



Dr. Jack Barshinger, Superintendent

MINUTES

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
GLEN ELLYN SCHOOL DISTRICT 41, DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
SPECIAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2005
HADLEY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
240 HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS**

1. Call to Order: President Vivoda called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call: Members present: Kevin Cosgrove, Terra Costa Howard, Debbie Hoffman, John Kenwood, John Marcheschi (participated in the meeting via telephone conference), Carol McElvain, John Vivoda.
4. Public Participation: There was no public participation.
5. D41 Facilities Overview and History: Superintendent Jack Barshinger reported that District 41 has been conducting community-based long-range facility planning for the past two years to address the overcrowded conditions at District 41 schools. He further explained that the purpose of this meeting was to hear reports on engineering studies conducted by FGM Architects regarding the feasibility of Hadley and Spalding as potential buildings sites for a new school. He added that no action would be taken regarding a final selection decision, authorization of expenditures or financing options.

Background

- January 21, 2003 Blue Ribbon Committee Report
- Community Forums
 - October 9, 2003 – Brainstorming Session
 - November 3, 2003 – Facilities Option Discussions
 - December 1, 2003 – Rating and Ranking of Option
 - March 8, 2004 – Architectural Reports
 - April 26, 2004 – Multi-track Year Round School Discussion
 - May 13, 2004 – Master Planning
 - September 8, 2004 – Community Forum 2004-2005 Summary

- October 12, 2004 – Options Focused to Final Three
- November 29, 2004 – Facilities Findings
- June 13, 2005 – Facilities Site Locations
- Additional Reports
 - November 15, 2004 Facilities Task Force Report
 - November 16, 2004 NIU Demographic Report

Community Data:

What District has learned from past community forums about what's important:

- Maintain target teacher student ratios
- No Multi-Track Year Round School
- Equitable district-wide solution
- Least disruptive to neighborhood school concept
- Limit busing of K-2 students
- Maintains art and music
- Portables are not a long term solution

Past Referendums:

- 1997 – remodel buildings and build additions for a target 25 students per classroom. Add music and art to the curriculum requiring 10 classrooms district wide. Did not assume increased need for rooms in Special Education, ELL, Bilingual, Current class size targets, Pre-kindergarten or Early Childhood Special Education
- 2001 – primary objective to reduce class size for K-3. Funds also required to hire staff (not space) and close the structural deficit for Foreign Language at Hadley, Math and Reading specialist, Social workers and OT/PT, Special Education enhancements, ELL, Bilingual Education, Gifted.

Current State of D41 Facilities

- 26 portable classrooms in use
 - 580 students in portables
 - 2005-2006 student enrollment is projected to be 3,600
 - Building infrastructures cannot support projected enrollments for gym, art, music, lunchroom activities, parking and traffic
6. Facilities Committee Reports: Dr. Barshinger reported that over the summer four volunteer committees were launched in conjunction with the long-range planning process and the district really appreciates their efforts.
- The Architecture and Site Committee has met in preparation for beginning their work in the event the Board decides to build a new school. As an oversight committee, its role would be to work with the architects and the design teams that will be established.
 - The Communication Committee has reviewed the current state of facilities communication and begun establishing a strategic framework for facilities. Like the Architecture committee, its work will begin in earnest once the Board makes a decision.

- The work of both the Program Planning committee and the Alternative Capital Funding Committee begins on the front end, helping the Board to make a decision. Tonight those two committees will provide capsule reports of their findings to date.
 - a. Program Planning: John Correll, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching, Learning and Accountability provided an update of the Committee's work to date. Board members Marcheschi, McElvain, Cosgrove and approximately 20 members of staff, community and other interested citizens serve on the Committee. The Committee was charged with a thorough review and articulation of program model and curriculum delivery system that enhances student learning based on the K-4, 5-6, and 7-8 grade structure, and outline what the facility needs are to support that structure for student learning. Dr. Correll reported that the group identified trends that will continue to be reviewed this fall as we develop a comprehensive program model.
 - b. Alternative Funding: Board member John Kenwood provided an update of the Committee's work to date. Also on the committee is board member Terra Costa Howard, Kristopher Monn, Assistant Superintendent for Finance, Facilities and Operations and members of staff, community and other interested citizens. The Committee was charged with the task of developing viable options to finance and operate a new two (2) grade level school building that maximizes outside sources of revenue while minimizing the impact on the local taxpayers. Mr. Kenwood reported that the group is looking at ways to raise funds through special events, legislation (state capital funding), private donations, corporate donations, grants and public and/or private partnerships. They are also looking at professional fundraising organizations to assist the District.
- 7. Review of FGM Architect's Preliminary Engineering Findings: August Battaglia of FGM Architects reported on the preliminary engineering studies conducted by FGM Architects regarding the feasibility of Hadley and Spalding as potential sites for a new school. He presented concept diagrams of how a school could fit on each of these sites and preliminary diagrams of car and bus traffic plans. FGM determined that both sites could support a new building from soil and storm water perspectives.
- 8. Board Discussion: Discussion ensued about the value of combining the buildings at the Hadley site. Dr. Correll reported that the Committee did not research that particular combination, but it could be helpful to look at other Districts that have combined grades six through eight. The Committee recognized early on that additional transition work would be needed to accommodate the change in the educational program model. There was also discussion about operating costs and whether it would be more efficient long-term to bring the buildings together. Dr. Correll said that it would need to be researched thoroughly by the Committee.

How is the additional traffic created by a new building being addressed? Dr. Barshinger said that the only way to get a true idea is to conduct a traffic study for both sites. Mr. Battaglia added that when the site analyses were conducted, FGM took into consideration adequate parking spaces, elongated car drop offs, etc. to ensure the optimal situation for traffic issues.


Are our enrollment projections accurate? Dr. Barshinger explained that the District has a plan in place to review enrollment projections at a minimum of every two

years and compare to the projections contained in NIU's demographic study. If necessary, we will provide NIU with new data to update their study.

Has the District explored all feasible land options in and outside of D41 boundaries? Dr. Barshinger explained that the District has consulted with legal counsel to explore all its land options.

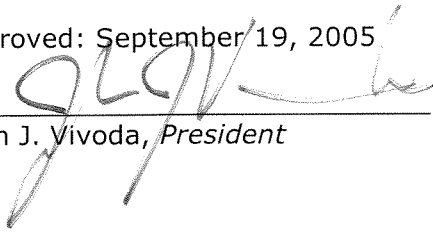
9. Public Discussion: Board president, John Vivoda opened the floor for public comment on the Facilities planning and feasibility of Hadley and Spalding. The attached is a synopsis of their comments (Attachment)
10. Next Steps: Following the public comment the Board acknowledged that this is a difficult issue to tackle and there is no perfect solution. They thanked the community for their input and will consider it as they move another step towards a decision. The Board noted that the District has been managing the enrollment growth with portables and emphasized the importance of a sound instructional program that would provide every student of D41 the very best education. The Board agreed that they will need additional information in order to make an informed decision and asked the Administration for additional information such as a comprehensive cost plan, traffic studies, program plan and transitional planning, Village and County zoning details and the impact of a new building on neighborhoods. The Board also requested an update on the enrollment projections contained in NIU's 2004 demographic study.
11. Adjourn Special Meeting: Howard moved and Cosgrove seconded to adjourn the special meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Recorded: September 12, 2005



Deborah M. Hoffman, Secretary

Approved: September 19, 2005



John J. Vivoda, President

**FACILITIES MEETING – HADLEY JUNIOR HIGH
SEPTEMBER 12, 2005**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

Name	Address	Subject of Comments
Sherry Spengel	1613 Ashton Court, Wheaton	Did the dry hot summer play a part in the soil testing results? FGM replied that the dry hot season did not have an impact on the testing results.
Norman Hansen	1766 Marion Court, Wheaton	1) Is the cost per student a justified cost? 2) If you look at the before and after in the facilities, you can see a sharp contrast in terms of space needs from last year. Why didn't the District reopen the Main Street School? 3) How much will taxes go up based on the cost estimates for a new school? President Vivoda said we don't own the building and if we did, it would have to be essentially reconstructed to comply with the Illinois School Code. There is not an estimate available regarding tax increases.
Maureen Mladucky	1748 Marion Court, Wheaton	The Board discussed the possibility of underground parking at the June 13 meeting facilities meeting. Will the Hadley site (either option) have the underground parking that was discussed? If so, what is the cost of this? How will it be accessed?
Doris Nelson	1N433 Park Boulevard, Glen Ellyn	If the Park Boulevard land is acquired and used for part of the school District property it will force people to use 1 st and Main street. This is a very dangerous corner. Mrs. Nelson stated that Park District is waiting to talk to D41 and will redo Main St. School to accommodate D41. However, The Park District Board will only meet with D41 as a whole board. She also asked how many parents were on Facilities Task Force vs. the number of staff and teachers. It was noted that approximately 50% of the Task Force was parents.
Jill Paulus	1806 Marion Court, Wheaton	Asked for clarification about enrollment projections contained in the NIU report. Suggested a pre-K facility.
Alan Lowry	535 Cottage, Glen Ellyn	1) What are the building heights for the proposed additions? Dr. Barshinger said that at the moment we don't know exactly and won't know until the program plan research has been completed. 2) How many classrooms are being contemplated? Approximately 35-40. 3) Is the athletic field at Spalding comparable to the one now at Hadley? Yes. Is Main Street still an avenue of exploration? Dr. Barshinger said that

<p>we continue to have conversations with the Park District about. However, the Main Street site is not feasible for this project, but perhaps for future projects.</p>		<p>Brad Payne</p>
<p>The drawing of the Spalding site assumes the acquisition of 10 Spalding homeowners. He is not interested in selling his home. Asked the Board to be forthcoming in how it might proceed with acquiring the needed homes and they need to consider the potential legal battle and costs associated with acquiring the 10 homes—it could take years and thousands of dollars. Spalding area residents have told him that there could be asbestos in the ground.</p>	<p>1N411 Park Boulevard</p>	
<p>Teachers would not be able to teach both 5-6 and 7-8. Different certification is needed. Dr. Correll acknowledged the challenge but said that currently a number of D41 staff have both certification.</p>	<p>Hadley Area Resident (address not on file)</p>	<p>Terri Tarczon</p>
<p>Felt that the Board needs to address the additional bus traffic created by a new school at the Hadley site and Spalding sites and that there needs to be parking for special events, sporting events and other after school functions.</p>	<p>1614 Thomas Road, Wheaton</p>	<p>Richard Eastman</p>
<p>Mayor of Wheaton is backing the members of the community that have traffic and safety concerns related to putting another building on the Hadley site. Has the community really addressed the issue of class size as it relates to building a new school? If the Board went back to the community and asked them to revisit issue, they may choose larger class sizes over increased taxes.</p>	<p>1730 Marion Court, Wheaton</p>	<p>Pete Lorusso</p>
<p>1) Was the demographic study conducted prior to the D87 referendum being voted down? If so, demographic numbers need to be revisited. 2) Have budget constraints considered? 3) Has the Board pushed the municipalities for a zero growth? 4) Did you know that the area surrounding Hadley was once a swamp?</p>	<p>1802 Marion Court, Wheaton</p>	<p>Paul Rohr</p>
<p>The Board needs to conduct a traffic study to determine the impact that evening extracurricular activities will have on traffic congestion. She expressed concern about the cost to operate a new school. Therein lie the real costs. Will another referendum be needed?</p>	<p>1404 Glencoe Street, Wheaton</p>	<p>Mary Crowe</p>
<p>A member of the Facilities Task Force Committee. Approximately one-half were parents. Mrs. Marcus said that people need to be concerned about traffic congestion and safety at all of elementary buildings because the schools are overcrowded. A new building would alleviate some of the</p>	<p>473 Stagecoach Court, Glen Ellyn</p>	<p>Danae Marcus</p>

	crowding at all the schools. Urged the Board to move forward on this issue.	
Andrea Bare	196 East Road, Glen Ellyn	A member of Facilities Task Force Committee. Doesn't live near Spalding or Hadley. It's one thing to oppose the sites, but questioning the motivation of the school district is inappropriate. Need to focus on safe housing and education for all of our student and should be working on a solution together as a community. It should be about problem solving and not about questioning motivation. She commended the school board for having the staying power on such a tough issue and encouraged community members to work together on a solution.
Julie Corrigan	335 Linden Street, Glen Ellyn	Has the D41 Board had any further discussion with the Park District regarding the land at Ackerman Park? If there's been no discussion since June, would the Board be willing to attempt another discussion? Mrs. Howard said that D41 has had several conversations with the Park District about the land at Ackerman Park and D41 respects the fact they are not interested in negotiating with us on that parcel of land.
Gail Kelly	500 W. Grove Lane, Lombard	Sharing thoughts and perspectives: 1) Has anyone received a Park District Survey on Ackerman Park. She views this property as being underutilized during the school day. 2) The proposal for Hadley is adding a grade, not a school. 3) Traffic problems can be improved by parents – don't drive bused students and ride bikes!
Jerry Latzke	1N412 Goodrich, Glen Ellyn	1) How far are the projections in demographic study? Dr. Barshinger stated until 2011. 2) There is a change in the Spalding site specs. – now call for acquiring ten homes instead of 6. 3) There's a building called 999 building that would be perfect for parking instead of taking the 10 Spalding homes.
Elise Berneck (no record on file)	Main Street	5 th -6 th grade center is not a good idea. Bad for the fifth and sixth grade students. In the spirit of neighborhood schools, let's look for a different solution. Can't we use existing space more intelligently?
Margaret DeLaRosa	612 Newton Avenue, Glen Ellyn	1) Given land constraints, has consideration been given to underground parking or adding a third story to proposed building to limit land and maximize green space? 2) Would the Board and the Community consider building more common space (gym, music, and rest rooms) that can hook into a series of portables to accommodate 5 th /6 th grades?
Chris Wilson	537 Phillips	District 89 enrollment is down. Has the District considered

		consolidating with District 89? The Board replied that the idea has been investigated and is not feasible.
James Truesdale	1709 Madsen Court, Wheaton	He has children that have gone to District 41 schools and then on to Glenbard West and have received a great education. Fully agrees that community has to work with Board to get things solved. Address the problems by 1) increase class size - community wants small class sizes but won't pay for it 2) Add temporary schools 3) Year round schools 4) Reduce administrative costs 5) build up not out. Not convinced that he wants to increase property taxes for a new school, but working together with the Board, we can get the problem solved.
Kathy DiBadj	323 Cottage, Glen Ellyn	1) They way we teach children now is different and so larger class sizes have different implications and make it more difficult to educate your children. 2) Nothing wrong with K-5; 6-8 - do we want to build two schools? 3) Provided a historical perspective on how D41 as a community as dealt with money and education.
Chris Saviano	244 Linden, Glen Ellyn	Change in the community. Thanked the public and board for addressing the challenge of changing times. Encouraged the community not to be fearful of the transition The kids will survive. If we add another building on the Hadley site, do we need to be concerned about the open space required by the state? Where will the kids have recess? What about the density created by another building?
Tom Long	378 Anthony, Glen Ellyn	1) Has the Board considered an underground parking to allow more open space? 2) Can a Village Board member be available to address issues of collaboration with the Village? Traffic issues could be potential horrendous. We need traffic studies, costs, logistics, etc. 3) Would the board consider building at both sites and have flexible/different school age programs to minimize changing school boundaries? 4) Why wasn't the Spalding proposal created without removing 10 homes and how would that impact its feasibility?
Hillary Boffetti	552 Western Avenue, Glen Ellyn	1) What is being done by the Board at the Illinois State level to improve how the state funds education 2) Has the Board considered the site at Spalding that was once a school? Why the need to take over 10 house? Forget about Hadley-it's too crowded. 3) What about the empty land at Bloomingdale and North Avenue (former Dominick's) and alternative land sites.