

KIDS Committee Meeting
February 7, 2008
Douglas High School
6:30 p.m.

Minutes Approved
February 12, 2008

Members in Attendance:

Chair: Johnelle Prado
Vice Chair: Cheryl Blomstrom
Clerk: Gerene Sayre

Members:

Greg Felton
Linda Gilkerson
Lawrence Howell
Kevin Kjer
Carol Lark
Holly Luna
Thomas Moore
Jim Park
James Settlemeyer
Sherry Smokey
Gary Thurm
Jason Tollman
Cynthia Trigg

JNA Consulting, LLC: Marty Johnson
Jennifer Ripplinger

1. Approve Minutes of the January 17, 2008 Meeting – Johnelle Prado

Mrs. Prado asked if anyone desired to make changes to the Minutes of the last meeting. No changes were made. Ms. Blomstrom moved to approve the Minutes of January 17, 2008, seconded by Mrs. Sayre. The motion was carried unanimously.

2. Committee Finalizes List of Projects and Project Priority

Project lists, as revised from the previous meeting, were reviewed and noted to be grouped by categories previously determined, although not by priority within each category. Therefore, health and safety concerns were at the top of Tier 1, but the sequence of projects within categories had not been determined. Consensus was reached concerning grouping with categories. It was decided that flexibility should remain in order that District personnel could determine final needs, as appropriate, in the future. Decisions were made to change a minimal amount of items within the lists and consequently were recorded on posters.

Discussion ensued as to the affect of inflation on pricing. Mrs. Luna informed the Committee that her cost analysis was projected out without inflation taken into consideration, noting some projects might come in higher and some lower, in the end. Committee members agreed that involvement of a contractor to verify accuracy, was essential.

Marty Johnson of JNA Consulting, LLC reviewed capital funding options to assist the Committee in determining a favorable funding route for their bond recommendation.

Consensus was reached that a rollover bond would be the best approach and would offer a way to borrow less than the Capital Projects Tax, or Pay As You Go. Mr. Johnson stated this was a good selling point when addressing the community. The traditional bond was reported to work best during a period of growth and expansion. A recommendation was made to reference the bond as a continuation bond, rather than a rollover bond, for the best representation.

3. Address Any Questions From Previous Meeting

ESCO projects were discussed, due to some conjecture at the previous KIDS Committee Meeting. The Committee determined that ESCO projects would remain on the list due to the scope of those projects being determined as necessary improvements, regardless of the type of financing that ultimately paid for them. Should ESCO projects be taken care of, projects further down on the project list, as created by the Committee, would be moved upward and completed sooner. This approach was stated as an advantage when approaching the public for money. It would be a proactive method for funding projects implemented first through the ESCO, and the request for additional tax revenues, last.

4. Formalize a Final Recommendation to be presented to the Douglas County School District Board of Trustees

Upon approval of the Board, next steps to be taken by the Committee were discussed. It was understood that the Committee structure would need to change, as well as, the focus. The following next steps were suggested:

- 1) Rules of the Committee would need to be determined.
- 2) The power and authority would be assumed by community members on the KIDS Committee.
- 3) A poll of the community, such as done by the previous KIDS Committee, would be developed to gather information for analysis that would help decide the best approach for addressing the community.
- 4) Canvassing would be necessary to implement a grass roots movement.
- 5) Fundraising would need to occur separate from any District involvement.

Mr. Johnson reported on the process of arriving at ballot information and submission of such to the County. If approved by the School Board, a ballot

question would be submitted to the County Clerk in May or June. This would initiate the County to solicit committees that would write arguments for and against the question. The Debt Management Commission would be informed in August of intentions regarding bond funding. Following approval through the election process, the Board would then adopt a bond resolution, and a bond would be issued within a few weeks. Mr. Johnson stated an example of a ballot question as, "Shall the Board of Trustees be entitled to fund capital projects within the existing tax rate?" The sample ballot would state an estimated tax rate of between 0 to .10 and the fact that the District anticipates this would not increase taxes.

Ms. Jensen gave suggestions for the recommendation to the Board, such as, "The KIDS Committee recommends that a Committee be formed to research and do analysis to go forward." Another idea was to ask the Board for continuation of the Committee to increase the scope of duties, including figuring out how the community feels, and state the Committee's intent would be to go into the community and sell the idea of obtaining bonds for the School District.

Mr. Johnson stated he would be giving the same presentation that he gave this evening, to the Board at the upcoming meeting, Tuesday, February 12th. The time on the agenda for the KIDS Committee recommendation was noted to be 6:05 p.m.

5. Public Comment

There were no members of the public present and no public comment was heard.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Submitted by:

Carolyn Moore
Secretary to the Superintendent and
Board of Trustees

Approved:

Clerk of the Board

Note: Upon approval in a public meeting, these minutes become the official minutes of the meeting held on the above date. Board minutes are kept on a permanent basis and are available for public review in the office of the Superintendent.