



BOND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE REPORT – OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS

POLICY ISSUE/SITUATION

In May 2014, voters approved a capital bond program for the students of the Beaverton School District. The Board of Directors established a Bond Citizen Accountability Committee (BAC) to assist in monitoring the progress of executing the bond program and requested that the Committee provide periodic reports.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Bond Citizen Accountability Committee report for the third quarter of 2017 will be presented to the School Board by the Chair of the Committee.

The written report is attached.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Beaverton School District Board of Directors receive the Bond Program Review Report and provide comments and guidance to the Committee, the Superintendent, and staff.

District Goal: WE Empower all students to achieve post-high school success.

The Beaverton School District recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups. It is the policy of the Beaverton School District that there will be no discrimination or harassment of individuals or groups based on race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, marital status, age, veterans' status, genetic information or disability in any educational programs, activities or employment.

Bond Citizen Accountability Committee Report for the Third Quarter of 2017

Section 4.f. of the Committee's charter specifies:

The Committee Chair will draft and submit a written report quarterly, or more often if requested, to the Superintendent and School Board. The report will be structured to address the topics in Paragraph 1(a)–(g) and represent a consensus of committee members. The School Board may request reporting at a regular School Board Business Meeting or School Board Work Session. The committee reports are due from the chair to staff not later than seven days prior to the Business Meeting or Work Session.

At their October 23, 2017 meeting, the committee discussed the content of their report for the third quarter of 2017. The following comments reflect committee consensus regarding each element of the bond program of concern to the committee, as listed in Section 1 of their charter:

a. Ensuring that the bond revenues are used only for the purposes consistent with the voter-approved bond measure ballot and consistent with state law;

Based on information that has been provided to the committee on the bond program for the third quarter, committee members were satisfied that this is being done.

b. Alignment with the Bond Program Goals approved by the School Board and Board policies;

Committee members agreed that the goals were met by program staff during the third quarter. The committee was especially pleased to see the continued strong bond program reserves and project contingencies and the equity performance (MWSDVE participation) for contractors during the quarter, which stood at 16.7%, well above the Board goal of 10%. The committee commends staff efforts to continue this work.

c. Reducing long term maintenance, construction costs and improving efficiency and longevity, and innovative practices that achieve these; consistent with district standards and best practices;

Program staff have described technical, education and security standards that are being applied to projects under the bond program. The committee is assured staff has processes in place to meet this objective.

d. Communicating key information related to the bond to District stakeholders.

This is a standing item on committee meeting agendas and staff is continuing to improve communications to District stakeholders.

e. The committee will receive and review copies of bond program performance and financial reports, and has the option to inspect school facilities and grounds related to bond activities when coordinated with and accompanied by District staff;

The committee was satisfied with the quality of and the information in the reports they received from staff on the status of the bond program during the quarter. Staff has highlighted changes in the budget or schedule status of a project from the previous report and explained the reason for each change. As of the end of September none of the projects listed in the report for the month were in trouble (signified by a red mark in the report) although a few, including Aloha High School Title IX improvements, were showing yellow (watch list) from a schedule perspective and one, Sato Elementary in North Bethany, was yellow from a budget perspective. The Sato Elementary project is in close-out and is considered financially healthy. The Aloha High School Title IX improvements were on track for a mid-October completion.

f. The committee will review monthly reports produced by the district in order to assess general compliance with the purposes set forth in the capital improvement program as approved by the voters;

The committee received and reviewed each of the monthly status reports on the bond program prepared by staff for the quarter, and had an opportunity during each of their meetings to ask questions about the reports. The committee finds that, based on the information received, the program is in compliance with the purposes set forth in the information about the program provided to voters in advance of the 2014 election.

g. The committee will perform other reasonable duties requested by the School Board or Superintendent.

At the request of the Board and staff, the committee discussed timing and strategies for evaluating requests for use of the bond program reserves. The committee agreed that it was too soon to start approving projects and requested that staff return to the committee with recommendations for evaluating and prioritizing requests. The committee will continue to discuss this topic at future meetings.

Recommendation

The committee did not have any recommendations at this meeting.

The committee chair is willing to present this report to the school board at an upcoming business meeting or work session if requested, and answer any questions the board may have.