

BOS/BOE/BOF School Study Subcommittee

Special Meeting

April 23, 2024 – 4:00 PM

Jonathan Trumbull Library – Community Room

580 Exeter Road

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Kevin Cwikla, Mike Nintean, Kathleen Smith, Betsy Petrie-McComber, Andrew Gonzalez, Sarah Hayes, Sarah Hill, Nicole McGillicuddy, Liz Charron, Pamela Babuca, Jim Hoagland, Justine Spielman, Michael Zuba, Kristen Furtak, Harold Nelsen, Brian Smith

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 4:02 PM

2. Review Conditions Assessment discussed at the April 2nd meeting.

The SLAM representatives provided a detailed presentation on updates on the utilization capacity, deep dive into the facilities assessment, and next steps.

Elementary School Capacity Findings:

- There are 22 instructional classrooms with an average class size of 17.5 students.
- There are 367 students enrolled, the capacity of the space (95% full) would accommodate 385 students.
- The projected enrollment for 2031-2032 is 408 students.

Planning exercises – 2 options

- Option 1 - Reduce classrooms / increase capacity per classroom.
 - Potential to add a grade level to the elementary school without any additions, but it increases the student count per classroom.
 - 20 classrooms with an average class size of 23.7. Range of 22.3-27.00 students per classroom, not including Pre-K.
 - This option has a flex classroom which would cater to the grade with the most students.
- Option 2 - Increase classrooms / lower capacity per classroom.
 - Increase the number of classrooms by 2 and keep the class capacity at 17.8 students. (Certain grades will have higher enrollment based on population trends, Range: 16.8-20.3 students per classroom)
 - Does not include SEALS or Pre-K.
- Question from the committee:
 - If a conference room is converted into a classroom, where would teachers be able to meet and have space for breakout sessions?
 - SLAM is still evaluated how each room in the building is being utilized.

- Is there research to support 24 students per classroom is the best for the students?
 - This is based on best practices based on square footage.

Middle School Capacity Findings:

- There are 12 general classrooms, 4 science labs, 8 special rooms (art, music, tech ed, etc.) and 1 classroom used for other functions.
- SLAM tallied how often classrooms are utilized during the day.
 - Utilization ranged from 0% -100%
- There are 272 students enrolled, the capacity of the space (90% full) would accommodate 432 students. 63% of the building is utilized.
- The projected enrollment for 2031-2032 is 325 students.

High School Capacity Findings:

- There are 22 academic classrooms, 4 special education classrooms, and 9 specialty classrooms. Additionally, there are 7 classrooms for agricultural science.
- There are 340 students enrolled, the capacity of the space (90% full) would accommodate 666 students. 51% of the building is currently utilized.
- The projected enrollment for 2031-2032 is 321 students.
- SLAM tallied how often classrooms are being utilized during the day.
 - Utilization ranged from 0% -100%

Consolidation Thoughts

- Existing
 - 367 students at Elementary School (Pre-K – 4th grade)
 - 272 students at the Middle School (Grades 5-8)
 - 340 students at the High School (Grades 9-12)
- Proposed
 - 5th grade moves to the elementary schools. Elementary total would be 488 students. 4 general classrooms would be needed.
 - Middle School closed, 6th -8th grade students would move to high school.
 - High school total would be 566 students (Grades 6-12). 12 general classrooms and specials would need to be added.
- SLAM welcomes feedback from the committee.

Facilities Assessment

SLAM engineers evaluated the needs of the Lebanon School District facilities.

Elementary School

- No immediate priority items.
- High Priority - 41.6% of needs must be completed in the next 1-3 years
- Medium Priority - 23% of needs must be completed in the next 4-5 years
- Low Priority – 35.5 % of needs must be completed in the next 6-10 years
- The building envelope has the greatest forecasted need at 43%.

Middle School

- No immediate priority items.
- High Priority – 73.7% of needs must be completed in the next 1-3 years
- Medium Priority – 20.1% of needs must be completed in the next 4-5 years
- Low Priority – 6.1% of needs must be completed in the next 6-10 years
- The interior architecture has the greatest forecasted need at 39%.

High School

- No immediate priority items.
- High Priority – 54% of needs must be completed in the next 1-3 years
- Medium Priority - 35% of needs must be completed in the next 4-5 years
- Low Priority – 11 % of needs must be completed in the next 6-10 years
- The mechanical systems have the greatest forecasted need at 33%.

Committee members reviewed the detailed draft of the Capital Renewal & Improvement Report.

Questions:

- How are costs estimated in 3-10 years? *Based on current trends of costs.*
- Can we start applying for grants to cover the cost? *It is good that we have the information, but we may be too late to apply within this grant cycle.*

Next Meeting is schedule for **Tuesday, May 28th at 4:30 PM** at the Jonathan Trumbull Library in the Community Room. The next meeting will bring high level ideas to shift students around and better utilize the spaces.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Hill
Administrative Assistant