

Building Expansion Minutes
Wednesday, October 22, 2007
6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Jeff and Myrna Wagner, Shelly Serrano, Mindy Albrecht, Gary Ihnen, Jay Joersz, Wendy Roder, Anna Van Gorp, Keri Statema, Tony Haning, Kecia Hickman, Marv Van Riesen, Beth Bunkers, Kathy DeGroot, Sue Zehnder, Amanda Buse, Jeri Godbersen, Diane Schnider, Mark and Melinda Van Beek, Krissa Jacobsma, Jenni McCrory, Robin Spears, and Jim Ruble.

Mrs. McCrory went over some key points that need to be addressed in the building expansion.

Mr. Spears reported the trend line is down for enrollment. However, we have not yet gone under 1000 students which was projected for our District.

Other items discussed:

- We are having too big of time span between meetings.
- About every 3-4 years we have low numbers. This probably isn't the trend.
- The numbers are still in the 90's in the high school.
- The needs are still here so they still need to be addressed and met.
- This is an intimidating group. How can we overcome it?
- Achievement – How does that come into play for a building project?
- NCLB and Special Education continue moving forward and we need to meet the needs of all students.
- We shouldn't use enrollment as the issue of whether or not we need to expand the building.

Gym – What is the purpose of the gym with seating for 400 people? There are lots of questions about why a gym is needed.

-It was discussed that this gym would serve many functions, the first being a gym for students of East Elementary. It would also help with high school basketball practices so students would not have to practice at 6:00 in the morning. It will also be used for games. It needs to sit 400 so East Elementary students can use the gym for assemblies. Right now they sit on the floor in the multipurpose room.

We discussed how we need to educate people about the building project. A good way to reach parents is through the BRIDGE. Mrs. McCrory will type up an information letter and send home with the BRIDGE.

Other Discussion about the project:

- Is it appropriate to have the students go down stairs everyday to get to the gym?
- Is there a way we can use the front of the building for the new addition since the circle drive continues to be a problem?
- Fluorescent lights would be good for special needs students.
- Parking – how will we meet this need?

Next Meeting set for November 19, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.