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MINNESOTA TO: Superintendent Debra Bowers
 ILLINOIS FROM: Lynae A. Schoen
 MICHIGAN
 COLORADO DATE: October 22, 2009

COMM. NO: 092038

SUBJECT: Independent School District #283 – St. Louis Park Schools
 October 21, 2009 Advisory Committee #2 Meeting Minutes

Attendants:

Paul Jennings, Grandparent/SLPPSF Board
 Mike Nordean, Teacher
 Any Burns, Parent-Peter Hobart & Susan Lindergen
 Linnea Swenson Tellekson, District Office – Curr. And Staff Dev't
 Jason Boll, Asst. Principal JH
 Linda Saveraid, Community Education Dir.
 Corey Maslowski, Principal – Susan Lindgren
 Clarence Pollock, Assistant Principal SH
 Rob Metz, Senior High Principal
 Frank Johnson, PH Principal
 Shelly Nielsen, Principal – Aquila
 Les Bork, Principal – SLPJH
 Bob Laney, Assistant Superintendent
 Michelle Bryant, PH/PAT
 Gerry Lee Lukaska, PSI Principal
 Chris Holden, Parent
 Linda Ell-Egemeier, CM Parent
 Kevin Jonel, PAT
 Jim Poulter, PSI Parent
 Martin Stillman, Parent
 Ken Huiras, Senior Citizen
 Andra Roethler, Parent
 Superintendent Debra Bowers, Independent School District #283
 Scott McQueen, Wold Architects and Engineers
 Paul Aplikowski, Wold Architects and Engineers
 Lynae Schoen, Wold Architects and Engineers

Absentees:

Tami Reynolds, Director of Special Education
 Freida Bailey, Principal CM

Discussion Topics:

1. Review of facility advisory committee protocols.
2. The group discussed thoughts on homework: "Admiration of the Problem"...
 - a. There is a lot of space available and it's not just at the elementary school level.



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- b. Why hasn't Eliot been closed by now?
 - c. Utilization pie charts are great graphic to show which spaces are underutilized.
 - d. What are the lengths of the leases for tenants? What is the flexibility? A: Eliot leases are year to year.
 - e. There are a lot of numbers.
 - f. What happens if charter or home schooling mandates are changed...what if these kids come back to the public school system? A: The total for open enrollment and charter are +/- 400 kids.
 - g. There is so much space at the Junior High.
 - h. Some schools "feel" like they have more space.
 - i. It does not appear that parents are opposed to closing an elementary school. Parents want it to happen to save money.
3. Public Meeting Observations/Comments
 - a. There are a lot of misconceptions out there! We need to do a lot of education on our part, e.x. "How Facilities and Teachers Affect Class Sizes."
 - b. Surprised about discussion on student transitions. Parents said that they like all of the transitions.
 - c. The group appeared to be really satisfied with their experience with the school district.
 - d. Public meeting was a missed opportunity. We had key leaders in attendance who could of helped answer questions and provide accurate information (School Board Members, Principals, etc.)
 - e. Parents wanted to remind us that we need to not only fellow what the numbers say...we need to stay true to our core values.
 - f. It's just not possible "to leave things the same". Let's make this a mission saving effort of keeping what we love about Saint Louis Park Schools.
 - g. The financial situation offers the opportunity for change.
 - h. The next Community meeting is November 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.to address some of the issues/questions asked. School Board will present strategic plan, objective planning and results. There will also be a financial discussion. The demographer (Hazel Reinhardt) will be there to answer questions as well.
 4. Superintendent Bowers discussed "Why now?"
 - a. Financial challenges
 - b. Demographic changes
 - c. City of Saint Louis Park stated to the District "you need to stop the bleeding!"
 - d. We cannot lose programs
 - e. We need to celebrate what we are moving towards, not mourn what we way have lost.
 5. Dr. Bowers distributed a current programs list.
 6. Dr. Bower distributed and discussed the things we do not control list. A \$400,000 fund balance. Not much!
 7. Website feedback update was distributed. There have been very few submittals.
 8. Subcommittees:
 - a. Educational benefits
 - b. Equity of resources
 - c. Cost benefit analysis/financial benefits



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9. Conceptual approach to options – Wold reviewed a draft document discussing scale of opportunity and solution assumptions.
 - a. The group discussed the possibility of K-8 schools...
 - b. What numbers are acceptable when you try to fill capacity? A: 90% capacity is a good goal.
 - c. How much does research play into grade organization and school size?
 - d. What is the reasoning for some programming offsite?
 - e. The Spanish immersion population is quantified and could be moved.
 - f. Is there a list of the programs that could be moved into the owned buildings? A: Page 21 of Volume 1 report.
 - g. Could Spanish Immersion be split? This could be considered for options.
 - h. Transitions plus (18-21 year program) approx. 1 14,000 SF. This program is a partnership with Hopkins and Minnetonka Schools.
 - i. Why would we add more transitions for kids?
 - j. Reconfigurations need to be examined for quality.
 - k. We need to understand what the existing “Boxes” (Buildings) can do and then test the concept.
 - l. Can we move the H.S. to the Jr. High? Maybe a 10-12 configuration?
10. Small Group: Options/Opportunities
 - a. 9-12/6-8/K-5 (2 or 3)
 - b. 7-12/4-6/(2) K-3
 - c. Challenges of a 7-12 school
 - d. 9-12/5-8/(2) K-4/PSI & PreK at Central. Lenox programs to the H.S. and close (4) buildings: Eliot, Lenox and (2) elementaries.
 - e. Kindergarten Center/1-4/....?
 - f. Have another elementary school at Central (2 total at central)
 - g. Where do pre-school kids go?
 - h. What is our financial target?
 - i. How important is equity within the community?
 - j. Close central, 9-12/Adult ELL to H.S. 6-8/Prek-K (3)/P.S.I. (1)/Seniors at Lennox (lockers and build gym space at H.S. to replace central staff).
 - k. Would like a Pre-K – 2 or 3 center would be nice for efficiencies for pre-school.
 - l. An odd number of elementary schools is good to help diversity the haves/have nots.
 - m. Reboundary the elementary schools for equity issues.
 - n. 7-12/4-6/(1) K-3 move P.S.I. to Susan Lindgren move central to Lennox/D.O. moves out of H.S. transitions move to H.S.
 - o. (2) K-3/(1) 4-5/6-8/9-12/P.S.I.? Transition/RSVP/College/ELL at High School important issue: How do we address inequity? How do we generate revenue? P.S.I. at central and E.C. stay as is.
 - p. Do we have land values of each site? Acreage? Sell buildings/site to a develop. New homes = new families = more kids.
 - q. Central: Pre-K-2/3-6/7-12. Immersion moves to an elementary building.

cc: Attendants
Absentees

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