

Parking Lot Questions & Comments and Input on LRFMP Options

Smithville ISD Community Facility Committee Meeting #4

June 14, 2016 / Brown Primary Campus

General Parking Lot Comments/Questions

Q: Why is the football stadium included in both plans? What would we do with the existing stadium?

A: Based on input from the District's stakeholders and administrators, as well as the prioritization activity conducted during Community Facility Committee Meeting #3, the construction of a new athletic complex to support track & field, football, soccer, band, and other academic events was a high priority and therefore was included in both options. The existing stadium and track would remain in place for district and community use.

Q: Is there a possibility of creating a (grades) 6-8 junior high building?

A: The District and the design team have evaluated this option, and determined that adding another grade level to the proposed new Junior High would add approximately \$3 million to the cost. Based on the comments and questions received from the Committee and during the June 20 meeting of the SISD Board of Trustees, the new Long Range Facilities Master Plan Options have been revised to create a new campus for Grades 6-8. The cost estimates for renovations to Main Campus were also revised to reflect the removal of the 6th grade from that campus. The cost reduction is not significant because renovations for that campus would still be needed to support the other grades and to meet District goals for enhancing the learning environment, providing a more safe and secure campus, removing portables, and improving ADA accessibility.

Comment: I think we may have more success if we separate the additional facilities into two propositions. No matter which option!

Bengal Option - Comments/Questions

- Do not like this because of accountability issues.
- Accountability issue is very concerning with Bengal option.
 - Under the current accountability system, Smithville Junior High earned a 2015 Index 2 score of 37, which is above the state's target score of 28 for the 2015-16 school year. If Smithville Junior High had only served Grades 7 and 8, the school would have earned an Index 2 score of 43 this year. However, the progress measure in Index 2 of the state accountability system will completely change in 2017-18 as the state transitions into the new A-F ratings. The A-F rating as described in HB 2804 is a very different growth progress measure than what is currently used in the STAAR progress measure. SISD will continue to monitor the state accountability system changes to measure the effects on the schools/campuses over the next three years.
- Would 1-6 campus be under 1 admin team in Bengal option?
 - Yes, there would be one campus administrative team. The District will continue to monitor the makeup of the campus administrative team based on student/program needs, final location(s) and proximity of buildings, grade assignments, and student enrollment.

- I do **not** like the Main Campus being 1 campus with 1-6th grade in the Bengal option.
- Both plans show \$10.2 million for Main Campus. Bengal does not show the 29,000 sf addition to current junior high. Where does that \$\$ go?
 - The \$10.2 million allocated for the Main Campus in both options provides for renovations and improvements to modernize and upgrade learning environments; provide ADA improvements; add a new interior corridor; a new secure entry; and other enhancements that will support the lower grades, regardless of whether Grades 7-8 remain on the campus. In the Siberian Option, there is a separate Junior High Addition with an estimated cost of \$8.9 million to provide for the expansion and additional renovations to support Grades 7-8 on the Main Campus.
- For Bengal Option—could locker rooms be incorporated into the new junior high gym and located near the new football field so that they could serve dual purpose and so that cost of football locker room is reduced?
 - In the Bengal Option, the new Junior High that would be built at the High School campus currently includes typical PE/athletics locker rooms to support junior high activities. It would be possible to share those locker rooms with the stadium, but the high school athletes would still have to walk a similar distance between the stadium to use those facilities as they would to walk to the high school (and would have to coordinate to use when not in use by junior high students). Adding locker rooms or meeting rooms to the junior high for use by high school athletes would have the same cost increase already presented for adding these spaces to the stadium.
- Do both plans include another high school practice gym?
 - Neither option includes a second gymnasium at the high school. There has been some discussion that if a new Junior High building is constructed on the High School campus, the Junior High gym could be used by high school students when not in use by the junior high school.
- Remove athletics on Bengal Option—make a proposition.
- I like the Bengal Option because of the grade level arrangement and moving the Jr. High. Also like the new football field.

Siberian Option - Comments/Questions

- I like arrangement of grades on Siberian—make additional facilities propositions--separate stadium and PAC.
- What is the projected cost of a PAC without the art gallery and a black box at 1,000 seats? (Please have a number to include as an option during voting on June 28.)
 - A PAC with 1,000 seats and no black box theater would cost approximately \$8.8 million. The art gallery was planned as part of the pre-function lobby and circulation space, so does not actually add to the total square footage (or cost) of the project.

- Siberian option but with 1,000 seat PAC.
- 1,000 seat PAC would be enough.
 - An option to keep the black box in the PAC, but reduce the number of seats to 1,000, would be approximately \$10.8 million.
- In Siberian Option, would it be possible to add a new band hall to the PAC and convert the existing band hall to an additional gym?
 - No – the existing band hall is approximately 60' x 70' and would not provide the space needed for a regulation basketball court of 50' x 84', safety runoffs, and seating capacity.
- I think *if* we separate things on a ballot, the stadium **and** the PAC should be listed separately.
- I really like the grade division plan for the Siberian Option. I like that there are still 2 campuses.
- Need a third option: PAC and junior high campus, no football field.
 - The athletic facility was included in both options based on the input from the Committee as well as District staff and administration. Removing the athletic facility from the Bengal option (which includes the new junior high campus) and adding the new PAC would result in a total cost of \$45.4 million.
- Best option: Siberian with 1,000 seat PAC with saving # 8 and 9 (Tiger Academy and Admin) for later budgetary costs –approx. \$41M.
- Don't like that you are choosing between a new school and PAC.