

**Tomball Independent School District
Additions and Renovations Sub-Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 29, 2012**

- Introductions and Opening Remarks – Additions and Renovations Sub-Committee Chairman Ms. Susan Cline began the meeting promptly at 6:30 p.m. She introduced Superintendent John Neubauer in the audience and introduced Mr. David Schuelke, Assistant Superintendent for Ancillary Services.
- Review Purpose of Sub-Committee – Mr. Schuelke explained to the sub-committee that the Board has provided direction for the Additions and Renovations Committee regarding the needs of the district at this time. These projects have been identified based on safety needs, program changes, enrollment growth, and modernization needs.
- Presentation of District-Wide Needs Assessment Renovations and Additions – Mr. Gary Hutton, Director of Operations, presented information on the projects recommended for additions and renovations at this time.
 - The determination of the budget for the projects was explained. A question was asked about why Fees for Testing, Material, Etc. was a separate charge and not included in the bid for the project. Mr. Hutton clarified that the testing is done by an independent source to maintain the integrity of the testing and stated that any failings found in the testing process are corrected by the contractor at the contractor's expense.
 - The remodel of LES and DPES to move the front office to the front of the building was presented, along with the addition of security vestibules at NIS, TJHS, WWJHS, THS, RES, TES, and WCES. A question was asked about recovering space for classroom use and it was explained that the design is conceptual at this point, with the focus on safety and access. A question was asked about the design of the library expansion and Mr. Hutton reiterated that specific designs have not been determined. Regarding the kitchen area, the focus is on adding food preparation space, as the area is very tight right now. Discussion occurred regarding the security vestibules on the campus, specifically about unlocked doors on other parts of the campus and how these negate overall security efforts (speaking of the high school campuses). It was mentioned that perhaps the sub-committee should address how students are being funneled through the campus. Mr. Schuelke explained that a recent security audit revealed exposure at the front of the campuses, which is why this particular area is being addressed. A question was raised about the security of the portable buildings and Mr. Hutton will find out about the security practices for the portables.

- The addition of a bus drive at NIS to serve NIS and WCES, and a parent drive at TJHS were presented. Discussion occurred regarding possible confusion to TJHS parents with the proposed drive being away from front of building. A question was asked about the need for turn lanes on Baker Street. Mr. Hutton confirmed that the district will need to work with the city to add turn lanes and that the expense has been calculated into the budget. Discussion occurred regarding a parent drive coming from Zion Road. Mr. Hutton explained that the bus drive proposed for WCES and NIS will alleviate the congestion on the existing parent drive. Discussion occurred regarding the location of another drive behind the schools; however, Mr. Hutton explained there are complications with that situation due to the county road access and the drainage ditch that runs along behind the schools. Mr. Hutton also explained that once the bus drive is implemented, the parent drive can expand to double stacking, which will further alleviate the congestion. Discussion then occurred regarding the bus turnaround route possibly including the neighborhood adjacent to the school.
- Replacement of the existing track at THS and the addition of artificial turf at the Tomball Stadium and TMHS Competition Field were presented. Discussion occurred regarding the cost of a new grass field versus a new artificial turf. Discussion also occurred regarding additional seating at Tomball Stadium. A question was asked about adding seats on the home side, perhaps on the southeast side. Mr. Schuelke explained that seating in that area is not viable due to utilities and the site line. He further explained that additional seating would best be located in the north end; however, that would entail moving the pit and pole vault areas. Also, code issues will be involved. Additions to the stadium will need to be looked at in the future as both high schools grow more; however, will not be a part of this needs assessment.
- Weight room additions for TJHS and WWJHS were presented. Discussion occurred regarding the fact that both weight rooms are free-standing and not attached to existing campus buildings. Mr. Hutton explained that separate structures will be built in order to avoid code issues.
- The expansion of the drivers' lounge and additional parking for drivers and buses was presented. Discussion occurred regarding driver meetings and the need to accommodate staff during these meetings. Mr. Hutton explained that the district will be increasing the number of buses and drivers and will need additional space for the drivers, their vehicles, and the buses. Discussion occurred regarding whether there will continue to be one central location for

all buses or if a satellite location will be considered. Mr. Schuelke explained that one location will be used for at least the next ten years, as it is not cost effective at this time to duplicate facilities for a satellite bus barn.

- An additional Ag Project Barn was presented. A question was asked about the cost of the first Ag Project Barn. Mr. Hutton will check for certain but recalls it to have been \$5 million. Discussion occurred regarding putting the second Ag Project Barn on the north side of Tomball; however, Mr. Hutton explained that the district does not have land outside the city limits of Tomball and the Ag Project Barn cannot be placed inside the city limits. Discussion occurred regarding also duplicating the parking lot, as it is frequently congested. Mr. Hutton will look at replicating the parking lot. Discussion also occurred about storage in the building and Mr. Hutton pointed out where the storage areas are located in the building.
- Questions and Answers – Ms. Cline opened the floor for any further suggestions or questions.
 - The auditorium at TMHS was discussed. Some committee members stated it is too small. Mr. Schuelke explained that the auditorium was built to standards based on student population and will not be changing at this time.
 - Overcrowding in the orchestra rooms at TMHS and WWJHS was mentioned. Mr. Brad Bouley, Director of Fine Arts, explained that the orchestra programs at these two schools have grown rapidly, a good thing; however, there is a need for more space. This area will be looked into.
- Topics for Next Meeting – Ms. Cline thanked the committee for this great starting point. She asked that members review the sub-committee information sheet for accuracy of contact data. Mr. Schuelke advised that the presentation and notes from the meeting will be under Resources on the district's website. Ms. Cline also advised that the minutes from the meeting will be emailed to all sub-committee members. If anyone has any questions, please email Ms. Cline and she will get the questions to Mr. Schuelke and report back to the entire committee. A question was asked about the plan for future meetings and Ms. Cline reported that she is considering breaking the sub-committee into groups to address each project.
 - One more question was asked about why Principals were not asked for a wish list of projects. Mr. Schuelke advised that there was not enough turnaround time; however, he did ask Principals to

advise him of any projects on their campus that needed attention. The committee asked If Principals could be asked what they wanted. Mr. Schuelke and Ms. Cline encouraged the committee to discuss wants and needs with the community and with Principals. Ms. Cline ended the meeting promptly at 8:00 p.m.

The next Additions and Renovations Sub-Committee meeting will be on Monday, November 5 at 6:30 p.m. in Rooms 107 and 118 of the Staff Development Center.