

Greater Egg Harbor Regional School District Board of Education
Task Force Committee Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2006
7:00 PM

Present: Dr. Pfeffer, Dr. Ciccariello, Mr. Grossi, Task Force Committee (list attached), Community Members (list attached).

1. Welcome and Introductions Dr. Pfeffer opened the meeting with introductions of the members of the Greater Egg Harbor Regional High School District Board of Education members. Dr. Pfeffer reviewed the minutes for the July 31, 2006 Task Force Committee meeting and asked members of the committee to please contact him if they suggest any changes upon their review.

2. New Information Dr. Pfeffer provided new information as a follow up to last week's meeting:

- For Proposed Single Family Dwelling Units, there are an additional 18 units being planned in Mullica.
- While the estimated cost of the new high school remains \$70 million, there has been a change during the last week in the state's and district's share of these costs. The district received notification that it will be receiving an additional \$1,300,000 in State of New Jersey Treasury Grants. This amount increases the state share of the cost of the new high school from 66.69% to 68.55% or \$47,983,000 and reduces the Regional District's share of the cost from 33.31% to 31.45% or \$22,017,000.
- The percent share of the tax allocations remain the same for each of the sending districts but with reduced costs for each due to the additional state funding. While these figures are preliminary, an adjusted analysis of the tax allocations illustrates the following share of the regional district's constituent costs: EHC, 4.9184% or \$1,082,884; Galloway, 52.3916% or \$11,535,058; Hamilton, 34.7270% or \$7,645,844; Mullica, 7.9630% or 1,753,214.
- The additional state funding is to be used specifically for land acquisition and construction of the new high school. This type of state grant assistance is the best the school district can do unless it was an Abbott district. The district will keep trying to get other grants and assistance.
- Dr. Pfeffer shared new high school full time equivalent (FTE) staffing and related information due to the addition of 190,000 square feet. 19 FTE Buildings and Grounds, 1.4 FTE Night Watchman, 3 FTE Security, 6 FTE Secretarial would be needed. While athletics and activities would be comparable for students in the new high school, an additional one third of the district student body would then be able to participate in athletics. The staffing to student ratios in the new high school would be based on the 2004-05 Absegami model as indicated in the School Report Card: Student/Administrator ratio of approximately 197:1, Student/Faculty ratio of approximately 13.2:1. With an enrollment of 1000 students, using these ratios, 5 Administrators and 76 faculty members would be needed. Staffing would be contingent upon the student enrollment numbers for each building.

3. Consensus Decision Making Dr. Pfeffer asked Mrs. Joy Hooper to re-ask her question that the meeting ended with last week.

Mrs. Hooper asked if the third model for the new high school should be removed from consideration by the Task Force based on costs and other issues discussed last week? Dr. Pfeffer asked if anyone was opposed to the third model being removed from consideration? No one opposed. The third model was removed from consideration.

Dr. Pfeffer asked Mr. Fraytak to review information regarding the first two models remaining for consideration for the new high school. Mr. Fraytak reviewed strengths and weaknesses of each design. Referring to the on-going costs questions asked last week, Mr. Fraytak explained that in a life cycle analysis, there would not be a significant difference in on-going costs in the First Conceptual Floor Plan due to a slightly larger linear footage and roof area compared to the Second Conceptual Floor Plan. Regarding the question of student circulatory walking patterns and flow through hallways, Mr. Fraytak asked Dr. Ciccariello to respond. Dr. Ciccariello informed the group that this was a controllable situation both during the school day and evening which could be addressed through scheduling. Mr. Fraytak reminded the group that Option #2 has two court yards, as compared to one in Option #1, and that beautifying the court yards in both buildings could be part of planned instructional activities. He added that building expansion is an option in both designs.

Dr. Pfeffer asked if there were any questions from the Task Force.

Comments and Questions:

- Regarding the concept of smaller learning communities, it looks like Option #1 could have 5. Dr. Pfeffer responded that 3 would be the maximum planned to keep them from taking too large a role in the beginning.
- Questions were asked regarding area between spaces and hallways. Mr. Fraytak shared that there would be slight changes to sizes between spaces and widths of areas. For example, he planned on creating alcoves for doors so students can come into areas without interrupting flow.
- A Task Force member who was at first skeptical of the First Conceptual Floor Plan visited a school similar over the last week and has changed her mind in support of Option #1. The two separate wings created a small home like atmosphere conducive to the concept of smaller learning communities. The Vice Principal and Guidance Counselor Offices in each wing adding to the feeling. Glass windows in the gym locker rooms worked. Especially impressive, the best community draw and a key selling point of the design is standing in the Main Lobby with a vantage point of the Performing Arts areas.
- A Task Force member shared his perception that the concept of the smaller learning communities in the models would keep students comfortable who might have been frightened if they were attending a large high school. He asked if the concept of the Magnet School was being considered. Dr. Pfeffer responded that options for Magnet

School were integrated in the concept planning but programs were not specifically planned at this time.

- What is the distance between the blue wing and the cafeteria in Option #1? Mr. Fraytak responded that approximately 200 feet was the shortest distance, and approximately 300 feet from the second floor was the longest distance.
- Can the auditorium be expanded? Mr. Fraytak responded that the auditorium could be expanded but rather than expanding it, he had plans at this time to create back tiers for instructional and performance purposes to expand the use of it.
- Can the cafeteria be expanded? Dr. Pfeffer responded yes, and that the cafeterias in both present high schools were expanded in what are now called senior cafeterias. Expansion of the cafeteria in the new building however will not likely be needed.

Dr. Pfeffer asked if there were any other questions? No questions were indicated. He asked if anyone had a recommendation for the committee? Mr. Darrell Edmonds recommended that the Task Force adopt the First Conceptual Floor Plan or Option #1. Dr. Pfeffer asked if anyone disagreed. No disagreement was indicated.

Task Force Committee members commented:

- Option #1 has character. Support of the First Conceptual Floor Plan is making a statement of going with a different, non-rectangular traditional model.
- This is a perfect chance to have an additional community center. Mr. Fraytak commended this comment.
- Mr. Bailey stated that with what he has experienced so far, he was looking forward to working with the Greater Egg Harbor Regional High School District and Mr. Fraytak on this project.
- A Task Force member praised Dr. Pfeffer and commented on the nice process this experience has been.

Dr. Pfeffer informed the group the next steps in preparing for the new high school would be: the Task Force recommendation of Option #1 at the School Board meeting on Monday, August 15, 2006; move more on the First Conceptual Floor Plan design; acclimate community groups with information; and hold the March, 2007 vote.

Dr. Pfeffer asked if any Task Force member would like to come to the Monday, August 15th, School Board meeting to share the Task Force recommendation to the School Board. No response was indicated. Dr. Pfeffer offered to make the recommendation for the Task Force.

Dr. Pfeffer adjourned the meeting at 8:40 PM

Minutes submitted by Margaret M. Doran