

GLEN ELLYN SCHOOL DISTRICT 41

05-05

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MINUTES

**GLEN ELLYN SCHOOL DISTRICT 41
BOARD OF EDUCATION - SPECIAL MEETING
FACILITIES STUDY WORKSHOP
HADLEY JR. HIGH SCHOOL, 240 HAWTHORNE BLVD., GLEN ELLYN, IL
SEPTEMBER 8, 2004
7:30 – 9:00 P.M.**

COMMUNITY FORUM #1

- I. Roll Call and Call to Order: President Vivoda called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Board members present: DiFabio, Hoffman, Marcheschi, McElvain and Vivoda. Mr. Ruckstaetter entered the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Mr. Snodell was absent.
- II. Public Participation:
 - Resident Simon Bare requested information on the demographic study. Dr. Barshinger reported that we are keeping within our timeline and expect to provide a progress report at the September Board meeting and a final report at the October 18, 2004 regular meeting.
 - Resident Phil Comella requested additional information on the status of portable classrooms and acknowledged that this item would be addressed later in the meeting.
- III. Overview of Study and Facility Alternatives: Dr. Barshinger provided a brief overview of the progress to date towards a solution to District 41's overcrowding during the 2003-04 facilities workshops. Since the May 13, 2004 workshop, the District has formed a Facilities Task Force Team that will continue to work towards a solution that addresses the District's space related issues. The Task Force Team convened their first meeting on September 1, 2004 to discuss the next steps regarding four options that are currently under study by the Board of Education: A new K-5 elementary school, a new 5-6th grade center; a new K-6 building, or the continued use of portable classrooms. There has also been some discussion about building a Pre-K Center. This option would not solve space needs but would address an educational need within District 41 and have an impact on facility use.
- IV. Workgroup Breakouts: Representatives of FGM Architects were present to facilitate participants working in small groups who were asked to analyze the pros and cons of each option. FGM Architects is the firm hired by the District to conduct a study of the four options being considered.
- V. Group Reports: Groups reported back their pros/cons, questions and concerns. Overall, the 5-6th grade center was viewed as the most

favorable and the K-6 option and doing nothing (besides adding portables) were viewed as the least favorable. The group also concurred that a lot depends on the outcome of the District's demographic study on enrollment projections currently being conducted by Northern Illinois University. Details of the small group discussions are attached and will be posted on District 41's web page prior to the next Community Forum on October 12, 2004. (Attachment)

VI. Board Discussion: The Board had a general discussion regarding:

- Pre-K Center option and whether this item should be studied separately from the other options.
- The outcome of tonight's work and whether the Administration could remove any options from the table and narrow their focus.

Board members agreed that a Pre-K Center doesn't bring much benefit to the District's overcrowding and space issues but that it does address an educational need and should be studied from a programmatic perspective. They also agreed that no options should be taken off the table.

Board members also expressed their frustration in waiting for the data from the demographic study.

VII. Next Steps: The Facilities Task Force will study the information collected at tonight's meeting and a progress report will be presented at the next regular meeting of the Board of Education on September 20, 2004. A second forum will be conducted on October 12, 2004. The Board expects to have a facilities recommendation at their November 15, 2004 regular meeting.

VIII. Adjournment: Mr. DiFabio moved and Mrs. Hoffman seconded to adjourn the special meeting at 9:30 p.m. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Recorded: September 8, 2004

Deborah M. Hoffman, Secretary

Approved: September 20, 2004

John J. Vivoda, *President*