



Board Briefs - [Para español, por favor haga click aquí.](#)
[November 4, 2019 Workshop Meeting](#)

Reports

Superintendent

Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law reported to the Board that he would be bringing a recommendation to the Board at the November 18 Board of Education to finish the “black box theater” at Highland Park High School. The shell of the theater was built with 2013 referendum funds but the interior of the space was not finished and is currently being used as storage.

Dr. Law said that the next step would be to put the project out to bid because the detailed drawings for the space have already been completed by the architect. The finished space would not only benefit students in theater and music programs but also academic programming like student presentations given its location in the C hallway. The rough order of magnitude cost to finish the space is approximately \$1.1 million. Principal Finn noted that the \$80,000 had been collected through fundraising, which while generous does not come close to covering the total cost needed to make the space functional for students.

Also as part of his Superintendent’s report, Dr. Law recommended the Board authorize Administration to put out a request for qualifications (RFQ) for architectural services to allow the Board to evaluate its option for design services for future construction work. The Board gave Administration direction to proceed with the RFQ.

Discussion

Highland Park High School Cafeteria Bid Results

The Board reviewed bid results for the HPHS cafeteria and alternate bids. The last two bids for plumbing and flooring were opened earlier on Monday. The estimate was \$9.1 million but the bids totaled \$8.3 million. Assistant Superintendent for Finance Ali Mehanti reported to the Board that the main reason the bids were lower than expected was that the Board put them out at the time for getting the best pricing. The Board discussed alternate bids and directed Administration to bring back further information November 18.

Discussions about renovating the HPHS cafeteria have been ongoing since September 2017. Dr. Law provided the Board with a list of design objectives that summarize the planning that has gone into the scope and design of the HPHS cafeteria. Administration compiled these objectives for the meeting so that the Board could understand the bid results. The Board had several questions and after lengthy discussion requested that additional information be gathered so that they could consider the item at the November 18 meeting.

Dr. Law recommended that in the future Administration provide to the Board for approval design objectives for whatever space is being considered for renovation so that there is a clear articulation of what the construction aims to accomplish.

Potential Capital Projects in District 113

Administration presented a list of capital projects not included in the 2013 referendum and infrastructure projects the District needs to schedule in order to keep up with infrastructure needs. The Board discussed a process for determining which projects to do first and for involving stakeholders in the phase leading to the Board's approving final scope and design. The Board directed Administration to rate all the projects against four criteria to determine which ones were most critical and need to be completed by summer 2022. The rest of the projects would be reviewed as part of refreshing the 2012 Master Facilities Plan, which would involve school and community stakeholders.

After potential projects have been rated, Administration will present a recommendation November 18 for construction in summer 2021, giving the Board the opportunity to vote on rough order magnitude projects for construction. Architects will work with school and community stakeholders in determining design and scope options that meet the design objectives for ROM projects the Board has approved.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

November 13, 2019 - 5:30 p.m. - Policy Committee Meeting
Administration Building 1040 Park Ave W, Highland Park, IL 60035

November 18, 2019 - 5:00 p.m. - Policy Committee Meeting
Administration Building 1040 Park Ave W, Highland Park, IL 60035

November 18, 2019 - 6:00 p.m. Closed Session, 7:00 p.m. Open Session
Administration Building 1040 Park Ave W, Highland Park, IL 60035