

Next Task Force Meeting Date is May 2, 2018

April 19, 2018 at 11:01 am

Task Force members:

Thank you again for your good work last week on April 12. A great deal of information shared, but I hope it provided you with a beginning foundation of the important work to be done. When we examined future meeting dates, a small group of us including administrators, board members, facilitators and a few staff members who plan to be involved in facilitating the upcoming meetings generated only a few dates. As a result, we are not going to ask you to complete a doodle poll. In order to make the necessary progress within the timeframe I presented at the first meeting, we would like to schedule our second meeting for Wednesday, May 2, beginning at 6:30 pm in the Secondary School cafeteria. We realize this is only two weeks away and understand if the short notice presents a scheduling conflict for you.

We are examining potential dates for meetings #3 and #4 and will communicate those to you soon.

Please respond to my administrative assistant, Sue Kulseth, if you are not able to make the May 2 meeting.

Thank you again for being part of this exciting and important work!

Dale

Wednesday, May 2, 2018 Task Force Meeting

April 30, 2018 at 3:42 pm

Task Force members:

We are looking forward to our second Facility Planning Task Force meeting to be held this Wednesday, May 2, beginning at 6:30 pm in the Secondary School cafeteria. The focus for the evening will be examining program areas identified by the Board of Education as priorities to address and the impact on facilities.

Be sure to bring your binder with you. Please contact Sue Kulseth at skulseth@nrheg.k12.mn.us or at 507-417-2600 if you are unable to join us or if you have questions.

Thank you.

Dale

May 30, 2018 Task Force Meeting

May 22, 2018 at 8:45 am

Task Force members:

Thank you for your involvement and engagement in the facility planning process. Our first two meetings have included a great deal of information including steps the Board of Education (BOE) has taken in

response to the unsuccessful June 2015 referendum. Specific programming and school safety information has been shared with you including:

- Facility Assessment Report Priorities
- School Security
- Elementary Art & Music
- Expanding preschool for all to include wrap-around daycare
- Secondary Special Education
- Secondary Career Technology Education Program
- STEM and STEAM Programming K-12
- Secondary Arts (Visual, Music, Theater)
- Collaborative/Personalized Learning
- Collaborative Work Spaces

We are preparing for meeting #3 on May 30 which will begin at 6:30 pm at the Elementary School in the Media Center. Planned items for review to start the evening include:

- Science Programming
- Fitness/Wellness Programming
- Lower Level Egress for Locker Rooms and Wrestling Room at Secondary School
- Respond to Parking Lot questions from first two meetings

We received great information on the Plus/Delta Feedback forms! There were multiple requests and questions about touring both school buildings. We believe this will be helpful for understanding the items being discussed. As a result, the remainder of the evening on May 30 will be to tour both buildings.

As stated above, the evening will begin at the Elementary School at 6:30 pm with a presentation on programming areas (Secondary science rooms and fitness areas) as well as information on the egress issues with our Secondary locker rooms. We will then tour the Elementary School followed by traveling to the Secondary School for a tour before ending the evening.

We are working on providing bus transportation beginning with picking-up at the Secondary School at 6:05 pm so that we arrive at the Elementary School by 6:20 pm in time to get seated and ready to go at 6:30 pm. We hope to conclude our time at the Elementary School no later than 7:55 pm and will then travel back to the Secondary School for a tour of the building. We will conclude by 9:00 pm. We will provide transportation back to the Elementary School at that time. So if your drive to the Elementary School is closer for you, know that you can leave your vehicle there and we will bring you back when we are done at the Secondary School. For those of you who would rather leave your vehicle at the Secondary School, you can ride the bus at 6:05 pm and we will bring you back when we are done at the Elementary School. If you would like to take advantage of the bus transportation, we would ask that you contact Sue Kulseth at 507-417-2600 or by replying to this email at skulseth@nrheg.k12.mn.us no later than **Friday, May 25**.

Due to dedicating a meeting to focus on building tours, we will need to add a meeting for the task force most likely in July. Meeting #4 is planned for **June 25** beginning at 6:30 pm at the Secondary School. The primary exercise for the June 25 meeting will be prioritization of the items reviewed and discussed.

We will be looking to wrap up the work of the Task Force with two more meetings following the June 25 prioritization.

For meeting #5 to be scheduled in July, the task force will be charged to assist in developing the community survey priority areas that will then be given to *School Perceptions* to finalize the survey. The final meeting #6 will be scheduled in the fall after we have the results from the survey. At this meeting, the Task Force will also develop a recommendation to be forwarded to the BOE.

We will see you on May 30! If for some reason you are unable to be with us, please let Sue know.

Thank you again for being part of this important work and for all you do to support NRHEG Public Schools!

Dale

Task Force Meeting 4 & 5

June 7, 2018 at 12:40 pm

Task Force members:

Thank you for your involvement and engagement in the facility planning process. Our first three meetings have included a great deal of programming, physical condition, and school safety information including:

- Facility Assessment Report Priorities
- School Security
- Elementary Art & Music
- Expanding preschool for all to include wrap-around daycare
- Secondary Special Education
- Secondary Career Technology Education Program
- STEM and STEAM Programming K-12 including Maker Space Area
- Secondary Arts (Visual, Music, Theater)
- Collaborative/Personalized Learning
- Collaborative Work Spaces
- Science Programming and Spaces
- Fitness/Wellness Programming and Spaces
- Lower Level Egress for Locker Rooms and Wrestling Room at Secondary School

We hope the building tours on May 30 were helpful to you. We did receive positive feedback with a common theme that it was beneficial to see in person the issues that have been described in our discussions. For those of you who were unable to make it, please don't hesitate to contact Doug Anderson, David Bunn, or me to set up a time for a tour.

As I had previously shared with you, **Meeting #4 is set for Monday, June 25, beginning at 6:30 pm at the Secondary School.** Please plan to attend this important meeting as the focus will be to begin making decisions in prioritizing what the Task Force believes is most important based on the information presented to you at the first three meetings.

Also, we have set **Monday, July 23 as the date for our Meeting #5.** We will meet at 6:30 pm in the Secondary School cafeteria with the focus for this meeting to be assisting with the development of the community survey priority areas that will then be given to *School Perceptions* to finalize the survey. The final meeting #6 will be scheduled in the fall after we have the results from the survey. At this meeting, the Task Force will also develop a recommendation to be forwarded to the Board of Education.

We will see you on June 25! If for some reason you are unable to be with us, please let Sue know.

Thank you again for being part of this important work and for all you do to support NRHEG Public Schools!

Date Change for Facility Planning Task Force Meeting #5

July 10, 2018 at 2:25 pm

Facility Planning Task Force Members:

Thank you for your good work on June 25 including the examination and ranking of the different "need" categories. Some, but not all of the feedback from the Plus/Delta as well as the Parking Lot included:

- good participation and discussion by members
 - Option "C" (new Performing Arts space) and renovation of existing gymnasium to include locker rooms was welcomed
 - Ranking was difficult, but necessary
 - Further explanation of some items (collaborative and personalized learning) would be helpful as it has been sometime since they were presented at the second meeting
 - The performing arts and gymnasium issue needs to be resolved, but some feel the gymnasium item has been added recently to our discussions and concerned based on outcome of last referendum
 - The wrestling room needs to be included in the performing arts / gym / locker room solution
 - Further description of what is included in "dehumidification" would be helpful
 - Need to know cost of option C
 - What is the communication plan to educate public?
 - Some in community may question the need for an "auditorium" if only used for concerts and plays
- We will work on responding to some of the feedback and questions leading up to our next meeting.

As I read the 7-5-18 Star Eagle article on the June 25 meeting, I believe the headline "Task Force favors new auditorium" was unfortunate. While a future decision regarding the performing arts space and gymnasium will need to be made, there have been many other needs and priorities that should "headline" your efforts up to this point. Messaging is important, and when I think about a vision and description of an "auditorium," it is not simply a large room with a stage that is only used for concerts and plays. It is an instructional space that is scheduled and used as a classroom each day. The same thing is true for a "gymnasium," in that a gym is used as an instructional space during each day and not just for wrestling, volleyball, and basketball competitions. Thank you for your attention to this difficult and somewhat controversial issue. I'm confident the Task Force will put forward a recommendation to the Board that will be in the best interest of students while thoughtfully considering the input from our communities.

DATE CHANGE FOR MEETING #5!

At the June 25 meeting, we had confirmed that meeting #5 would be held on Monday, July 23. However, after meeting yesterday with the representative from the survey firm, *School Perceptions*, we are going to reschedule meeting #5 for a later date on **Monday, August 13**. While the focus will still be on the development of a survey, it was determined that it would be a better use of the Task Force's time to be able to review and respond to a survey draft. Your work on June 25 provided enough information to identify the priority categories or "buckets" as referenced by *School Perceptions*. As a result, administration and our consultants from ISG will be using the information gathered from the Task Force to work with *School Perceptions* in the development of a draft to be presented to the Task Force on August 13. **The meeting will be held at the Secondary School in the cafeteria beginning at 6:30**

[pm](#). A representative from *School Perceptions* will be with us remotely. Please make plans to attend this important meeting as it will be the final opportunity to influence what is communicated with our communities via the survey.

Following the survey work on August 13, changes will be made prior to sharing a final survey draft with the Board at the August 20 School Board meeting. We hope to have the survey out to residents early September.

Meeting #6 will be scheduled for later September or early October once the survey results are ready to be examined. At the same meeting, the Task Force will craft a recommendation for the School Board's consideration.

Thank you for your commitment to this important process. Don't hesitate to contact me with questions.

Dale

Task Force Meeting August 13

July 20, 2018 at 10:33 am

Task Force members:

We have started to develop the Community Survey and will have a draft for your review for the August 13 meeting. Here is a tentative timeline involving the survey leading up to our final meeting #6.

August 13 - Task Force Meeting #5 to review survey draft

August 20 - Present revised survey draft to Board for review

August 29 - Send final version to print and mailing

Mid-September - Survey in homes

October 1 - Survey closes

October 10 - Task Force meeting #6 to review survey results and develop recommendation to Board of Education

October 15 - School Board reviews recommendation

As you see above, we have set [Wednesday, October 10](#), as the date for our final meeting. This date was chosen after considering *School Perceptions* time needed to finalize results, our District activity schedule, and the Board's timeline of reviewing the Task Force's recommendation at the October Board meeting.

Regarding meeting dates, I want to acknowledge Dan Sorum's July 11 e-mail to me that was copied to the group. I appreciated Dan asking the question about scheduling. I had the opportunity to communicate with Dan and shared with him that it has been a challenge to first identify and coordinate dates with our ISG consultants, administrative team and board member representatives so that most could attend as many of us have been responsible for planning and facilitating the meetings. Finding common dates for the seven or eight of us has been challenging. This was especially the case for meetings #3 (May 30) and #4 (June 25). In the end, there were not additional dates to send out a Doodle Poll to the entire group for you to select. For meeting # 5 and #6, we have also had to work around *School Perceptions* schedule.

I am grateful to all the members of the Task Force for your commitment to the process even if you have had to miss a meeting or two. Several of you who missed a meeting have contacted me to get your

handouts (most handouts are on the District website as well) and visit with me to get an idea what was discussed and decided. We knew going into this process that we would not have 100% attendance at every meeting which is okay.

Looking ahead to the August 13 meeting, we will make every attempt to share the survey draft electronically so that everyone can review and provide input. I am hoping you have put August 13 on your calendar and you will be able to make it as this is another key meeting.

The work of the Task Force has been exceptional and I look forward to your review of the survey on August 13.

As always, we appreciate knowing in advance if you are unable to make a meeting. Please let Sue Kulseth know if you will not be able to be with us on August 13.

Don't hesitate to contact me with questions.

Dale

Task Force Meeting #6 October 10 and Survey

August 30, 2018 at 9:48 am

Task Force members:

I've attached the final survey draft that went to the printer yesterday.

We are still on schedule for the survey to be out in homes by mid-September with a revised closing date of October 5. Sue Peterson from School Perceptions is planning to be with us in person on **Wednesday, October 10**, to share survey results. The October 10 meeting will be posted as a special School Board meeting as Board members will attend so that *School Perceptions* only has to present the results once. Once the survey presentation is completed, the Board may adjourn the "Board Meeting" portion of the evening and allow the Task Force to continue its work in developing a recommendation to the School Board.

We are planning for a short presentation and building tour at the Elementary School on Tuesday, September 18, followed with a presentation and tour at the Secondary School on September 20. Both begin at 6:30 pm in the Media Center of each school.

Task Force Meeting #6 October 10

October 2, 2018 at 7:06 pm

Task Force Members:

We are finalizing plans to hold our sixth and final Task Force meeting on **Wednesday, October 10, beginning at 6:30 pm in the Secondary School Cafeteria.** Sue Peterson from *School Perceptions* plans to be with us to report out on the results of the survey. The agenda for the evening will include Sue's report and then for the Task Force to craft a recommendation to be presented to the School Board at the October 15 School Board meeting. The October 10 meeting will be posted as a special School Board meeting as the Board members will be invited to attend to listen to Sue's presentation. When Sue is finished, the Board may adjourn their portion of the meeting to allow the Task Force to remain and work on the recommendation.

As of this afternoon, 365 surveys had been completed. I would encourage you to help with giving a final push in the completion of surveys this week as the survey closes at the end of the day on Friday, October 5. One suggestion would be to identify five people and reach out to them to make sure they have completed the survey. With the January 2016 survey, there were 515 respondents. Statistically, the magic (statistically significant) number to reach is 400 according to *School Perceptions* so we are a little low at this point. There are additional surveys available at each school office.

You are invited to attend the October 15 School Board meeting to be held in the Secondary School Media Center beginning at 6:30 pm. There will be a special public meeting beginning at 6:00 pm where staff will review progress made on our World's Best Workforce improvement plan, but this will be concluded by 6:30 pm.

Thank you.