

ASD Ways and Means
January 4, 2023

Names of Members:

Dwayne Purvis (Chair) - Present
Jeff Candito - Present
Greg Fritz - Present
Mike Akillian - Present
Mozammel Husainy - Remote
Steve Frades - Remote
Rick Barnes - Present
Marilyn Gibson (Alternate) - Remote

Person(s) appearing before the Committee

Steve Chamberlin (Superintendent) - Present
Amy Facey (SAU) - Present
Tom Gauthier (ASB) - Present
Terri Reiber - Present
Jason Hennessey - Present

Summary of topics discussed

The Cost Analysis report is on the website.

The Facilities Report was briefly discussed with suggested edits to ensure the document puts the issues on the table and does not make conclusions until we have all voted on the report.

There are alternatives to the proposed facility that deserve more discussion including adding a wing and updating the aging capital items such as the boiler and HVAC systems.

We seek a quote for the option of adding a wing that was reportedly similar in price to the larger proposed building. This doesn't seem to make sense and a quote would help members see the validity of both the amount and the comparisons being reported.

We need to establish reasons to reject the alternatives.

Terri Reiber addressed the committee about the 2% tax cap. This cap would apply only to the operating budget and not the total expenditure of school boards such as the facilities project. Funds could be raised that are not taxes through voluntary means to fund programs that are supported by residents.

Tom Gauthier addressed W&M mentioning that the ASB voted to fund the debt as level debt. This would incur higher costs in the long run but was supported for the reasons mentioned at the ASB meeting on 3-Jan.

We discussed the scenarios for Clark, the cost of maintenance, the total cost of the bond (with interest), costing of alternative facility upgrades such as adding a wing, and the accuracy of forecasting enrollment.

Jason Hennessey addressed W&M mentioning that the use of the Annex has not been fully analyzed and it is odd that ASD rejected the use of that vacant space.

We discussed the effects of the full-day K decision and the method in which that was made, the cost of modifying special education to a larger out of district program. Steve Chamberlin mentioned that this would be prohibitively expensive compared to our current policy.

Amy Facey discussed the Default calculation and the SAU follows the law to generate this number. There was discussion about if items should be included in the Default calculation.

We would like to know what the progress of expending funds is in the future.

The maintenance trust was discussed where it has changed in 2017 following the 20 year plan set up that year.

We discussed the reasoning behind how school maintenance should be prioritized: by location or by need.

There will be warrant articles calling for special meetings if the contract votes fail. This is per the contract.

The next meeting will be 11-Jan and we will be prepared to provide reasoning for where we are leaning on each warrant article.

The meeting was ended.