

FAQ FROM HINSDALE COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- 1. Will there be improved acoustics and lighting at the Hinsdale School?** Yes, guidelines and standards must be met for acoustics per building code. There will be all new lighting fixtures that meet standards and energy efficiency guidelines both indoors and out.
- 2. When is the grant application due to the state?** The grant application to secure the 70% reimbursement rate must be submitted by June 30, 2019.
- 3. How does that timeline work with a referendum?** The grant can be submitted with a letter on June 30, 2019, stating that we are going to hold a referendum after submission of the application. We simply have to inform them of the approximate date of the referendum.
- 4. In terms of safety, is it better to have a school in a more rural area or suburban area?** It is much safer to have a building that is in an open environment and closer to emergency services. Currently, Batcheller only has one access point, and this is concerning from a safety perspective.
- 5. Has it been considered to knock the building down and build new?** That was not a “charge” of the committee. However, it would be more expensive to do that (decreased reimbursement rate from the state, increased demo costs, increased land acquisition, etc.).
- 6. Will the children have playscapes?** Yes, two will be installed. A PreK and K playscape against the building that is completely fenced in and another for 1st and 2nd grade in the field area. Both will be brand new.
- 7. Will local contractors be given preference on the jobs?** The jobs must be awarded through the RFP process. Those contractors that meet requirements with bids, insurance, etc. will be considered. The state ensures the process of selection is fair and will not support bids that are “directed” to any contractor. Any contractor that feels they have the ability to do the work as stated in the RFP should apply.
- 8. What are your thoughts about a Pre-K to Six building?** It is not best practice to have such a large age range in one school building. The needs programmatically and socially are very different.
- 9. What process did the BOE conduct before selecting Hinsdale?** The BOE worked with CREC to determine which building had the most potential for a positive renovation. Hinsdale was selected due to superior construction, location, cost, etc. Batcheller would need to move children into “swing space” while the construction would take place. Additionally, the location, safety, and building conditions did not warrant selection.
- 10. What is the impact on the taxpayers?** Currently, there is a bond that will be expiring. The final impact on the taxpayers would not be until the final audit is conducted on the project. Currently, there would be a need for a bridge loan and then bonding the amount. It is estimated that the bond would be approximately \$750,000 to \$800,000 per year for a 20-year bond.

11. What will happen if an E5 tornado were to hit or a 500-year flood? The building committee was not asked to investigate that. The state requires that you know the impact up to a 100-year flood standard. The building as newly designed does not flood at the 100-year flood stage.