

Memo: July 9, 2015

To: Shorewood School Board
From: Ad Hoc Long Term Building Committee

Re: Committee Update – Status of Work

Background:

Shorewood School Facilities were built between 1915 and the mid-1970s with numerous modifications since then. The High School Auditorium was designed to reflect Radio City Music Hall in New York.

While the exterior of the Shorewood School District buildings are timeless in design, the interiors were designed for the educational philosophy of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Changes in pedagogical philosophy, advances in technological tools, and varied learning needs of Shorewood School students require facilities to help ensure our students learn skills necessary for success for this generation and future ones.

Preserving the historical architectural and building system integrity (heating, ventilating, plumbing, electrical) requires ongoing maintenance. Historically, maintenance funding came via Fund 10, which forced the Administration and Board to make difficult choices about allocation of resources. To sustain the existing structure and improvements, and to minimize the resource allocation challenges, the Business Office recognizes the need to create a capital maintenance fund independent of Fund 10.

Long Term Building Project:

At their April 11th 2015 Meeting, the Board approved the formation of an ad hoc committee focusing on a long-term facility plan. The motion stated:

- Form a cross-functional ad-hoc committee, reporting to the School Board, whose charge will be to focus on development of a long-term plan to improve facilities and grounds for Shorewood School District.

The charge of the committee was to:

- Build a plan that ensures Shorewood School District facilities and grounds:
 - Reflect the quality of education in the district
 - Ensure teachers, administrators and staff have the physical environment to support 21st century educational practices
 - Demonstrate the aesthetic qualities first envisioned when built
- Ensure funding to fix immediate repairs, allow for ongoing maintenance, and make improvements that support plan principles (above)

A committee was formed that included:

- Kathryn Kamm, AIA – Community Member
- Ruth McGuire – Community Member
- Patrick Miller – Administrative Liaison
- Rob Reinoffer – Board Liaison
- Tony Seidita – Facilities Liaison
- Cliff Tisser, P.E. – Community Member
- David Cobb – Community Member

Progress:

We met four times in the past two months. One meeting included a representative from Eppstein Uhen Architects (EUA) to learn how other school districts have approached similar initiatives. We also discussed the timeline for developing and implementing a master facility plan.

It became apparent the existing committee makeup requires modification once the charge moves into building and implementing a master plan. Having a small core group will help efficiency, but we will also need Subject Matter Experts to ensure issues are addressed from a base of knowledge and expertise. We will call this Committee Two.

Over the four meetings, we drafted (initial drafts) a framework to guide Committee Two thorough the planning process. This framework includes:

- Proposed goal
- Scope of project which covers:
 - Addressing modern teaching requirements
 - Preserving historical aesthetics and architecture
 - Funding for ongoing maintenance
- Proposed Committee structure
- Funding model
- Success requirements
- Decision Making Flowchart
- Proposed timeline

Recommendation:

With the Superintendent starting on August 1st, the committee decided to delay presenting a deliverable in July for Board consideration of approval. Committee members felt it is critical to gain input from our Superintendent before any formal recommendation (the representative from EUA reinforced this approach).

Next Steps:

- Set up meeting with Superintendent to review progress of ad hoc committee and gather input.
- Incorporate input into Ad Hoc Committee recommendation
- Present to Board for Approval