

BOARD WORK SESSION

February 7, 2024

A board work session of the School Board of Independent School District No. 518, Worthington, Minnesota, was held at the School District Office, at 1117 Marine Ave., Worthington, Minnesota on February 7, 2024.

The following were present: BOARD MEMBERS – Adam Blume, Steve Schnieder, Lori Dudley, Joel Lorenz, Tom Prins, Erin Schutte, Matt Widboom

ADMINISTRATORS – John Landgaard, Superintendent, Dave Skog, Director of Operations, Josh Noble, Director of Instruction

Motion by Member Blume, seconded by Member Widboom and unanimously passed to approve the agenda for the February 7, 2024, School Board Work Session.

Mr. Landgaard presented the High School staff survey data on the High School facility spacing needs. He indicated that there was a 75% participation rate in the survey and the findings confirmed the deficiencies that were identified early on with the space shortage, poor layouts and a need for reconfiguration of the building.

Pat Overom and Chris Ziemer from ICS presented information on additions and reconfiguration of the High School facility and the different cost estimates for each. The information included was increasing classrooms from 8 to 10, moving administration to the front of the building, moving the vestibule for security purposes, renovation of the kitchen and student dining area and the reconfiguring of the science and FACS labs. They also provided the bond referendum timeline and cost escalations if waiting. Mr. Landgaard indicated that based on the enrollment study, this is a 10-year or more solution to the spacing problem.

Also discussed were funding sources and amounts for the High School addition, new ice arena and artificial turf at the Middle School football field. Mr. Landgaard presented the different funding sources and amounts. He indicated that the board could use \$1 million of the long-term facility maintenance dollars, \$17.5 million of the assigned fund balance, \$500,000 out of the food service fund, \$4 million out of the unassigned fund balance or hold a bond referendum or use lease levy as an option.

In conclusion Mr. Landgaard stated that after the boards discussion, he felt that the consensus was to prioritize the High School addition first and the new ice arena venue second and the projects at the Middle School and West property as secondary. He indicated that he would work on different scenarios and tax impacts for each and will provide the board with this information.

Work session adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Steve Schnieder, Clerk

Lisa Ahrenstorff, Deputy Clerk