

## Stow-Munroe Falls City Schools Facilities Master Plan Committee Meeting

Meeting #: 3

Date: 3/5/2020

Time: 6:00pm



### Welcome, Recap of Last Meeting, Meeting Overview – Tom Bratten, Superintendent / Rob Gress, Director of Operations

- At last meeting, we reviewed data for Echo Hills & Fishcreek Elementary Schools including facility data handouts, principal perspective and facility condition & assessment
- Everyone was asked to write down one word that describes your vision for the future of the school facilities and District. Based on this input, a 'wordle' graphic was developed and shared with the committee. This will be used throughout the planning process moving forward along with the theme 'Our Community. Our Future.'

### Highland Elementary School Overview – Meghan Graziano, Principal

- Meghan grew up in Stow, went kindergarten at Highland, graduated from Stow HS
  - Spent 27 years in the District; last 17 years serving as principal of Highland
- Highland Elementary School opened in 1931 as a public works project.
  - It serves as an iconic building in the District
  - School is in its 80<sup>th</sup> year of educating students
- Challenges in the school:
  - Space
    - Current instructional practices include small/large group and individual lessons and areas for collaboration; limited on current space to offer these different practices
    - Setup of classrooms are dictated by where electrical outlets are located in the room
    - Many more instructional materials are stored within the classrooms
  - Storage
    - Lockers are located within classroom. They are original – jam frequently and don't always open
  - Narrow width of hallways
  - Building is not ADA accessible
    - Impacts both students and parents
      - Handicap parents are unable to attend parent/teacher conferences and see classrooms located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor
      - Experience limitations in parking area and with access to the building
  - Restrooms
    - Old and include original fixtures as well as floor mounted urinals
  - HVAC
    - Older systems and loud noises cause distractions with students
- Successes with the school
  - School has a historical factor; serves as a neighborhood school
  - Building offers great natural light
  - There are screens on windows which allow for fresh air

- Playground provides various options for students along with different surfaces to play
  - There is a pavilion which offers shade
- Large library space
  - Sufficient space for tables
  - PTA fundraised for 3 years to renovate the area to include new paint and carpet and an updated collection
- AC units
  - Keeps students more focused and prevents long lines at the water fountain during summers months which allows for more instructional time
- School is centrally located, close to emergency services
- Staff is phenomenal

### **Highland Elementary School Assessment – Cheryl Fisher, TDA**

- Refer to the District website under the Facilities Planning tab to view the Facility Data Summary Sheet, Assessment Summary Page and Presentation which includes images of the condition of the building
- Costs reflect if the District were to renovate according to the state standards.
  - Renovation vs rebuild percentage is 87%
  - A building becomes a new construction candidate if costs to renovate exceed 66%
- Highland is 34,960 SF and enrollment is 320 students
  - 43,750 SF is the smallest school the OFCC will co-fund for a minimum of 350 students
- Classroom sizes are small at approximately 665 SF; State standards for classrooms are 900 SF
- No elevator in the building and other ADA accessibility and compliance issues
- Cafeteria is shared with gymnasium
- Stage has been converted into an art & music room

### **Indian Trail Elementary School Overview – Linda Laubach, Teacher**

- Has lived in Stow for 24 years; serves as a teacher at Indian ES for 14 years
- Successes
  - Celebrated 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year
  - Added new lobby to increase safety
  - Added technology to support education
  - New carpet installed in all classrooms
  - New kitchen equipment added
  - AC
  - New playground equipment
  - Nice big field for the kids to play in back of the school
  - Pavilion with shade
  - No bat sightings this year
- Cons
  - Lack of parking and designated loading area; impacts traffic flow
  - School needs roof repairs - frequent leaks
  - Parking lot has been resealed every year but needs to be resurfaced
  - 3 classrooms are used for Pre-School

- For art and music, classes are held on the stage and require stairs to access, not accessible for all students
- Media center half used for library and the other half is used for tech/counseling classrooms or 2-3 small group classrooms
  - Setup includes temporary walls which do not prohibit sound from traveling to each area
- Space is being used throughout all areas of the building including hallways for occupational therapy and physical therapy
- Climate control can sometimes be an issue; temperature varies in different classrooms
- Some classrooms don't have windows

### **Indian Trail Elementary School Assessment – Cheryl Fisher, TDA**

- Refer to the District website under the Facilities Planning tab to view the Facility Data Summary Sheet, Assessment Summary Page and Presentation which includes images of the condition of the building
- Costs reflect if the District were to renovate according to the state standards.
  - Renovation vs rebuild percentage is 81%
  - A building becomes a new construction candidate if costs to renovate exceed 66%
- Indian Trail is a small, compact school at 41,977 SF and has 440 students including Pre-School (classes offered in morning and afternoon)
  - Note: 43,750 SF is the smallest school OFCC will co-fund for 350 students
- There is only 95 SF per student compared to average of 125 SF for ES
- Traffic flow issues
  - Thorndale used to go to 91 but does not anymore; people park along entrance which causes congestion
- Lack of natural light in interior classrooms
- Partition walls are almost original and provide poor sound attenuation
- There is \$751,000 in roof replacement needs
- Walls have been reinforced; cracks are being monitored and are not a safety hazard
- Media center is oversized for current enrollments
- Cafeteria is shared with the gymnasium
- No ADA accessibility to stage/CR
- Preschool classrooms are very undersized
  - Pre-Kindergarten Rooms are designed with “stations”, which require more space.
  - Classrooms are used all day – morning and afternoon classes
  - Preschool and Kindergarten requires a bathroom per OSDM
  - Currently Preschool classrooms are 887 SF; OSDM recommendation is 1200 SF
    - Calculation includes storage within classroom; Restroom is typically an additional 60 SF
    - **Calculate it both ways – OFCC standards / number of kids that would be in there for any time; ask why calculation is the way it is**
    - **Enter enrollment despite if full/half time**
  - 900 SF for other classrooms
    - Includes interior storage located within room
- Kitchens are not reflected in images for these schools but were in some others

- On the site plan provided, portions of the baseball diamond are included within the property boundary
  - This information was pulled from the county auditors' website - GIS

### Summary

- Both Highland and Indian Trail Elementary Schools are undersized in terms of gross square footage as well as the individual square footages of classrooms and common spaces.
- Both schools lack spaces that are common and necessary in modern school design such as separate cafeteria and gymnasiums, adequate storage, and break-out spaces.
- Both schools require replacement of most major infrastructure systems such as HVAC and electrical due to age and in order to meet OSDM Design Manual Standards
- Both center around traffic flow issues

### Q&A

- Is the OFCC replacement cost equivalent to the square footage of the current buildings?
  - Yes, the cost refers to building the same square footage
  - 43,750 SF is the smallest school OFCC will co-fund for 350 students
- Some sites have limited greenspace. Are there other options available?
  - For Elementary Schools, the state recommends a minimum of 10 acres plus one acre per 100 students.
  - You can reduce acreage by building up (multiple stories) or out. The committee can consider both options during master planning in upcoming meetings.

### Next Meeting

- **April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00-7:30 pm; Location - NEOnet**
- Focus will be on Riverview and Lakeview Elementary Schools
- Handouts will be emailed to committee members prior to the meeting to allow time for review
- All documentation and meeting minutes are available on the District webpage under 'Facilities Planning'