

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 30, 2010
E. C. ADAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL

IN ATTENDANCE:

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS: William Bloss, Mary Beeman, Keith Bishop, John Ireland, Alan Meyers, Chris Moore, Sue Renner and Ted Zuse.

BOARD OF EDUCATION STAFF: Thomas Forcella, Andrew Potochney, Catherine Walker, Cliff Gurnham and Linda Trudeau

BOARD OF FINANCE MEMBER: Lou Federici

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEMBER: Gary MacElhiney

Mr. Bloss called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Mr. Bloss stated that Dr. Forcella was requested to provide alternatives for the High School to the Board. Mr. Bloss added that there are two goals. One goal is to try to make things better and the second goal is to try not to make things worse.

Dr. Forcella stated that he has had discussions regarding the High School with the firms that had submitted RFP's for the schematic design and with the taxpayer's group. Dr. Forcella reviewed his Proposed Plan of Action. Dr. Forcella suggestion is to meet with the four architectural firms who were the finalists from the schematic design as well as construction-related firms who might offer creative input.

Dr. Meyers stated that he was concerned that we are re-inventing the wheel. Dr. Forcella noted that the plan is to not go backwards but to look for alternatives that were not discussed before. Mrs. Dudley stated that she was in agreement of Dr. Forcella's suggestion to meet with the four firms. Mr. Zuse stated that he shared the concern about starting over and that he felt the Board should discuss issues to be addressed first. Mrs. Renner also agreed with Dr. Forcella's suggestion to meet with the four firms.

Mr. Ireland suggested that the needs assessment that was completed by Fletcher-Thompson be updated for current costs. Mr. Bishop noted that it is important to have a master plan. Mr. Beeman stated that she was concerned that doing anything in phases would be disruptive to the students.

Mr. Bloss stated that doing things in a piece-meal approach could land us right where we are now. The addition to the High School that was done in the 1970's is the biggest

problem because there wasn't any thought to what would be done to the building next when the addition was done.

Dr. Meyers stated that he was behind Dr. Forcella's plan but a time limit should be set to get this phase completed. Dr. Moore stated that he thinks that money should be spent to have this completed. Dr. Forcella asked the Board who should have these discussions.

Dr. Moore asked if the NEASC report will include anything regarding the High School facility. Dr. Forcella stated that it will but it is not detailed and the report will not be received until next year.

Mr. MacElhiney suggested the Board review the cost of doing nothing. He added that if The Board does this right there will be costs that will be saved.

Mr. Federici suggested that the costs of current annual maintenance should be calculated to show what the savings will be.

Dr. Forcella stated that he will look at dates and get back to the Board.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Ireland and seconded by Mrs. Dudley the board adjourn to executive session at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Trudeau