

SCN Meeting Minutes Jan 21, 2020

Process of pulling feedback together from facilities planning feedback
Predesign work will begin soon

Paul and Christine Maduro

There is currently no replacement cycle for playground equipment. Parent groups have been ultimately responsible for purchasing, maintaining equip, District believes this should be the responsibility of the district

Baseline playground concepts are being designed
Redirecting some of our PERL levies. Redirecting resources from PERL, which have historically all gone to Comm Ed

Has been presented to board as a discussion item, no action has been taken. Board directed them to seek feedback from SCN

CM

Consultant did a condition/age assessment for each playground in WDMCS. We want to responsibly plan cash flows for replacements.

They asked consultant to c

Age of students

Surfacing - looking at rubber surfacing instead of woodchips to be more inclusive

Packets include suggestions, some of these structures have already been put into the district at Clive and WH and have been well received

Sally Crowley - WR - current structure is six years old -

Each building would have one primary structure and then some ancillary structures.

This is very early in discussions. If PTA wants to contribute to the playground (gaga pits, etc), will they be forfeiting money from the district

Will schools forfeit dollar amounts

We do not have a reserve built up yet, if schools want to accelerate

Lisa

IF PTAs want to contribute "early", the timeline would be adjusted

Partial amounts will not be given by district if PTAs want to replace sooner than timeline

The consultant's recommendation will direct what the timeline is

Crowley

Parent question - why should we trust district to handle this now since it's never been done before

Remy

I appreciate the board saying they need to be responsible for all the assets

Horak

I appreciate the district taking responsibility for this because parent group is not what it once was at her school

Will it be per student funding or per building? Maduro stated this is good feedback

If a PTO replaced early, but the surfacing was not changed, would the district handle the installation of the poured rubber material - could the surfacing be poured around it? Is there a recommended vendor that buildings can use that would be in the best interest of the district/parent group

How much does city put in - if playgrounds are considered part of a park? Crossroads and Western Hills are considered part of a city park. City has not offered funding for that in the past. Possible discussion point

Blacktop and drainage are part of the 10-year plans, fencing, etc, not the playground project

Currently broken parts - will they be fixed - replacement parts are not available from manufacturers. District's hands are tied for broken pieces at this point.

Parent - I need more specifics to take back to parent groups. They have been told for years they've been responsible and have taken on that responsibility

This is not perfect, not complete - Pail

Parent - appreciate the district taking responsibility for this

Kids at FM are asking for replacements, students

Supplies - balls, jump ropes, containers, - this will continue to be building responsibility

Budgeting includes inflation factor, but sites will need ground improvements

Surfacing would be for required "fall zone" - does not include replacing all wood chips

Replacement cycle would be replacte

Estimated useful life is 15-20 years

Swing sets? Not included as optional equipment currently

More inclusive elements are always recommended

Will parents and building get to choose what is put in as ancillary? Each building will get input

They are not looking at changing how buildings operate for recess, etc

Parent would like all structures to be numbered on the spreadsheet, preschools to be considered

Parent noted that equipment should be equitable

Equity should not look the same everywhere

Buildings that have "money-bag" parents can not apply for grants

This is not about equity, it's about punity

Buildings with decimated parent groups do not have anyone to apply for grants

Your teacher leader is responsible for applying for grants

Time for feedback

Paul - Budget Projections -

(Presentation shared with the board)

Overview of Funds

173 million spent last fiscal year '19

65% was spent out of general fund - salaries, textbooks, utilities

No property tax levy in WDM - our tax rate is significantly lower than neighboring communities

Construction/renovation are paid for by capital fund

Each fund is a separate checkbook for certain expenses

PERL fund will pay for playgrounds - this has not been used up until now. Comm Ed budget will change to accommodate this once the reserve fund is gone. (Currently \$600k reserve)

Health insurance premiums have not increased for eight years. This is not likely to continue and this has been reported to the board.

80% of districts are running at a deficit for special ed spending after

80% of our budget is spent on people - salaries and benefit

Last year we spent \$8 million dollars more than funding formula, we are living off reserves. We have two years in a row of deficit spending. We can not do this indefinitely.

By April 15, board must adopt and certify the budget for the coming year

130 net open-enrolled students in '19

\$6880 per student from state and property tax funding

Homeschooled students generate approx .3, if they enroll in extra classes we would receive more than that

Goal for early retirees is to buy early attrition - 58 will retire early for '21

We have chosen to use our reserves for one more year, but highly likely a year from now that we will recommend reductions to the board.

What is “the number” that would be our “magic bullet” - parent request for that number from Paul.

Will we have an opportunity to see the district response to the feedback from SCN before this goes to the board? Remy - we can do that but it will push the decision at least until May.

Materials will be published prior to the board meeting for public review.

Thanks from Shahna for Personal Care Drive

School Resource Officers' Roles In Buildings

Mr. Maxwell introduced WDMPD Sergeant Dan Wade and Officer Craig Weatherall, School Resource Officer (SRO) for Valley. Relationships are critical between staff, students and SROs. Weatherall is always looking for ways to keep students OUT of the judicial system.

Wade stated that their mission is to unite with the community and preserve safety. The WDMPD has a long-standing relationship with WDMCS. Relationships are a huge part of our success with the district. He is thrilled with the work that Craig does on a daily basis.

Weatherall has been with WDMPD for 15 years - various roles in dept, second assignment as SRO. Most rewarding has been SRO work. He is one of three SROs in the dept.

Biggest responsibility is building safety. Assignments:

- Weatherall - VHS, JC, WR and Crossroads. Not actively there every day, but if an issue comes up, he responds.
- Cuevas - WCC, ST, VSW, HD, FM, WH
- Grandsall - Dowling, Sacred Heart, St. Francis
- Neilsen (Clive PD) - IH, Crestview

- Windsor Heights PD - Clive Elementary has an officer assigned, are responsive if needed

Weatherall:

- Des Moines Public Schools has 10 SROs for their district, Waukee has 4, all other metro schools have SROs. Our SROs work a lot with other districts.
- Overall mission is building security. Take initial reports for thefts, harassment, follow-up investigations. If offsite theft, SROs may do initial investigation if it is juvenile-related. Then the case is handed off to someone else. They handle many traffic incidents.
- Will write tickets, arrests if needed, but not what his preferred action is.
- Juveniles will be referred to the Youth Justice Initiative or the court system if needed.
- DHS referrals are a huge part of his role - assisting with removals, visits, investigations when families have students at various schools in the district
- Raptor systems alarms are investigated as needed. (There were maybe four or five alarms all of last year - not common.)
- SROs work with no contact orders, this is more prevalent at elementaries. They team with counselors to work with students at VHS. Working a small amount with classrooms, wish he could do more. Collaborates with SROs from other districts to problem solve with students from other schools.
- Attends sporting events, dances, very visible at these events.

Wade: The takeaway for today is that these officers are very dedicated, it's a competitive process to get these roles.

Dr. Jones: relationships have definitely improved over the last few years

Mrs. Whittle: agree, partnership extends beyond school day to help support families and keep students safe. True colleagues and friends.

Falcone (parent): stated concerns about dropoff line at FM. Weatherall responded that patrol officers are aware of the issues. We need to do a better job of being more of a presence, but other calls take precedence.

Horak: Do other PDs get called in to help as needed?

Wade: WDMCS and PD have worked for years to develop plans and training and we call in other PDs as needed. There was a large-scale training a few years ago that involved hundreds of staff and other PDs.

If there is criminal activity going on, they want to know.

Are parents required to be there if a student is being questioned?

If PD is having a conversation with a kid that might lead to further consequences, ideally parents are notified and involved.

Maxwell: Administrators take the lead in questioning and then PD is called in if needed. Innocence is presumed before guilt. They might say, "Help me understand. . . what am I seeing here?"

Parent: How are SROs funded? Wade: collaborative with district, it is a joint effort. Primary role is to engage with the school environment.

Dr. Remy: Elementary schools are supported by the PD, but don't really have SROs. A Windsor Heights PD officer is not supported by WDMCS budget for Clive Learning Academy.

We don't believe FT SROs at elementaries are needed. Staffing at Windsor Heights PD is different, but perhaps they could help with more visibility.

Lunch visits are happening at many schools.

Shane Scott: His experiences were always positive with interactions with SROs and families. Do officers have to leave buildings to respond to community issues?

Wade: Goal is to leave them in the buildings but they will get pulled if needed.

Maxwell: If you see something on social media (drugs, vaping, criminal activity) - give administrator a heads up ASAP. They can work with parents to help kids make good decisions

Discussion about vaping:

- First offense fine is \$50, then \$100, \$250
- If student is found to be in possession they will confiscate and give to PD, attend Saturday school
- If found using at school it's a Two-day out-of-school suspension
- If using THC there is a criminal charge
- WDMCS conduct code calls for possible long-term suspension

- Whittle said there would be a similar response at jr high level, without Saturday school
- Vaping is possible topic for another time

6th through 9th Facilities Framework Feedback

- This journey has been in progress for last 3.5 years
- July 2019 - school board made decisions and we are now in feedback portion for 6-9 facilities
- The goal is to align decision-making with Mission, Vision and Portrait of a Graduate
- Board approved Option D in July 2019:
 - 8 elementary buildings (PreK- 5th grade)
 - 2 middle grade buildings - ST and IH - (6/7)
 - VSW (8/9)
 - VHS (10-12) and WCC (9-12)

(Link to Master Facilities Plan Overview and Timeline)

- Phase 1 is underway and Phase 2 planning and feedback is happening
- When will we move kids? Oct 2023 is target for 8/9 building completion - either move at semester or start of 24/25 academic year

Lettington led small groups to look through discussion of concept design photos provided at tables.

(Link to Ed Planning document)

Remy discussed slide. . .

6th-9th learning experience will include: (show slide)

Table Talk highlights - ask clarifying questions - what's missing with programming overall, for 6/7 and 8/9?

Other Discussion Items:

- Sally Crowley stated that SCN members will be getting a letter from the Staff Recognition Committee soon. PTOs could consider increasing their contributions if they have been at the same level for many years.

- Brooke Acheson brought up concerns about Valley course registration for 20/21. Several parents echoed concern about parents not having to approve their student's class requests this year.
- WR parent asked for an update on ADA requirements. Remy stated that all elementaries meet ADA requirements. Office doors do not require the ADA requirements.