BOND UPDATE #42

1.10.20

Here’s what’s been going on with our bond projects:

1. While school was on Winter Break, our environmental consultants were able to complete investigations on all of the roofs at the high school. Samples taken from each roof will be evaluated to determine if any asbestos-containing materials are present. Knowing the presence of hazardous materials will allow us to plan for safe containment and disposal when the buildings are eventually demolished. Results from the testing should be available later this month.

2. Over Winter Break, members of the Executive Bond Steering Committee continued to study and edit the Draft Educational Specifications document created by the architects with input from the Ferndale High School staff. The Ed Specs consist of a detailed narrative describing our educational program and the facility we need to facilitate it effectively. The Ed Specs also identifies the number of rooms and spaces in the new school and the square footage allocated for each. Our Draft Ed Specs contained more total square footage than we can afford with the budget we have available. During a three-hour meeting on Monday, January 6, 2020, the members of the Executive Bond Steering Committee worked hard to figure out how to cut square footage without diminishing the functionality of the building. We anticipate completing our review and editing of the Ed Specs by the end of January 2020. At some time after that, it will become a public document.

3. In our last bond update, we included a link to the three building sites currently under consideration for the new FHS. You can see the most up-to-date site plans by following this link. Scroll down to the bottom of the page to see each option. By the end of January 2020, we intend to have a final decision about where the new school will be sited. Before that decision is made, we want to be able to process it one more time with the Design Advisory Committee; share it with the Bond Oversight Committee; review it with the School Board; and provide information (as promised) to neighbors who have asked questions about the site or who might be impacted by it.

4. The next meeting of the Design Advisory Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 4:00-6:00 pm in the Ferndale High School Cafeteria.

5. The next meeting of the Bond Oversight Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 7:00 pm at the District’s Mountain View site. More information about the BOC may be accessed at this link https://www.ferndalesd.org/community-oversight-committee.

Linda