

Update

Facilities Master Plan – Board Review Process

June 6, 2016

On April 28, 2016, the Community Facilities Study Committee, supported by David Schrader of Schradergroup, presented its findings and recommendations for a Facilities Master Plan to the Board of School Directors. At that time, the Board asked the administration to create avenues for community feedback and to schedule four public meetings to review the plan in detail and discuss the recommendations with the members of the committee. An FAQ about the Master Plan recommendation was subsequently published on the website and a dedicated e-mail address was created (CFSC@qcsd.org) to collect community feedback and questions. Four review sessions were scheduled, for May 17, 24, 31, and June 7, 2016, all at 6:00 p.m.

On May 17, the Board Facilities Committee chaired by Mr. Ripper met with representatives of the Community Committee, reviewed the summary presentation in more detail, and reviewed the Engineering Study report with Bruce Bachtle, AIA, from Schradergroup. There was discussion about building conditions, why certain items were recommended or not recommended, and about the concept of parity between schools. A few community members were present, and the press report on the meeting can be viewed **HERE**.

On May 24, the Board Facilities Committee held its second review meeting with Community Committee representatives. Again, there were very few community members in attendance. Discussion was on parity, health and safety issues, and the community members present asked questions. While very open to community feedback and suggestions, the Board Facilities Committee also made clear that it supports the overall work of the Community Committee, and will not be going back to square one to start over with radically different proposals. The appropriate future use for Quakertown Elementary was discussed, as that is viewed as the most controversial aspect of the recommended Master Plan. The Board members requested some time to fully digest the scope of the needs and the recommendations of the Community Committee. Therefore, the scheduled session on May 31st will be used for discussion of the “Poor” items from the Engineering Study and June 7th will be used for other purposes. The dates of future review sessions and the timeline and process for Board decision will be communicated as soon as they are determined. The press report on the May 24th meeting can be viewed **HERE**.

On May 31, the Board Facilities Committee focused specifically on the items rated as “Poor” in the Schradergroup engineering study, and gave the administration direction about which projects to pursue in 2015-16 and which projects to plan for 2016-17. The press report for that meeting can be viewed **HERE**.

Please submit your questions and feedback to CFSC@qcsd.org. Very little feedback has been received to date, and we encourage you to share your thoughts and questions.