

# Meeting Notes

**PROJECT:** Reynolds School District Bond and Finance Planning Committee  
**DATE:** November 8, 2022  
**SUBJECT:** Meeting 2  
**ATTENDEES:**

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## Welcome and Opening Remarks

Karina opened the meeting, reviewed the agenda and the group norms.

## Timeline Updates and Proposed Engagement

Karina reviewed the previously proposed meeting schedule, which entailed an arc of five meetings and aiming for a May 2023 ballot measure. Based on feedback from some members, the District has revised this timeline to aim for a November 2023 ballot measure. This slows down the pace of meetings and offers the committee more time for tours, and the District more time to hold listening and learning sessions with the community. Dr. Ortiz noted that the District had consulted with their communication expert, and there doesn't seem to be a compelling difference putting a bond forward in May 2023, or in November 2023.

Questions and comments from the group:

- I was thinking about the tight timeline after the last meeting, so I'm glad to see this slow down.
- I like the idea of going slower to do a good job.
- What's the drop-dead date to get it on the November ballot?
  - Paperwork needs to be submitted by the end of August. There's some strategy behind when the paperwork is submitted (regarding campaigning, since once paperwork is submitted, no District staff can campaign for a measure).
- What's the latest school board meeting to approve our recommendation?
  - Most likely it's July or August. Heidi will be putting together an updated schedule that will have all the drop-dead dates for November election.
- My experience has been that November measures haven't passed in this district, and then we put it back on the ballot again in May.
  - We'll have our communications folks also run a poll with two electorates: if you see a major difference in polling, you may consider a May ballot instead.
- Is there a chance that we might not stick to this updated plan, based on what you hear from polling?
  - Jeremy (our communications specialist) has been doing this work for a long time, and doesn't seem much of a difference between the electorate. But we don't want to rush this through, and the public doesn't have time to understand the package.

The committee confirmed that they are okay with the updated timeline. However, one member noted that faster is better: there is a lot of need in the buildings in the District.

Karina shared the proposed community engagement to support the committee's work. This entails a series of Listening and Learning sessions with groups that are deeply impacted by educational inequity. The District has been clear on centering communities who have been historically marginalized. Last week, two sessions were held with Latinx families and BIPOC families, and there are sessions being planned to hear from Latinx, BIPOC and LGBTQ+ students and families, and families served by specialized programs.

Comments from the group:

- Hope to also see community engagement also encompass folks with different identities, so that many people can see themselves reflected in the bond package.
- I'd love to see students involved in the bond committee: can we get some students from the District's student advisory committee, or other students who might be interested in joining the committee?

#### **Draft Guiding Principles for Bond Planning**

Allison Brown reviewed the draft guiding principles with the group. The committee then broke into two small groups and discussed these further, offering suggestions and edits.

Small group feedback included:

Guiding Principle 1:

- Importance of community hub: spaces that could be used for things like events, food carts, community to play pickleball, etc. The need for it to be a community center that people in the district feel proud of.
- Add bullet, "Schools offer spaces to host community events, meetings, and celebrations"

Guiding Principle 2:

- Mention of 'adequate staffing': should we add it in? Can we do that with a bond?
- Change language to: "Schools and campuses feels physically and psychologically safe and secure, with sufficient tools in place to ensure everyone's health and safety on school grounds."
  - On school grounds indicates the experience of the whole school, not just the building.
  - Added in health because lighting and ventilation seems important, but don't know if that goes with another guiding principle.

Guiding Principle 3:

- We focused a lot on the need for athletics to be added in.
  - Would like to see a stadium in the bond package.

- When going through the GPs, addition of sports needed to be in there. It needs to be explicitly stated.
  - Want to see the sports and athletics called out: offers opportunities for people to gather, people to have a sense of community, and a motivator for kids. This feels best to add into Guiding Principle 1.
  - Add into Guiding Principle 3: Key facilities are located in a convenient location, and equitably located throughout the District.

Other comments:

- I have three life skills classes and they have no access to recess: add in something about playgrounds, inclusive recess space, etc.
- Add something about lighting and sound, where students across the neurodiversity spectrum can see and hear.
- Recognize that we're not just talking about the physical space of the building, but also the outside spaces too (in the parking lots, the athletics areas, etc.).

**Proposed Bond Priorities**

Heidi presented the suggested 2023 bond priorities. She noted that these are a starting point for the committee's consideration, building off the presentation given to the group in last week's meeting.

The presentation took a deeper dive into each of these proposed buckets:

- Indoor air quality and thermal comfort
- Four oldest elementary schools
- Reynolds Middle School downsize and recreation complex, consider a K-8 campus
- Minor Capital Projects
  - Safety and security
  - Playground upgrades
  - Roofing renewal
  - Classroom technology
  - Title IX equity

Questions from the group:

- I'd assume that if the group decides to rebuild a school, the cost of the proposed HVAC upgrades would go off the measure.
  - Correct. This just helps you see the proposed costs and consider where it might be beneficial to look at rebuilding.

Heidi noted that there had been some initial research looking at whether or not a stadium could fit at the high school, and the numbers seemed to indicate that it wouldn't be feasible to build a stadium at the high school.

- Desire from a member to review the numbers Heidi referenced.
- Another member expressed again their desire to have a stadium at the high school.

Dr. Ortiz reiterated that these ‘buckets’ and proposed projects are starting points for the group, but the committee may decide to put forward other ideas, based on their interpretation of needs and discussions.

**Next Steps**

Next convening of the group will be a tour of Margaret Scott Elementary on November 14<sup>th</sup>. The next committee meeting will be on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

These meeting notes are a record. If there are any errors and/or omissions in the foregoing notes, please advise our office immediately; otherwise these notes will be considered correct and complete as written.

Submitted by

Allison Brown  
BRIC Architecture, Inc.

Attachments:

- PowerPoint presentation, 11/7/2022, 48 pages