School Board Committee: Capital Facilities

Date: August 18, 2010

Committee Members Present: Jack Dunn, Chair, Eric Williams, Clint Cogswell, Kevin Fleming

Other Board Member(s) Present: Jennifer Patterson

Administration: Chris Rath, Matt Cashman

Guest: Matt Walsh

Mr. Dunn called the meeting to order at 6:56 p.m. The agenda was to discuss and review a letter from the City with recommendations for the buildings that will become vacant after consolidation, and to hear an update of summer projects.

Mr. Matt Walsh was invited to review the five elementary schools affected by the consolidation. He indicated that Dame is an excellent site/building for a City community center. It was clearly stated that the City is very interested in Dame. Dewey was discussed as a temporary use for the Central Office until completion of the consolidation. The City feels that Dewey could be re-used as assisted living or market-priced condominiums. The City suggested that Rumford or Walker could provide a permanent home for the Central Office, with the potential for overflow if additional preschool space was needed. The other potential for these two buildings is a mixed-use scenario with residential and some commercial application. Eastman was discussed as potential residential property, or a property the School District could hold onto if additional space were needed in the future.

Discussion followed about the re-use of buildings, with the suggestion that separate task force groups be developed for individual schools. The membership of these groups could include school board members and administration, city administrators and council members, as well as representatives from the private sector. The committee directed the administration to work with the City to develop a timeline for the divesting of Dame, and develop a proposal for a task force to determine the future of the Dame building.

The second item on the agenda was the summer project update. Mr. Cashman showed pictures of the work accomplished over the summer, including the RMS HVAC renovation, school moves in preparation for the construction project, food service relocation at RMS, Central Office move to Dewey and several projects at the high school.

The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Dunn, Chair
Matt Cashman, Recorder