Overview
District 97 owns eight elementary schools, two middle schools, an administration building and a warehouse; and believes these significant community assets can be more effectively managed through sound fiscal stewardship and citizen input. Based on this belief, the Board of Education will establish a standing Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC) that will be comprised primarily of individuals from the community.

Purpose
FAC will provide the Board of Education and administration with ongoing expertise, oversight and guidance on the district’s facilities and infrastructure, master facilities plan, strategic plan, 10-year Life Safety Survey Report and proposed capital improvement projects. The committee’s input will be based on several factors, including equity of investment among buildings, energy efficiency, environmental sustainability and accessibility. The committee may take on additional activities as authorized by the board, and its actions will be governed by the board’s policies.

Charge
FAC will:
  • Examine the impact of the strategic plan on the district’s facilities.
  • Review the district’s master facilities plan, including the phasing of proposed multi-year improvements.
  • Review the district’s 10-year Life Safety Survey Report, including any proposed remediations to findings.
  • Review the district’s proposed capital improvement projects, including consideration of their impact on the equity among buildings.
  • Investigate industry trends, best practices, environmental sustainability and accessibility.
  • Provide guidance and recommendations on facilities issues.
  • Provide the board with an annual report summarizing the FAC’s activities, noting any significant issues or trends during the preceding and succeeding fiscal years.

Authority
FAC shall be a standing committee of the Board of Education.

Composition
FAC will consist of two board members, the assistant superintendent for finance and operations, the director of buildings and grounds, and seven board-appointed community members who possess relevant experience and knowledge. The superintendent will serve as an ex-officio member of the committee. The board will ensure that the community members’ participation on the committee will not create a conflict of interest.

One of the community members will serve as chair of the committee. For the first two-year term, the board will appoint the chair after which the committee will select its chair.

During the 2014-2015 school year, the committee will allow for a staggered term limit, with half of the community members serving for one year and the other half serving for two. This will be a one-time only occurrence that will help ensure long-term consistency and continuity on the committee. Following the 2014-15 school year, all community members will serve a two-year term on the committee with a maximum limit of four terms.

FAC will meet at least quarterly.

Open Meetings
All meetings will be subject to the Illinois Open Meetings Act.