



Banks School District Facilities Planning Committee

January 06, 2009

TO : Banks School Board
FROM : Facilities Planning Committee
RE : District Facilities Reports - Update

Respectfully to the Bank's School Board and Superintendent, Mr. Marv Ott,

Post election November 2008, you have asked that the FPC reconvene and provide subsequent recommendations (or affirmations) to the original proposals already provided to the Board by the committee in December 2007 and October of 2008.

I submit the following facts for consideration by you as you progress the next the set of decisions:

- a) The facilities planning committee(ies) has been composed by over 50 community volunteers; comprised of teachers, administrators, business owners, residents, city counselors, and parents of the Banks School District, including PAC members. These committees and all the members have been volunteering their time for regular meetings... now on-going in excess of 30 months at the request and direction of this School Board.
- b) The original FPC did not have the technical reports or data to support their recommendations; but still simply proposed in their report (finalized in December of 2007) to purchase all available adjacent land by the school district properties and to also replace the junior high and high school buildings with new structures.
- c) The second FPC report of 2008 provided to the Board, was supported by \$50,000 of engineering reports and recommendations, and nearly identically supported the same conclusions as the report originally provided to the Board by the FPC report in 2007.

At our FPC meeting on Monday January 5, 2009, we considered the Board's request for additional confirmations and arrived at the following conclusions through unanimous passage of motions by this FPC; we recommend that:

- a) We feel that, from our research, that the much of the Banks Junior High School facility is no longer safe for our children and faculty. The recommendations made by the structural engineers should be immediately considered by the Board. We recommend that those seismic structural improvements recommended by the engineer be immediately implemented at the Junior High, considering the ultimate safety of our students and faculty; **or that the oldest structures of the Junior High School be vacated immediately and no students or faculty allowed within.** Further review by the structural engineer should be inquired to prioritize recommendations addressing the solutions with the biggest overall lateral impact. The solutions could then be reviewed from a budget standpoint. Not all solutions may be equal in benefit.



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- b) The Board reconsiders the 25.5 MIL bond for the reconstruction of the campus to include new high school and junior high school facilities. The bond could be floated again in the May 2009 election.
- c) The Board considers an alternate bond request of \$19.6 MIL in which the current junior high students would be relocated to the high school facilities and a new high school is constructed. Upgrades to the existing high school would be kept to a minimum addressing life safety and accessibility issues as needed. This plan meets all the space requirements of both junior high and high school programs but does not address the age of the existing building systems. A future bond would be required to address the renovation or replacement of this structure, likely costing more than the original 25.5 MIL bond.

The process to arrive at these recommendations included a complete review, and reports previously provided in our summary documents provided to Board, of reconditioning the both buildings including upgrading or overhauling the mechanical systems, electrical systems, data infrastructure, structures, etc. We concluded that due to the obsolescence of the buildings and systems, the combined expenses to repair, upgrade and maintaining the two schools would be far greater than the combined cost of building and maintaining new structures over their estimated lifespan.

The Facilities Planning Committees have been pure in their intentions from the onset, to provide to the Board the very best and most economical options in an effort to update our school facilities as needed. None of us wanted to spend unneeded dollars, but we unanimously, in every meeting over the course of 2+ years, voted for the safety and growth of our students and faculty.

Our recommendations at this point, are final and complete to the Board. We have a very real need to replace obsolete and unsafe structures for our junior high and high school students and faculty, and we unanimously stand by all our recommendations.

Respectfully,

Ryan J. Birr
Committee Chair