Bond Oversight Committee

Wednesday, February 5, 2014

Prepared by Dustin Kress

Oversight Attendees: Kendra Black, Mary Brice, Luchia Brown, Doug Elenowitz, Patricia Frederico, Stacie Gilmore, Bev Haddon, Roger Kilgore, Monique Lovato, Michelle Moss, Anne Rowe, Luis Torres

DPS Staff: JT Allen, Benita Duran, Brian Eschbacher, Brendon Henderson, Dustin Kress

Agenda:

- Public Comment
- Review NNE, NW and SE Capacity Needs and On-going Projects
- General Announcements
- Discussion of Committee Membership and Chairs

Meeting Notes

Public Comment:

Two members of the Valdez community, joined the meeting to share their perspectives on the need for a new cafeteria. The community members described some of the capacity constraints with the current cafeteria and encouraged the Bond Oversight Committee to recommend that the Board of Education direct some of the expected 2012 Bond savings to Valdez.

Minutes:

The committee approved the meeting minutes from our February 5th meeting by general consent.

Two follow-up questions arose from our February 5th meeting:

- Roger Kilgore requested a clarification on the physical expansion of the Montbello Middle School. JT Allen clarified that the gym will be adding new square footage to the campus as will at least one classroom. Other space will be created with interior redesign. It should be noted that the Design Advisory Group for this expansion will be kicking off shortly.
- Michelle Moss asked a question regarding athletic facilities at Noel and Evie Dennis. Staff will share athletic participation data with the committee and will further discuss as needed.

Strategic Regional Analysis: NNE, NW and SE – Brian Eschbacher, Director of Planning and Analysis

Brian highlighted areas of overcrowding, both current and projected, and the corresponding projects that are in process or that may be proposed in the coming years.
Michelle Moss asked a question around overcrowding in elementary schools in the southern part of the NNE. Brian described a proposed expansion at the Lowry ES campus in addition to a study at the Palmer campus. One important clarification is that all of the elementary school campuses in this region can accommodate students within their boundaries; they are over capacity as a result of the choice process.

- The committee had a discussion on choice, school improvement and the need to ensure adequate student capacity

Kendra Black asked about the location of the High Tech Elementary School. It will be located at the Conservatory Green Campus and open as an E – 2. DSST Conservatory Green will also be opening here with grade 6.

Luis Torres asked a question on the link between SPF rating and implications for capacity. Brian responded that the first analysis is to assess whether students can be served close to their homes; after that point, they consider the impact of choice.

Roger Kilgore asked a question regarding the funding for the Emily Griffith trades program at 12th and Osage. The building will be a long-term lease and is being funded from the CPF: Capital Preserve Fund.

Michelle Moss inquired around the NW St. Anthony’s housing development and impact on capacity. Brian responded that the Planning and Analysis group is conducting a new forecast in April to update DPS projections in light of new information and developer expectations.

Patricia Frederico asked a question around a DSST middle school in the NW region. Brian responded that the Board of Education has approved a DSST MS but there are no plans for it in this region as they are available middle school seats.

Michelle Moss asked about the facility for GALS. Brian responded that the Planning and Analysis group is awaiting a data point from their 9th grade choice class – there was a high amount of uncertainty for demand in this choice. Board member Anne Rowe reiterated that there is a commitment to making Del Pueblo work which is where GALS wants to be.

Board of Education Report – Anne Rowe

Anne shared the outcomes of the February 5th BOE Meeting. Anne updated the Board on discussion from the Bond Oversight Committee and the Board approved recommended solutions in the FNE and SW.

Other Announcements – Benita Duran, Director Bond Program Outreach/City Affairs

Benita provided an update on the February 20th meeting, attended by 15 members of the Stapleton Community. The topic related to sharing the latest plans and issues for the school design. Due to questions raised about the funding and design costs the community requested a follow up meeting that would involve the construction contractor. Benita and J.T. Allen responded at the meeting to this request, and set a plan for meeting on February 24 and March 4th as requested by the community.

BOC Member Beverly Haddon who was in attendance at the February 20th meeting, commented on her knowledge of the issues and challenges. She appreciated the two meetings and the interest in providing more background information on the funding challenges. Follow up questions related to the Design Advisory Group (DAG) process for this and other projects. The committee agreed that it would be of interest to get a briefing on DAGs and processes to date under the 2012 Bond Program.
Discussion of Committee Membership and Chairs
- Kendra notified the committee that two board-appointed positions will be coming available and are in the process of being filled
- Kendra Black and Kelly Leid were elected to another year as Oversight Committee Co-Chairs by general consent

Upcoming Meetings:
- Committee members discussed the agendas for our April, May and June meetings
  - April 18th: Overview of Design Advisory Groups; Charter Schools and the 2012 Bond; Update on the Emily Griffith Campus
  - May 7th (pm): Joint Mill and Bond Oversight Meeting
  - June TBD: Summer Projects Schedule, Summary of Un-funded CPAC Recommendations