

Public Hearing Meeting September 23, 2020

Board Approved _____

The Board of Trustees

Corbett School District

Corbett School District #39 - A Public Hearing Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Corbett School District was held Wednesday, September 23, 2020, beginning at 6:00 PM using ZOOM online. Board members present were Michelle Vo, Chair; David Gorman, Vice Chair; Todd Mickalson; Bob Buttke; Todd Redfern and Rebecca Bratton. Board Member Katey Kinnear had an unexcused absence. Administrators present were Dan Wold, Interim Superintendent; Cindy Duley, Business Manager; and Robin Lindeen-Blakeley, Deputy Clerk. Present for TSCC were: David Barringer, James Opsinc, Margo Norton, Mark Whipple, Harmony Queros, Craig Gibbons and Tunie Beschart.

Meeting convened at 6:02 pm

TSCC Hearing on Measure 26-220 on November ballot (11/3/2020)

Superintendent remarked on the school year.

TSCC asked questions:

1. How school is going this fall, did it start on time, enrollment? Comprehensive Distance Learning? Have the tech needed for CDL?
 - a. Dan Wold responded, 1156 enrollment. Started a week late for staff training in distance learning. Have ordered devices, purchased hotspots.
2. Discussion of bond. More accustomed to seeing greater definition in the bond ballot explanatory materials. What items on the list do you expect to accomplish?
 - a. Michelle Vo responded re Woodard property redevelopment to replace middle school, construct district office, grade school roof replacement, HS improvements for CTE and ADA, seismic retrofit. Outlined cost estimates of hard and soft project costs, escalation, contingency, costs of issuance. Same priorities as the 2016 bond. Refinance existing loan if possible. Used site council input. Costs estimated by Soderstrom Architects for Woodard and reviewed by Board. Other projects use 2014 estimates escalated, then validated. Preliminary numbers for HS locker room improvements.
3. Charter district impact on bond? Which entity requested the bond?
 - a. Michelle Vo. Same Board for both. The district is asking for the bond. The charter district is a function of the school district, essentially functioning as a single entity.
4. Community polling and feedback? What learned and level of support?
 - a. Michelle Vo. Relying on polling done with previous measures; info is not for current issues which is smaller than in the past. Site counsel work identified \$28 million needed improvements. This bond is a first step, limited to 11 years, \$4M with \$3.8M matching grant. Stepped back enrollment and AP for all programs in response to community input. No arguments opposed have been submitted.

5. Issue all at once?
 - a. Michelle Vo. Yes, all at once. 3 year timeline for spending grant after bond issuance. No strings associated with the grant. Bonds to be sold 6 within 6 months of authorization. Must reasonably expect to spend 5% within 6 months of issuance and 85% within 3 years. Commit dollars for Woodard construction first.
6. Economic uncertainty. Wildfires. Pandemic. Social uprising. How confident is the Board feeling? Is there a plan B for these projects?
 - a. Michelle Vo. District has taken out a loan that would cover some projects. Matching grant dollars award makes the bond attractive. New Superintendent and board members.

Discussion on community changes in the last few years. Each Board member commented.

End of formal TSCC questions.

Public Comment time opened 7:53 pm

Janet Ruddell asked about the matching grant and received a response from Michelle Vo.

Hope Beraka asked about community oversight and received a response. Discussion of bond oversight committee ensued. Question on funds committed to repaying the loan; discussion ensued; it is a line item in the budget at \$500,000. Frees operational budget for other needs such as counseling.

Hearing closed; meeting adjourned 8:11 pm