

**Long Range Facilities Planning Meeting
October 17, 2018**

MINUTES

Those in attendance: William Hall, Darcie Moseley, Aaron O'Toole, John DiPlacido, Nate Spiker, Rick Lansberry, Luigi Pasquale, Merry Bollheimer, Gary J. Winschel, and Linda Sitter.

The meeting began at 12 p.m.

Discussion began with the possibility of closing Chestnut Hill. Superintendent Hall shared that early indications reveal the preference of keeping the middle school model (6-8) in tact and moving Chestnut Hill students across the existing elementary schools. It was noted the previous meeting information indicated enrollment at Chestnut Hill was down 30%, but rather the enrollment is down 30 students. The issue still remains, the enrollment is declining.

The Committee agreed the starting point in the Long Range Facilities Plan will be Chestnut Hill. At the current time, the Committee will begin by focusing on Chestnut Hill as the first step.

Questions to be answered include:

- Can we absorb the current Chestnut Hill students into our existing schools?
 - This is possible but would require a full restructure of elementary schools including changing boundaries.
 - This would also assist with the District's Title funding as it would mold our elementary schools to be able to more efficiently receive funding for all schools.
 - It was noted that Belle Valley was built as a six-round school.
 - What is the cost savings of closing Chestnut Hill? (staff, PSERS, etc.)
 - There is a need to put more money into the upkeep of Chestnut Hill. With declining enrollment at that location, does it make sense to close it and have upkeep paid through funds of leasing the building rather than taxpayer dollars?
- What would happen with the Chestnut Hill building?
 - The District would keep the building and lease it as the District did with Ridgefield.
 - If enrollment does increase in the future, the District will still own the building and can adjust as needed.
 - The District could consider moving the majority of the Child Development programs to Chestnut Hill.
 - There was discussion regarding leasing the building to an outside agency to provide Child Development services. It would be an area of cost savings for the District. How much would the District save in this scenario?
 - Closing the building assists the District with its safety initiatives.
- Would we keep before and after school programs at the buildings?
 - The answer is yes.

The Committee briefly discussed future possibilities with other buildings moving forward. The Committee decided to keep the focus on the first step, Chestnut Hill, for the meantime.

Homework:

- Put together information and prepare it to disseminate to community. Include, at a minimum:
 - Closing Chestnut Hill:
 - Cost Savings
 - Deficiencies
 - Safety
 - Enrollment
 - Boundaries

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 13, 2018, at noon.