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

1. Our big news this week is that we have retained Cornerstone Construction to provide pre-construction services. Cornerstone and the Ferndale School District will also begin negotiation of the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for building and construction services. Although the District will not sign construction contracts for some time, the selection of Cornerstone during this pre-construction phase means that Cornerstone will have the first opportunity to negotiate with the Ferndale School District to build the Ferndale High School project. Some of you may recall that the District is using the GCCM process for this project which allow us to bring the contractor in at the very beginning. This may cost us a little extra up front for the contractor’s time BUT will save in the long run as the contractor can participate in the design process. Needless to say, we are thrilled to have Cornerstone on the team. Here is a link to the media release we sent to share the news: https://www.ferndalesd.org/news/1667432/ferndale-school-district-announces-cornerstone-general-contractors-has-been-retained-for-pre-construction

2. On October 15, the Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) will present its first quarterly report to the School Board at a School Board Study Session to be held at Horizon Middle School at 7:00 pm. This will also be a time when the BOC and the Board check in on how the BOC process is working and whether any adjustments need to be made -- fulfilling a commitment the two groups made to each other six months ago when the BOC was formally commissioned. As with all meetings of the School Board and the Bond Oversight Committee, this meeting will be open to the public.

3. The Design Advisory Committee will meet next Tuesday, October 15th. The meeting will be # 5 for the Committee and the agenda will include developing a draft of the Guiding Principles for design and an activity designed to gather input regarding “adjacencies.” As you may have learned in prior bond updates, an “Adjacencies Plan” determines which spaces in the building should be next to or close to which other spaces. Understanding important physical relationships between various parts of the school will help the architects decide how to layout the new building in a way that functions best for Ferndale High School students, staff, and community.

4. All Ferndale High School students participated in a group activity during Eagle Time this week. Students assembled in groups of five and worked to give input regarding adjacencies for the new building. It was inspiring to see their work and their suggestions for how we move forward.

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

Linda