

HARVEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 152
Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 6, 2017
1:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 P.M.

Present at the meeting were: Board members Dr. Kisha McCaskill, Tyrone Rogers

Administration: Dr. Sonya Whitaker, Nichae Whitenhill

Others: Nicole Wright, Dr. Robert Grossi

Short-Term Facilities Plan Update

Committee members discussed the possibility of closing Lowell School beginning in the 2017-18 school year. Dr. Whitaker updated the Board on the meeting held with community members and other stakeholders on January 26, 2017. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the reasons for the proposed closing and to get input on the proposal. The meeting was well attended and well received. The stakeholders were supportive of the plan and suggested that the Board of Education develop a boundary line that would result in a portion of the students attending Whittier next year and a portion of the students attending Maya Angelou. A meeting of the entire community is scheduled for February 9, 2017 at Lowell School.

Long-Term Facilities Plan Update

One of the areas of analysis Dr. Whitaker asked the architects to perform was to compare the number of actual students in each building to the maximum capacity of students of each building. The analysis showed that most of the District facilities were significantly underutilized as a result of a steady decline in student enrollment. The Board has been looking at this matter for several years and created a concept that would build and improve a portion of its existing facilities and close down others as a way to generate efficiencies. Dr. Grossi discussed with the committee a concept that would allow the District to borrow approximately \$20-\$25 million in order to address this long-term facilities plan. The committee recommended working closely with an architectural firm on best ways to utilize these funds. Additionally the committee recommended visits to other schools to generate ideas that would not only develop financial efficiencies, but would also improve student learning opportunities by implementing 21st Century learning concepts into the design. Another important point brought up by the committee was that they recommended moving on this project as soon as possible with hopes of beginning major construction by the Summer of 2018.

Next Finance Committee Meeting is Monday, March 6, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

Action Items:

To be determined
