

MILTON FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMUNITY TEAM – FACT

FACT MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

Milton High School LMC – Room 121

6:00-8:00 PM

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Jeff Adee, Mike Astin, Barry Brandt (co-chair), Michael Dorn, Gary Groelle, Lesley Hammer (co-chair), Dan Honold, Leo Johnson, Tina Keller, Wilson Leong, Joe Martin, Bill O’Leary, Steve Quade, Jill Schuerman-Fons, Bonnie Stalker, Scott Storlid, Lucille Vickerman, Patrick Weberpal, Daniel Weitzel, Brendon Wilkinson

Members Absent: Eric Richards, Danielle Stivarius

School Board Members Present: President Jon Cruzan, Shelly Crull-Hanke (Liaison to FACT), Bob Cullen, Janet Green, Tom Westrick, Betsy Lubke

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND LOGISTICS – TIM SCHIGUR AND JERRY SCHUETZ

Superintendent Tim Schigur welcomed FACT Committee members and thanked all for their interest and passion in wanting what’s best for the future of the Milton community and school district. He introduced the co-chairs of the FACT Committee, Lesley Hammer and Barry Brandt. Mr. Schigur also welcomed and thanked the team consultants, Kevin Hickman from J.P. Cullen and Scott Kramer from Plunkett-Raysich Architects. School Board President, Jon Cruzan, was next introduced; he conveyed value and belief statements relating to instructional and facility needs. (Read his detailed statements in the next section of these minutes).

FACT members round robined by introducing themselves, giving pertinent and personal information as to their reasons for committee membership.

Tim Schigur reviewed the logistics regarding FACT: 1) A total of 8 meetings are scheduled for FACT to complete work objectives. 2) All FACT members received a binder containing significant information on prior work completed regarding the district’s facility needs as well as the School District of Milton’s Strategic Plan; necessary information will be added to the binder each meeting. 3) FACT members will receive school district email addresses for their ability to communicate with each other and answer questions that other community members may have.

Communications Supervisor, Jerry Schuetz, addressed the open records request and discussed how all information is required to be released. For transparency of the committee's process, FACT members must sign an accepted usage policy, and their email addresses will be available on the district's website for availability to the whole community. Mr. Schuetz also commented on other information-sharing activities: FAST FACTS, 2 volumes already published stating reasons for discussions about Milton school facilities, more volumes to come; TIM TALKS, the superintendent's public addresses about school facility needs; and, an upcoming electronic newsletter.

FACT CHARGE AND OBJECTIVES – SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT, JON CRUZAN

Mr. Cruzan stressed, in a written statement, the need to prepare all School District of Milton students for the continued challenges of the 21st Century. He noted the District's vision of "Opportunity, Achievement, and Community." He emphasized that in order to meet the academic objectives of giving PreK-12 students the opportunities they need to achieve their highest potential, facility components are not only significant, but required. He confirmed the value of the community in serving students as well as "celebrating" the community in the ongoing facility endeavors. President Cruzan expressed how the Board needs community input; they are putting their faith and trust in the community to assist in meeting school district facility needs. Mr. Cruzan concluded by giving his "heartfelt thanks" to the FACT Committee and all community members.

HISTORY AND BACKGROUND ON FACILITY PLANNING PROCESS – TIM SCHIGUR

Superintendent Tim Schigur reviewed the timeline from the beginning of the strategic planning process for the Milton School District (MSD) in September, 2014 to the March, 2016 Board approval of a Facility Advisory Community Team to help address instructional and facility needs (FAST FACTS – V.1 and V. 2 in binder and on district website homepage).

Mr. Schigur, through a PowerPoint presentation, next discussed the District's demographics and financial situation (FAST FACTS – V. 1). Important demographics: 1) 3,526 total students; 2) 54th largest district out of Wisconsin's 424 districts; 3) within top 15% enrollment ranking in the state; 4) 2,000 students bussed; 5) district area is 100 square miles. Important financial info: 1) current district revenue is \$35,557,000 and current expenditures have been \$36,318,000 (not much debt); 2) fund balance is \$8,185,779; district receives 68% funding from state aid, the remainder is Federal allocations and local monies; 3) MSD's cost per pupil is \$10,443, in the bottom 1% on spending per pupil; 4) state average of expenses per pupil is \$12,546; Important TAX info: 1) MSD's mill rate is one of the lowest in the state and is the lowest in Rock County and the Badger Conference; 2) MSD's borrowing capacity is \$154 million; 3) the district could be debt free in 3 years.

FACT member, Jeff Adee, questioned why MSD doesn't at least spend the state average per pupil. Lucille Vickerman, FACT member, responded that the lower amount per pupil is basically

what citizens and community members ask for. The more significant question to ask is: How does student achievement compare to MSD's spending of \$10,443 per pupil?

PRESENTATION OF CURRENT FACILITY CONDITIONS – SCOTT KRAMER AND KEVIN HICKMAN

First, Tim Schigur reviewed the IPAD 1:1 Instructional Technology program. The district's free/reduced lunch rate has increased over the past 8 years from 13% to 26%. The 1:1 technology devices are meant to provide equity for all students. He also presented a list of district buildings and their original construction dates as well as any updates in the overall facilities (FAST FACTS – V.1). The following needs were identified through a comprehensive study in July, 2015 and prioritized through a Community Survey in November, 2015 – aging infrastructure, American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance, inadequate learning environments, outdated athletic facilities making it difficult to showcase student and community events.

Scott Kramer, PRA representative, presented a handout that overviewed the master planning process. (in binder and district website homepage) Step 1 exhibits photos of current facilities' needs in every building of the MSD. These pictures show roofing needs, other exterior maintenance work, lack of ADA compliance, mechanical systems and plumbing not up to code. This list was determined to be a \$25 million referendum, but was scaled back via prioritization to \$9 million. It was also determined that maintenance upgrades per year would cost \$350,000 - \$450,000. Step 2 is the educational space analysis. The space study involves the current enrollment of each district building and the "targeted capacity" of the schools to 2024-25. The 4 elementary buildings are a combined target. A question was asked as to how Milton's facility needs compare to other districts in the state. Out of the 25 districts that Scott Kramer represents in Wisconsin, he indicated that Milton is close to average in comparison. His response was that most districts have facility needs, but tend to wait until a referendum due to budget difficulties.

Kevin Hickman, J.P. Cullen representative, discussed factors in the decision-making process- community prioritized needs, cost, affordability, and value and experiences (curricular, co-curricular, and community needs). A question was asked as to whether the facilities have been evaluated to determine how much value they bring to the community. Mr. Schigur responded that this is difficult to quantify, but the MSD is the largest employer in the city of Milton. Athletic Director, Brian Hammil, concluded that 10 events per year cannot be sponsored in MSD due to the current facilities. Only Regional events can be hosted. There is currently not enough space to host conference swims, track, tennis, baseball/softball, show choir, indoor graduation, nor any indoor practices on bad-weather days. Supposedly, gym capacity is 1,000.

PRESENTATION OF CURRENT FACILITY OPTIONS – SCOTT KRAMER

Mr. Kramer began this report with the "options development" Step 3 section of the binder (also on the website). A variety of 4 options have been designed based on previous community input. Option 1 is to address the maintenance needs across the district. Option 2 is to renovate and expand the middle school and high school with or without grade level configuration. Option 3 is

to build a new middle school with or without grade level configuration, or close the middle school. Option 4 is to build a new high school with grade level realignments or building conversions. Option 5 WOULD BE a combination of some of the above options as FACT determines to be appropriate. Forthcoming information will be presented on March 30th.

Scott informed FACT that today's classrooms look different. Students no longer sit in rows and listen to lectures in order to perform individually. Instead, they learn best in small groups where interaction between small groups and within small groups takes place, along with teacher facilitation. As a result, more space is needed. At the next meeting, information will be presented about such learning concepts. It is the FACT committee's charge to study and discuss the different building options in order to make a final recommendation to the School Board.

IMPORTANT DATES AND AGENDA REVIEW FOR MARCH 30 – KEVIN HICKMAN

Mr. Hickman stressed the importance of working backwards when planning for a referendum.

November 8 – Election Day and possible referendum

August 26 – Resolution Deadline

June 27 – FACT Recommendations to the Board of Education

June 22 – Final FACT Meeting to make motion(s) and vote

March 30, April 13, April 27, May 11, May 25, June 8 - FACT Meeting Dates

Tentative Agenda Items for March 30

1. Review questions brought forth from March 16th
2. Presentation of program needs
3. Presentation on flexible learning spaces
4. Presentation on school finance
5. Questions and answers
6. What direction does FACT next take? How do we engage the community?

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS – CO-CHAIRS

Lesley Hammer and Barry Brandt gave directions for FACT homework – Read ALL information in the binder; read the FACT Meeting Minutes; plan to tour the high school from 5:00-6:00 PM on Wednesday, March 30th if you have not taken a recent tour; be present at the next meeting on Wednesday, March 30th from 6:00-8:00 PM in the LMC – Room 121 at Milton High School.

Jerry Scheutz will make sure the FACT link and FACT Meeting Minutes are on the district website homepage.

QUESTIONS TO ADDRESS ON MARCH 30TH – KEVIN HICKMAN

Kevin Hickman and Scott Kramer will address some of the following questions and district personnel will address others. THANK YOU, KEVIN, FOR THIS INFORMATION!

1. Has MSD conducted an analysis on the economic impact of the school district on the community, and what the ability to host additional events at MSD facilities would mean regarding economic impact?
2. What square foot cost numbers are being used to estimate light vs. heavy renovation in the budgets for options?
3. What would change (such as design, programming needs) regarding a current high school plan when compared with the 2008 plan?
4. What would it cost to build the 2008 high school plan today?
5. Could a tax impact summary at various potential referendum levels be provided that shows impact for average home value as well as information on how tax impact on farmland is calculated?
6. Can an analysis be conducted on the cost impact (short vs. long-term) between maintaining/expanding current facilities (phased approach) vs. building new (single solution)?
7. If the MSD were to pursue a plan to maintain current facilities (that is the \$25 million deferred maintenance option), what would that mean regarding future facility renovation and expansion needs (what needed, when needed, potential cost)?
8. Could the District present additional comparable data from other area Districts such as enrollment, levy/mill rate, test scores, debt, etc.?

Respectfully submitted,

Judith R. Schmitz, Ed.D.

FACT Recording Secretary