

**Strategic Planning Committee Meeting**  
**Building Plan Committee**  
**Thursday, March 22, 2018, 5:30 PM**

**Joint Committee Meeting: Communications and Building Plan Committees**

**Communications and Building Plan Committee Members:** Suzanne Cybulla, Kirk Grzelka, Craig Headlee, Brad Robbins, Chris Ming, Tina Thrift, Jamey Westrick, Jason Stier, Andy Scheel, Kim Henry, Paul Dimmer, Jessica McDonald, Cynthia Jarsma, Jason Perrin, Laura Distelrath, Karen Cedar, Terri Malane, Bert VanDyke, Michelle Davis, Alicia Young, Michael Malane, Danielle, O’Grady, Riley Alley, Pay Biebuyck, Suzanne Cybulla, Dawn Demick, Sandy Headlee, Lisa Glasgow, Ron Miller, Kelly Robbins, Deb Roshak, Dave Scheel, Phil Russell

- Welcome:
  - Suzanne welcomed the group(s)
  - This is a combined meeting of the communications and building plan committees
  
- Information Dissemination/Discussion:
  - Suzanne went over handout: Latest Enrollment Count, noting the numbers for graduating seniors and incoming kindergartners and that each year we are getting smaller
  - In the coming years (6) due to declining enrollment, we will need to make 5 million dollars in adjustments
  - Good decisions have been made over the years, but there isn’t much left to be cut
  - There are some positives coming from Lansing
  - ECSD is operating 13 active buildings and we need to look at how to right size based on declining enrollment
  
- Presentation
  - Danielle O’Grady presented information on “Modern Learning” and provided some school districts and buildings case studies of modern learning environments.
    - 1. The skills that we are trying to foster in today’s students have drastically changed in recent years and the world we are trying to prepare them for is quite different than the past.
    - 2. Modern Learning Environments are intended to help support specific activities which teach these skills...collaboration, communication, creativity, critical thinking.
    - 3. Technology is a driving force in the evolution of instruction, curriculum and content
    - 4. Teachers everywhere are adapting their instructional styles to address these modern needs...often time unsupported by sufficient resources or environments
    - 5. While there is no one size fits all solution, there are some commonalities among these modern learning environments
      - a. Flexibility
      - b. Agility

- c. Space
  - d. Movement
  - e. Integration of Digital and Analog technologies
  - f. Transparency
  - g. Natural Light
  - h. Etc.
- 6. These Modern Learning environments can be realized through either new construction and/or renovation projects
- 7. These environments and furnishings are just tools to support...curriculum and instruction and professional development must lead the way
- 8. When shaping a vision for the future of our facilities, it's important to explore what else is out there...other districts/schools who are experiencing these same challenges are often more than willing to share/advise in how they're getting through.
- Modern Learning is... (just some of the descriptors)
  - Student directed learning
  - Project based learning
  - Blended learning
  - Active learning
  - Collaborative learning
  - Cross disciplinary learning
  - Early learning
    - Fostering Needs through design
  - Collaboration
  - Open areas
  - Learning streets - learning happens anywhere, on their own time
  - Stem/steam/maker
  - PLC's
  - And more
- Questions/comments/thoughts from the presentation:
  - Questions/comments on Port Huron Schools new Early Childhood Center
  - Early Child is a hot topic today - there is a need
  - Does the curriculum match your environment - what vs how your teaching
  - PLTW: Noted that a teacher at MCHS has to teach out of two rooms due to the setup needed for the PLTW program...typical classroom is not sufficient/adequate
  - Physics is being taught in the hallway...and packed up in between classes
  - Teachers are trying but are being tethered due to space
  - Flexible learning - is it a safety issue if students leave the building
  - "Enticing" the kids to stay - coffee shops, snack shops, etc.
  - Is there evidence with schools like Bloomfield that these new open spaces are working
  - MTSS - for intervention - where do we take students if intervention is needed

- Suzanne showed video of Bloomfield Hills new high school and how it came into existence
  - Suzanne talked about her experience at Walled Lake with their new high school
- Suzanne opened it up to the group for Open Discussion/Sharing:
  - What did the group like:
    - Open spaces, early childhood, seems like lots of corporations are going this way
    - Suzanne talked about PLTW and collaboration
    - Clean, uncluttered spaces
    - New learning classroom spaces
    - Lack of natural light in our current buildings
    - Lighting... new led lighting was discussed
    - Has anyone been on a college campus to see what students encounter
    - We are in a necessary opportunity - we are in an exciting spot right now
    - Liked open spaces, bright colors, high ceilings, modern looking
  - What was scary:
    - Community buy-in
    - A lot of options
    - Challenge to get things right
    - Challenge to sell/what to do with current buildings
    - People looked at the last bond and said.... this is frivolous, that is frivolous
    - Important to craft a vision and stay with it
    - Important note to point out: Making this change is going to cost us operationally less....
  - Pat asked if there has been a discussion on current number of buildings. Suzanne said at the communications committee did talk about it and shared briefly with the group regarding centralized secondary buildings with counseling centers.
  - There was continued discussion on possible uses of existing buildings
  - Suzanne talked about being thoughtful and have a plan for any changes.
  - Another trend is consolidating admin as part of one of the buildings.
  - Mention was made by a committee member from the group that there is a positive in a renewable energy design.
  - Mention was made by a committee member from the group of community center opportunities - where the older population of our community could take classes
- Meeting Adjourned: 7:05pm