the general contractor can provide input on the availability and cost of suggested materials and perhaps offers cheaper alternatives. The GC/CM method will cost the school district a little more upfront for the general contractor's time, but in the long run the contractor’s suggestions about the affordability of different designs can save us significant dollars. We shared additional information in a media release that can be found here: https://www.ferndalesd.org/news/1663631/key-approval-granted-as-ferndale-school-district-moves-forward-with-bond-project

2. Now that we are approved for use of GC/CM project delivery, we will be beginning the selection process for a GC/CM contractor. This will be a three-part process: (1) requesting qualifications (RFQ) from interested contractors, (2) conducting interviews with the most qualified, and then (3) inviting our top-selected contractors to submit proposals (RFP). The goal is to have a GC/CM contractor selected for approval by the School Board at their October 2019 meeting.

3. The Bond Oversight Committee met on Tuesday, July 23 at Mountain View Elementary. As a reminder all meeting information including agendas and meeting minutes can be found here: https://www.weareferndale.org/committee/

4. As a reminder, the Bond Oversight Committee is made up of seven independent Ferndale School District residents. Committee Member Ryan Kimball will be re-locating outside of the School District and vacating his current position on the Committee. As a result, current alternate member Brian Lynch will become a voting member, and the Committee has announced its intention to recruit an additional alternate member. All those interested in applying for to serve as an alternate member should visit the following link for an application: bit.ly/FSDBOCApplication

5. Our pre-design consultants have been busy taking advantage of these summer months when the Ferndale High School campus is mainly unoccupied. Most of the due diligence and preliminary site investigation activities should be wrapped up within the next 4-6 weeks. Here is an overview of those activities:
   a. Surveyors – field work is under way
   b. Transportation/Traffic – data gathering is completed; analysis is in progress
   c. Wetlands – initial reconnaissance report is complete
d. Environmental – Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment is complete

f. Archaeological – site investigations started this week

e. Geotechnical – soil borings and installation of ground water monitoring wells is complete; analysis is in progress

6. To date, we have received 29 applications for the Design Advisory Committee (DAC). We will continue to accept applications through July 31. You can access the application form here. All who apply will be notified of the final committee list no later than August 5. The first DAC meeting is scheduled for August 13.

If you have questions or comments about anything in this update, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Linda