

**Hanover Public School District**

**Act 34 Public Hearing**

**Hanover Street Elementary**

**April 15, 2010**

Call to Order 8:04 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Mr. Engle, Mrs. Funk, Mrs. Lingg, Dr. O'Connor, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Watson

Members Absent: Mr. Bortner, Mr. Edwards

Others in Attendance: Amy Ehrhart, Katie Fry, Rick Fry, Doug West, Jane West, Troy Wentz, Dr. Tom Krout, Rick Musselman, Dr. Al Moyer, Mark Hershner, Heather Faulhefer, Evening Sun, Jim Baumgardner

Dr. Moyer Welcome and Purpose of the Meeting

Dr. Moyer introduced all in attendance. The Plan Con process was explained and the importance of the public comment section of the meeting. A Facility Study is available along with the Act 34 booklet for the project. The District is striving for Educational Equity among the elementary schools.

Mr. Baumgardner Overview of the Project.

Two Options were examined as outlined in the Act 34 booklet with Plan #1 being chosen. Eagle Avenue is to be changed to a boulevard and deeded to the Borough Of Hanover. The main lobby of the school will be in the back of the building. In the classrooms the carpet will be removed. The same educational spec as Washington will be followed. Full time Kindergarten generates a need for additional classrooms. On the North side of the building three classrooms will be built on the first floor and 3 additional classrooms on the second floor, creating a two-story tower. The first floor is to be utilized for Kindergarten. An attempt will be made to vacate the interior homeroom classrooms and use those rooms for special rooms. An elevator installation to serve the basement (storage area) and the second floor will be constructed. The kitchen design and multi purpose room, to help alleviate some of the satellite cooking, will be duplicated similar to Clearview Elementary kitchen with the exception of an additional convection steam unit and second reach in freezer. Handicap accessible bathrooms will be created. The outside concrete will be re-painted a beige color. The building will be more environmentally friendly with no carpets. The strategy of the construction will be the new classrooms with occupancy and then renovation of 3 rooms at a time in the interior. A new roof will be done. The 2.8 acre property will cause a challenge. The existing multi purpose room

will be torn down to the floor and the new cafeteria and multi purpose room will be rebuilt.

Troy Wentz presented the cost analysis of the project.

The bond issue was taken out in May of 2005. The bond was a variable interest rate bond that is saving the District on interest due to the current low rates. No current millage impact for 2010-2011 is anticipated. Total project costs and reimbursements from the state were highlighted per the Act 34 booklet.

Mark Hershner presented the Educational and Programmatic Summary of the project. The project will enhance security with a hope that the school will be the hub of the neighborhood with use of the building. The current structure was built in 1973 and the lighting and original carpet are current challenges. A secure entranceway with a main entrance will be created along with the drop off zone. Currently leaks in the basement are issues. The current windows do not allow for natural light in the interior of the building. The HVAC roof units are failing and there is no current ventilation with the lack of windows. The electrical wattage will be increased for computer use and wireless potential. Currently the lunch food is satellite cooking and the new kitchen will allow for more on site preparation. The building will become ADA compliant with new elevator to compensate for this including ADA compliant bathrooms. The number of classrooms will increase with increased Kindergarten registration numbers and the potential for Full Day Kindergarten and currently some students are placed in other elementaries to accommodate the numbers. Small group instruction rooms, including English as a Second Language (ESL), guidance and the current need for adequate facilities. The specials of art and music will be improved with dedicated rooms. Large functions currently create parking problems and the gym is not large enough to hold people for large functions and special nights. Homeroom classrooms have a need for storage areas.

Dr. Moyer commented on the involvement of the staff in the input and design of the project. For the Elementary projects the principals collaborated on the two building designs to achieve equity of programs.

Public Comment is an important part of the project and the notes will be included in the Department of Ed documentation.

Amy Erhart, 258 Meade Avenue, Hanover commented that the renovations are long overdue and that the PTO is excited for renovations and the opportunity for learning environment and she offered a thank you for the projects.

Jane West, 205 S. Forney Avenue, Hanover commented about the use of wood versus rubber for the playgrounds base. Rick Musselman indicated that rubber was disliked in a previous area because of making the children dirty. Jane West indicated that the new material does not cause this. Jim Baugardner indicated that the material to be utilized is natural with no dyes.

Amy Erhart questioned if the students are dropped off at the back of the building, is the rest of the building secure and how will groups of children be handled entering the building for security purposes. Mark Hershner indicated that the building entrance would be open for large groups entering the building.

Rick Fry, 308 E. Walnut Street, Hanover questioned why the elevator is back a hall way on the first floor. Jim Baumgardner indicated it needed to be at the edge of the basement and that the elevator would be locked with key access only for handicap purposes. Due to space demands the elevator was located at this location. With the large lobby created there was an attempt to minimize another large open area.

Katie Fry, 308 E. Walnut Street, Hanover asked about the timeline of the project. Dr. Moyer indicated that 30 days is needed for written public comment and then Plan Con D would be completed, which this is already started, and then the project would be bid, after PDE approval, and that the feeling is that the bids would be favorable due to the economy. Jim Baumgardner indicated that asbestos removal would occur in the summer and that this is limited to a small amount in the flooring. Jim also indicated the small amount of acreage is a challenge. The multi purpose room and cafeteria would be a project for the summer of 2011. The current classrooms have movable partitions. The 6 classrooms would be built first. The site, utility and parking lot and administration area during construction would cause the front entrance to be utilized, which will create a drop off in the front, which will be challenging. The contractors awarded the bid will have some say in the timing of the project.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:53 PM.