



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

260 Madison ▪ Oak Park ▪ Illinois ▪ 60302 ▪ ph: 708.524.3000 ▪ fax: 708.524.3030 ▪ www.op97.org

TO: Board of Education
Dr. Carol Kelley, Superintendent

FROM: Paul Starck-King, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations

SUBJECT: Lincoln and Longfellow Information to Support Concepts

DATE: July 13, 2018

The Board of Education asked administration to provide additional information to support their selection of schemes on which to move forward (authorization of bid documents) regarding the Lincoln and Longfellow capacity improvements.

Throughout the concept development process for each expansion at the two schools, the following information was highlighted

- Grouping of grade levels for efficiency of instructional programming and collaborative opportunities for shared expertise by grade level teachers
- Alignment with Superintendent's vision planning construct
- The school closing impacting one summer (timelines)
- Enrollment projections for 5 years

The following stakeholders were consulted by administration, district architect, and project construction management in the development of the schemes: teachers and staff, school administration, Facility Advisory Committee (FAC), and BOE. For example, on May 1, Principal Carlos (Lincoln) reported to FAC that due to anticipated enrollment increases at the school there would be an absolute need for an additional 2nd grade classroom and the right-sizing of other functional spaces and the multi-purpose room. FAC (the central processing group for these projects), based on this and other information gathered (including the demographic study and staff interviews), recommended the entire scope of the Lincoln project. Similar examples regarding Longfellow are available. FAC, also at the May 1 meeting, recommended the Longfellow project for summer 2019 completion.

At the June 5th meeting of FAC, Bulley & Andrews shared the general anticipated construction schedule, noting that they want to bid both Lincoln and Longfellow at the same time. Based on the approved Lincoln option, they anticipate breaking ground on Lincoln in November. This will require the bidding to be phased with the first bid package for utilities and structure and foundations to be issued for bidding in early September.

At their July 2nd meeting, the Finance Oversight and Review Committee (FORC) supported spending up to \$30M on the two projects utilizing a combination of Referendum Bond proceeds and Debt Service Extension Base (DSEB) proceeds. It is projected that all debt service policies will be adhered to at this level of funding. It should be noted that final funding levels cannot be determined until the bid documents are developed and bids received. At that point, the board will be able further consider the projects with more specific cost information and will be able to approve (or not) the project contracts.

In order to meet the stipulated timelines, board action is needed to direct STR to create bid documents.

Therefore, and for these reasons, administration is seeking Board of Education approval for STR Partners to develop bid documents based on the selected Longfellow and Lincoln schemes (which are Longfellow scheme dated _____ and Lincoln scheme (_____) dated _____.

(A, B, B1, or C)