

ENTIAT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 127

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Gateway to Excellence

Facilities Study Committee Minutes October 4, 2011

Committee Member List / Attending (names in bold text):

Lori Anderson, John Barnes, **Tom Bassett**, **Jim Brooks**, **Miles Caples**,
Tammi Giacomazzi, **Diane Grover**, **Rick Long**, **Jose Quezada**,
Leonardo Quezada, **Jim Smothers**, **Keith Vradenburg**, **Randy Whitehall**,
Mike Wyant, Julie Zielke

1. Report from Seattle Northwest Securities School Election Conference on Sept. 15

Mike Wyant gave a brief report on voter mood that was based on an August, 2011 survey of Washington voters conducted on behalf of Seattle Northwest Securities. Not surprisingly, voters are in a generally pessimistic mood because of economic conditions. The survey found more support for new classroom technology and modernizing existing schools and less support for constructing new buildings. The recommendations from the survey providers were:

- Each district needs to assess its voters' support for bond and levy proposals. Even though the general voter mood is pessimistic, opinions can and do vary by district.
- Don't ignore the economy.
- Understand that voters expect some fiscal discipline.

2. Request from committee for scenario with commons between the blue gym and the elementary

Forte Architects worked last summer to devise a scenario that placed a Commons Area between the Blue Gym and existing elementary building. Tom Bassett reported to the committee that problems of location, foot traffic flow, access, and design prevented them from coming up with a workable scenario. Tom discussed a possible scenario with one set of two locker rooms verses four, located in the area between the Blue Gym and the existing elementary.

3. Ideas and thoughts

Other ideas were discussed. There appears to be consensus among committee members that modernizing and adding to the elementary is the highest priority.

One idea was to develop a multi-phase construction plan that starts with modernization of the elementary. The challenge with that idea is that it does not get the kitchen/cafeteria out of the basement of the elementary. Relocating the kitchen and cafeteria area to a more accessible location appears to be a high priority for the committee.

Another idea was to modernize and add on to the elementary and see if a smaller or redesigned kitchen/Commons could be built on the west side of the building without replacing the existing locker rooms. It was suggested that existing space under the middle school classrooms might figure into this scenario. Tom Bassett agreed to explore that possibility and report back to the committee.

4. Dollars and cents

There was discussion about what the voters could or would support in terms of property taxes for a bond. When the current bond ends in 2013, voters will be paying something around \$1.10 / \$1,000 of assessed property value for the bond. Voters will probably also be paying somewhere between \$2.25 and \$2.75 / 1,000 for the maintenance and operations levy. That is about the same rate as voters have been paying for the levy.

The district is probably eligible for about a million dollars in state matching money to modernize the elementary.

Beginning in 2014 with a new bond, a rate of:

\$1.20 / \$1,000 would generate about 3.5 million dollars.

\$2.50 / \$1,000 would generate about 7.5 million dollars.

\$3.83 / \$1,000 would generate about 11.3 million dollars (the greatest amount the district has the legal authority to raise with a bond.)

The calculation is that about \$300,000 would be raised for every 10 cent increase in the tax rate.

5. Next meeting date

The next committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, November 15 in the school library.