

BUILDINGS/GROUNDS & TRANSPORTATION REPORT

Date: January 25, 2016
To: Board of Education
From: Lori Ade

BUILDINGS/GROUNDS

Facilities Committee

The Facilities Committee did not meet in January. The next meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2016.

High School Head Custodian Transition

With Georganna's retirement in December, Tim Eddy took over her responsibilities effective January 1, 2016. Georganna continues to be available on a consultant basis to work with Tim through the next few weeks. The High School staff is doing a great job of adjusting to the change—thanks to everyone there!

Washington Coal Room Project

The bid opening for this project is scheduled for Friday, January 29, 2016. There has been a lot of interest shown in the project, so I anticipate several bids. I will ask for bid approval at the February meeting, with work to begin after the last day of school this year.

Capital Improvement Plan

Dr. Lett and I met with the reps from GRP Mechanical to begin the process for our Capital Improvement Plan. The buildings walk-through is taking place Wednesday, January 27. After their review on that date, they will complete our district plan. Dr. Lett and I will be happy to share more detail during the board meeting.

Yard Maintenance Position

I have reposted the temporary full time position for yard maintenance. If you recall, this is Derek Ashcraft's position that Tim Eddy filled. With Tim moving into the High School position, we need to refill that temporary position again. We currently have a person subbing as needed in the yard maintenance position, but with spring sports right around the corner, we need to make sure we have that position filled on a full time basis.

Head Maintenance Position

It is with regret, that I announce the retirement of Steve Dukeman effective at the end of April, 2016. Steve has worked for the district in several capacities since 2006, and will be greatly missed. Please join me in wishing him the very best in his retirement. We will post the opening for this position at the beginning of March.

TRANSPORTATION

FY '17 Bus Purchase/Lease

As presented to the Finance Committee, our current fleet of 18 buses includes 10 completely depreciated, and after this fiscal year, that number increases to 12 off the depreciation schedule. Obviously, with the way state funding is, we can't seem to "catch up" on this spiraling problem. We aren't alone, as I've recently been contacted by several surrounding districts facing the same exact issue---aged buses, and no funds to replace!

For us, we have been able to consolidate a couple of routes over the last 3-4 years, which have increased our spare buses. Even though it's nice to have that safety net of extra buses, I believe having the "extras" are just not possible right now. I put together some figures and options to trade two of our older buses for the lease or purchase of a new 84 passenger bus. This larger capacity bus will help with not only classroom field trips, but also with the extra trips for larger groups. We don't gain much ground with just adding one new bus to our fleet, but it's a small step in the right direction.

I was also asked to contact some of the districts that trade among each other to see if there is a benefit with that option. I haven't received any responses as of the date of this report, but will update the board Monday night if I do receive any information from other districts.