



Little Elm ISD Long-Range Facilities Planning Committee

**Zellers Center for Learning & Leadership
300 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, TX 75068**

**Meeting 1 Notes: Monday, March 27, 2017
5:30 p.m. Dinner; 6:00 p.m. Meeting Start**

1. Welcome & Introductions – Dr. Lowell H. Strike

Dr. Lowell H. Strike, Superintendent of Schools, opened the meeting at 6 pm by welcoming the committee members and thanking them for their commitment to this very important effort. He emphasized the value of this process to the students of LEISD, commenting that the district believes that facilities have an important role in shaping the learning experience and are a critical component to preparing our students for the 21st century.

Dr. Strike reviewed the logistics of the meeting and explained that the pin board map exercise upon the committee's entrance was to ensure that the committee has good geographical representation. He encouraged members to bring names forward of additional committee members, noting that this process will be very open and transparent.

Dr. Strike also encouraged members to use the note cards and sticky notes on the tables to make comments or ask questions that might come to mind during the meeting. Sticky notes should be placed on the "Parking Lot" board and collected at the end of the meeting. Answers will be distributed to members following the meeting and posted to the committee website. Dr. Strike asserted that this process is "not about what we want, but about what you want as a community."

Dr. Strike introduced LEISD Board Members and administrative staff who are non-voting members and there to be resources for the committee as they work through the process. He encouraged committee members to utilize these individuals to make sure they get all their questions answered. Dr. Strike reviewed the agenda for the meeting and kicked off the presentation by reviewing the "LRFPC Maxim" stating that the needs of our children will always outweigh the wants of adults. He discussed the makeup of the committee membership noting that the group is a diverse cross-section of the community.

2. Icebreaker – Daniel Gallagher

Daniel Gallagher, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services, facilitated an icebreaker activity to allow committee members time to get to know one another. Committee members first completed a group resume at their table and then shared out their resume to the large group. Mr. Gallagher next tasked the committee to work at their tables to discuss the definition of consensus and what it will mean for the LRFPC. Tables shared their comments which included: reaching general agreement; not necessarily unanimous; includes debate and compromise; something we can walk away with and all support; collective agreement; shared middle ground; general community support and overwhelming support.

3. Overview of the Committee

Purpose & Charge of Committee – Dr. Lowell H. Strike

Dr. Strike then reviewed the purpose and charge of the LRFPC and explained that the committee will prioritize the needs of the district, set a long-range vision, and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees.

Role of Community Facilitator – Ed Griffin

Dr. Strike then introduced the committee's Community Facilitator, Ed Griffin. Mr. Griffin is a resident of Little Elm ISD, with vast experience in politics and, with no children in the district, will be great at remaining unbiased and leading the group towards consensus. Mr. Griffin explained his role, and noted that his goal is to germinate as many perspectives as possible. Mr. Griffin encouraged committee members to speak up and engage throughout the meetings.

Committee Process & Schedule – Ed Griffin

Mr. Griffin reviewed an overview of the process and all the information that the committee will study and discuss in order to make the best decision possible for our students and the future of LEISD. He reviewed the meeting schedule and noted that the meetings will be posted and open to the public to attend and listen.

4. Core Values, Vision, Mission, & State of the District – Dr. Lowell H. Strike

Dr. Strike next led the committee through an overview of the state of the district. He began with discussing Destination 2020, the district's strategic five-year plan. LEISD wants to be a district that families intentionally want to move to because of what it has to offer. Dr. Strike emphasized how important culture is to the district. He reviewed the values, vision and mission of the district, the campuses and their grade alignment, and learner demographics.

5. Previous Bond Work & Projects – Rod Reeves & Grant Anderson

Grant Anderson, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operational Services, reviewed the scope and projects completed out of the 2002 bond funds. Rod Reeves, Executive Director for Operational Services, reviewed the current projects being completed by the district, including the renovations to Little Elm High School and a new Transportation Facility, which is in its beginning stages. The high school project includes a classroom addition, entrance and administration reconfiguration, new bistro, collaboration spaces, and library renovations. The high school project should be completed this August. The new transportation facility will be built on 42 acres that the district owns that could hold an additional facility in the future. It will hold the operations department offices as well. It is expected to be complete in Spring 2018.

6. Facility Assessment Overview – Steve Hafer & Paul Thompson (Huckabee)

Paul Thompson, Associate Principal with Huckabee, presented an overview of the facility assessment completed by a team of professionals in summer of 2015 and presented in spring 2016. He reviewed the purpose of the assessment and process conducted. Mr. Thompson noted that there were 20 different facility components assessed in the report and the study included review from various experts including civil, mechanical/electrical/plumbing, food service, and more. He shared an excerpt of the report to demonstrate how the report is laid out and to review the various components studied at each facility. He discussed what planning work has been completed thus far and what the next steps include. Several items have already been addressed by the district's maintenance team out of the regular operating budget and now the district is working to identify the priority items to bring forth to the committee for consideration.

7. Closing

Cecelia Jones, Assistant Director for Communication Services, provided an overview of ThoughtExchange, which is an online community feedback tool currently utilized by the district. It was proposed to use it as a format to receive community input on the facility needs of the district. Results would be brought back to the committee for additional information for their decision-making. Members were encouraged to think of questions they would like to ask the community through this tool.

Mr. Griffin closed the meeting by reiterating to committee members how important their role is in this process to the future of the district and its students.

Trustee DeLeon English added that it is very important to the Board, as well as extremely essential to the success of the process, that this is community-driven.

Homework, which would consist of documents to review in preparation for next meeting will be emailed out. The next meeting will be held Monday, April 10 at the Zellars Center for Learning & Leadership with dinner being served at 5:30 pm and the meeting beginning at 6 pm.