

# Oneida School District NO. 351

25 E. 50 S. Suite A, Malad City, Idaho

December 7, 2017

## OPEN COMMITTEE ELEMENTARY BOND MEETING MINUTES

Present: *Jennifer Brown, Bob Crowther, Terry Davis, Anjanele Degn, Brent Evanson, Doty Evanson, Catie Fesler, Robert Hannah, Joan Hawkins, Mandi Hess, Mike Hess Jr., Brad Horsley, Krista Karn, Bob Kent, Rich Moore, Josh Paskett,, Caleen Pickett, Jeff Richens, Terrill Schwartz, Jennifer Sperry, Bobbi Summers,, Jean Thomas, Charles Thurber, Austin Tubbs, Valorie Ward*

Meeting called to order by Dr. Moore at 5:15 pm.

Dr. Moore welcomed everyone. He went over the Ground Rules for our Committee Meeting.

### LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Our focus today is on Location, Location, Location – We are going to list the three options and then open it up to the group to come up with all the pros and cons of each choice.

#### NEW ELEMENTARY AT CURRENT LOCATION

##### Pros:

Not visible from freeway  
District owns the whole block  
Separate campus from HS  
Balances new construction in community  
Maintains a city block  
Maintains alternate HS location away from current HS  
Could use plans established/done by last bond  
Utilities already available  
Continued public use of the playground for those in the middle of town  
Traffic access – Great whole block multiple access.

##### Cons:

Construction with kids near  
Temporary loss of fields

#### NEW ELEMENTARY - SOUTH OF THE HS

##### Pros:

Not visible from freeway  
District owns the whole block  
Separate campus from HS  
Balances new construction in community  
Maintains a city block  
Maintain Alternate HS location away from current HS  
Could use plans established/done by last bond  
A new building that is visible from the freeway would make our community look more attractive.

##### Cons:

Visible from freeway  
Close to HS- traffic  
Abandons city block  
Traffic industrial park/ChCreek  
New Utilities – Sewer Power Water etc.  
New roads –  
Industrial Park Traffic –  
There will be a lot more traffic next year from customer traffic.

#### NEW ELEMENTARY - NORTH OF THE HS

##### Pros:

Share facilities with other schools  
Transportation in one area

**Cons:**

Visible from freeway  
Have to buy property  
Abandons city block

Why should we even consider the North of HS location if we will have to purchase the property?

Does the HS need to be separate from the Elementary school? We were told the HS needed to be built away from the Elementary school. Is this true? Why are we considering building next to the HS if this was true? It was mentioned that before the old HS kids were in the halls the problem was sharing the cafeteria and facilities in the HS. There is now law saying that they cannot be built next to each other. But is it a good idea??

How much was it going to cost to demolish the buildings? It was believed it was about 2 million dollars.

Alternative HS – Where is it going to go? Is it going to be attached to the new Elementary school? Is that a good idea should it be moved? Concern having it near the Elementary school.

The Old gym. The bays, the Alternative HS. Can parts of the old buildings be saved? Can we save a softball field, create a new soccer field?

Will we have room in the new school for the Head start? That building is free standing and could probably stay.

How many alternative schools are in the state? Could we shut this down and just have them do online school? There has been discussions to rethink what we are doing? Can we meet the needs in our regular HS or virtually? Is the Alternative HS the best we can do for our students and their needs? This could possibly be a moot point by the time a decision is made concerning an elementary school.

Pioneer Park? What should we do with it? The school takes care of the lawns and maintenance.

Could the students continue to go to school in the old building while construction is taking place? Yes, Dotty said as it was in the plans earlier, it would be possible and it would be safe.

What does the Sherriff think about the visibility from the freeway?

A lengthy discussion about the concern of building an elementary school that is visible from the freeway. Dr. Moore asked if the committee would be ok, if Dr. Moore invited the Sheriff, Arne Jones to come discuss with the group, with his insights on safety. Let's try and get as much factual information from our local authority.

Concerns with Traffic issues, with area North of HS. Ambulance and Fire need access.

How many kids currently walk to school? Ridership on buses would increase if they moved the location to the school. More kids, more problems.

If we did build south of the HS, where would we build? Which part of that lot?

Traffic is already a mess at the Elementary school, a lot of people drop off their children rather than bus.

In the first bond plans we had for a new school it did address the drop-off and bus drop-off. They were separate it would have been safer, and a better plan.

We need a better pick up/drop off no matter what we decide to do.

Concern that it would bring more development if we built the elementary south of the school. It was countered why isn't developing happening more already?

A single story building is going to take more room than a two-story building.

Concern that we may have issues with voters if they are now going to have two choices, not just a new elementary but now a new location. This may make us lose more voters. This is a big reason why we need to take public surveys. And see what the public wants. Let's make sure that we know what the public want. Only 500 people voted last time. If you got 500 surveys you would have a pretty good idea of what the public wants. It is great that we have plenty of time to get the information to the public....

Do we need to open it to the community and see if there are other people that want to donate land? It was decided no, we didn't.

Is it a conflict of interest, if the person donating the land is on the school board?  
If he was going to get paid, it would be a problem.

Century HS, had a conflict that has went for years.

Is it because he is a board member or a land owner or is it both.

There were a lot of concerns voiced.

Did we find out a cost on how much to do our survey??? I think an informed opinion is important for our people taking the survey.

Should we do a community meeting and share information? It was felt we should push information not necessarily let them share opinions. We need to get the information out by the webpage, or by printed form. What do others think?  
There is still a bad taste in the public's mouth from the information they received on the last bond.

Everyone is invited to come. Continue encouraging and getting the word out to the key players in the community.

Is it viable to have the north of the HS considered? It was decided by the committee that it wasn't even a viable option. Let's just focus on the two options.

Two quick items....

I see some new faces. Thank you so much for being here. I did invite some special people. Please make sure that you sign the clipboard so we have your contact information. Several that I reached out to are interested in participating, but due to the short notice could not make it tonight. They will be here next time.

It was voiced that we need a separate website to share our information. It is under construction. We do have some information in print, and we also will have some information on video. I am a little nervous, we have two very critical things coming up for vote in March. Our plant levy and supplemental levy. I am nervous to put out a lot of bond information before these levy's pass, I don't want to confuse the public. I would like to use this website to inform the community about these two important levies. As soon as the levy is done, we will be ready to rock and roll with the bond information. The committee was all in agreement that was a good plan.

#### **TIMELINE**

Dr. Moore sent out a timeline last week. He would like to open it up for questions and discussion.

This is what Dr. Moore has proposed.

At some point and time we need to move this committee to an Ad Hoc Citizen Committee, which needs to have someone besides a school employee running the committee. Right now we are only seeking information. Once we make a decision in the direction we are going to take, you need to have a citizen running this committee.

This is important to know that there are certain things the school board and the superintendent can or can't do. We need to make sure that the community is aware of why this is important. Don't feel that this was done very well last time we ran the bond. It felt like the Superintendent didn't support the bond, not the real reason he took a step back.

Election Day would be March 12, 2019. It is a long ways away, but I think it is the best thing to do.

Is there any other opinions or questions?

How long does construction take? It takes about 2 years. We are looking at 4 years before it would be completed.

One of the things we have to do? We need to have a finance company, either Zions or Piper Jaffrey, they will come in and do a financial analysis. We should have that done sometime this spring.

This is where we also need to pick an architect to talk about doing nothing or demolition, or build? It was felt that this would be a great community meeting not a small committee meeting.

Dr. Moore feels like we as a committee should make the choice on the architect and the finance company and then present to the community why we picked this one.

Did we ever find out what our index is for our district, and if we would qualify on getting our interest paid for by the state? Dr. Moore was pretty sure that we would qualify. He doesn't know the index yet, he has an email into Tim Hill, but he still has not heard back from him. The finance companies are the experts, and when they come speak to us, they will be able to explain why we would not be paying interest.

Next Meeting January 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:15pm.

At the next meeting, we will be covering Build or Renovate? Also finding a finance company and open processes to identify architects.

Have a wonderful Christmas.  
Thank you so much for attending.

Meeting adjourned at 6:33 pm.

*Valorie H. Ward*

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Valorie H. Ward, Clerk