

# HHS Facilities Improvement Questions

1. Should the Board of Education hire a consulting firm to facilitate the process or to survey the public for input? Who should be involved in this process? (Board of Education, Community, A&E Firm, and/or hired Survey/Facilitation Firm)

## Group 1

- **No.** Find problems (structural issues etc.) first before having anyone else.
- Find out what is driving this process
- Is anything worth salvaging (age & condition driving the process) True age of the facilities
- Many feel the buildings have outlived beyond their useful life
- Others disagree
- What will the life expectancy of new buildings if constructed?
- If we do nothing by referendum what needs to be done right away & how much does it cost?
- Are we behind on maintenance for some of the buildings?

## Group 2

- More detail required
- FGM was a hang up
- What would a facilitator do? We may not be there yet?
- Waste @ current structure
- Before selecting who would decide – local group, how would they be perceived, needs assessment?
- What would the cost be?
- Could school board actually hire one?
- Transparency – Buildings needs list, timeline detailing hard issues (old vs. new), individual mailings would be helpful, more detail on the health & life safety issues.
- Produce a needs assessment

## Group 3

- **Do not** hire a consulting firm; stay with the 3 organizers/facilitators of tonight's meeting.
- Money wasted?
- Research options – school board already getting a bad rap
- Trust issues
- Has to be the board
- Committee needs expanded to other towns – call others
- May need to keep the group small

# HHS Facilities Improvement Questions

- Can't have someone that has a negative aspect to them
- Good PR is needed
- If school board hires there will be trust issues
- Better communication
- Don't believe community could pay volunteers/college programs like Mary the Intern

2. What information do you feel the public needs leading up to any referendum?

## Group 1

- 2006 H/LS List, Accessibility issue summary, complete "unbiased opinion, not form a hired school contractor, not from a hired A&E or handpicked firm? It should be an independent firm.
- What are the consequences without being in compliance?
- What fire codes? I.E. will buildings be closed if stairs aren't enclosed?
- Has any real effort been put into consolidation?
- Board has contacted 3 local districts? One meeting was held – Litchfield said no.
- Is there enough existing classroom space or is more truly needed?
- How much existing teaching space is heated properly & is safe I.E. conducive to proper learning environment
- What are maintenance & utility costs of existing buildings versus new buildings?

## Group 2

- Exactly what will it cost? Full disclosure of the costs
- Need the money before building
- Donations accepted after referendum is passed
- Bids – who can work
- At what point will the state take over?
- Building needs
- This will not or will be last time until.....?
- Timeline
- Mailing
- Facility video
- Life safety issues, a lot of stuff blown out of proportion

## Group 3

- Why so much money?
- Full Disclosure of costs
- Board/Group is also privately trying to raise funds
- Seeing bids
- Need to know the state requirements

# HHS Facilities Improvement Questions

- Financial Full Picture
- New Health/Life/Safety Survey
- A timeline of bond issues & tax rates
- Mailings

3. What do you believe are the primary issues that need to be addressed at the HHS campus?

## Group 1

- Clutter in existing buildings, unused spaces which could be better utilized
- Lack of electrical; data, wireless internet
- Notes from tours, HVAC systems grossly inefficient
- Provide 30 year solution instead of 100 year solution
- Compare costs to ensure the 30 year plan is effective
- Security, handicap accessibility
- Technology; outlets & wiring

## Group 2

- Old building easier to build new
- Verify building on the current site is best for children
- Security
- Tying new buildings to existing buildings
- Environmental

## Group 3

- Technology, Safety, Disability access, & environmental (electrical, heating/cooling & plumbing)
- Greater detail
- Access
- What is required for modern technology

4. What should be the goal(s) of this process and the Board of Education? (Goal Statements)

## Group 1

- Prioritize problems; are the problems perceived or real
- Try to provide a long term solution, time bound steps to solve all problems, how much would it cost to fix all the problems
- Cost comparison for renovation vs. new
- Define what we need not what we want

## Group 2

- Produce a needs assessment
- Complete transparency

# HHS Facilities Improvement Questions

- Phased proposal, sports & classroom
- Informing the community
- Provide the best education
- Environmentally safe

## Group 3

- The best education – consolidation
- 3<sup>rd</sup> largest bus route
- County center two miles north of Butler
- Meeting of more people
- More qualified teachers, more courses
- Whole County, more money? No need to demo buildings?
- Montgomery County High School - Would it pass?

5. Any other thoughts or ideas?

How do we bring the big Nay Sayers to the table?

Consolidation / Co-op High School