



PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 18, 2008
7:00 p.m.

Montessori Magnet School

PRESENT: William Barnette, President
Barbara Gaffuri, Secretary
Dr. Mark Barth
Judy Doesschate
Melissa Mackey
Wayne Morris

Dr. Eva Joseph
Linda Jackson-Chalmers
Bill Hogan

ABSENT: None

Call to Order:

- Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Members of the audience were welcomed and thanked for taking the time to attend the meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Tenured Administrators, Teachers and Teaching Assistants were recognized at a reception prior to the board meeting. Congratulations were extended to all.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Robert Reilly addressed the board relative to the renovations at TOAST and the reallocation of funds to complete the project, and the issues related to the utilization of the swing space for this school year.
2. Alex Streznewski addressed the board relative the issues related to the utilization of the swing space at Schuyler for TOAST and Arbor Hill for this school year.
3. April Bacon addressed the board relative to the renovations at TOAST and the reallocation of funds to complete the project.
4. Jen Pratico addressed the board relative to the renovations at TOAST and the reallocation of funds to complete the project.

ROUTINE CONSENT ITEMS

The following Routine Consent Items were presented for approval: Proceedings of Meetings (August 5, 2008, August 21, 2008 and September 2, 2008); Contracts (The Thomas Group, SUNY Albany, SUNY Albany, College of St. Rose); Grant Resolution (Albany Hudson River Legacy Project); and Charter School Resolution. Mr. Morris made a motion for approval. Ms. Doesschate seconded the motion. Ms. Doesschate asked that the proceedings of August 5, 2008 be set aside.

The board voted 6-0 to approve the motion absent the item set aside.

Motion passed

Proceedings of August 5, 2008 were presented for approval. Dr. Barth made a motion for approval. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Ms. Doesschate noted she was absent from the meeting of August 5th and would therefore be abstaining on the vote.

The board voted 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 abstention to approve the motion.

Ms. Doesschate abstained. Motion passed

FACILITIES PROJECT REPORT

Discussion Item Related to the Facilities Project

Thomas O'Brien Academy of Science & Technology (TOAST)

Dr. Joseph, along with Mr. Hogan, Mr. Armlin from Armlin, Damon & Associates and Mr. Corrigan of Pike Co. met with parents last evening relative to the renovation project currently under way at TOAST. Mr. Barnette noted the TOAST parents were given the opportunity to hear information related to the project. It was the consensus of the board that the meeting should take place. Mr. McMordie of Armlin, Damon Associates gave a very comprehensive presentation related to the asbestos abatement project and the findings of additional work that is required in order to go forward with the project. Mr. McMordie reviewed the renovations that included the roof replacement, site work improvements and the window and door replacement project that was halted due to the discovery of concealed asbestos in window heads and ceilings. The asbestos abatement project was broken down into Phase 1 and Phase 2. Phase 1 has been completed. In order to proceed with the renovation project work as planned, the district must undertake additional asbestos abatement. The scope of this work has been defined by the Department of Labor. Bids have been received, analyzed and are ready for award by the board. Phase 2 of the abatement must be completed before the planned renovation work inside the building and the planned door and window replacement work on the exterior can proceed.

Mr. McMordie advised there are not sufficient funds available in the TOAST project budget for this additional expense. However, evaluation of the realized and projected savings across each of the other projects contained in the overall \$204.24 million facilities plan show that sufficient funding resources are available to be reallocated to the TOAST project in order to complete this work and continue with the renovation as planned, which will allow students to re-occupy the building in September 2009. The renovation of the add-alternative of the auditorium, which would require going into the ceiling where asbestos has been found, has been eliminated from the project. The recommendation to the board this evening is to proceed with the project as planned with the exception of the auditorium and award the abatement contract prior to October 7, 2008; adopt a resolution to award the Phase 2 abatement contract and adopt a second resolution to reallocate budget funds. Mr. McMordie noted there would be no increase to the overall approved facilities plan budget. This option completes the TOAST renovation project as approved with the exception of the auditorium improvements and allows the building to be re-occupied for September 2009.

Mr. Morris made a motion to go forward with this project. Mr. Barnette seconded the motion. Mr. Armlin submitted the contracting component, which includes the rejection of one of the bids that was withdrawn and the acceptance of the lower bid. Mr. Armlin recommended that formal approval of the budget reallocation be scheduled for the October 7, 2008 meeting. Action on the motion to move forward this evening affords the facilities team to move forward very diligently with contractors waiting in abeyance and it helps attain a very challenging, but attainable

schedule for a September opening in 2009. Mr. Armlin advised the board to act on the withdrawal of the TOAST Asbestos Abatement bid and then proceed with approval to award the contract for this project. Mr. Morris withdrew the motion. The following resolution was presented for action:

BID WITHDRAWAL RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the City School District hereby authorizes the request for withdrawal of the following bid for the TOAST Asbestos Abatement (Project No. 01-01-00-01-0-024-006) on the recommendation of the Construction Manager, Architect and the Superintendent:

Contract

Contract No. 06 Abatement Environmental Remediation Services, Inc, (ERSI)
Mechanical, Inc.

Dr. Barth made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Morris seconded the motion.
The board voted 6-0 to approve the motion.
Motion passed.

Mr. Morris made a motion to approve the resolution to award the contract to proceed with the project. Mr. Barnette read the resolution as follows:

PROPOSED CONTRACT AWARD RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City School District of Albany received, accepted and opened bids for the TOAST Asbestos Abatement (Project No. 01-01-00-01-0-024-006) on September 4, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder on the contract is

<u>Contract</u>	<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Contract No. 6	Fibertech Environmental Services, Inc.	Base
\$1,295,000 Abatement Construction		
Alternate 1 Not Accepted		
	Alternate 2	\$27,300
	Total	\$ 1,322,300
	Total Bid Awarded	<u>\$1,322,300</u>

WHEREAS, the Director of Facilities Planning, Construction Manager and Architect have recommended award of the contracts to the above contractors.

THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the City School District of Albany hereby awards the above contract and authorizes Mr. William Barnette, Board President, to execute contracts between the District and the above contractor for the TOAST Asbestos Abatement (Project No. 01-01-00-01-0-024-006) on the recommendation of the Facilities Project Office and the Superintendent:

Be it further resolved that the school district administration, architect, construction manager and legal counsel are directed to draft and execute necessary documents to commence construction on the Project.

Mr. Barnette seconded the motion.

The board voted 6-0 to approve the motion.
Motion passed.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Middle School Enrollment

Dr. Joseph gave a comprehensive presentation on the Middle School Enrollment Redistribution process. Project goals include an approved enrollment plan for two middle schools, and establishes William S. Hackett Middle School and Stephen & Harriet Myers Middle School as the District's two middle schools by February 2009. The process includes (1) Establish and charge committee with task (ensure appropriate, broad and diverse representation); (2) Committee Charge (clarify goal, research, review best practice and models, develop options, provide opportunity for broad stakeholder feedback and make recommendations to the Superintendent and Board of Education for consideration and approval); followed by board review and approval. Dr. Joseph reviewed the timeline for this process, which indicates the establishment of the committee by October 1, 2008 and concludes with presentation of the enrollment plan to the board on January 5, 2009 with approval scheduled February 3, 2009. This fits with the facilities master plan and strategic vision that had a goal of three middle schools of 600 students.

- Who is going to serve on this committee?

The district will be reaching out to those people who were on the committee in the past. Two district administrators attending a workshop on Systemic Development of Consensus. They will be putting to work what they learned from that seminar in this process. Suggestions for proposed members should be forwarded to the superintendent.

- It is critical that this dialogue begin. Parents of 6th & 7th graders at Livingston need to know where their child will attend school in September 2009. Parents who are considering a move to Albany also need to know where their children will attend school. Timing is imperative. A suggestion was made to invite the four board candidates to join the committee based on the fact that two of those four people will be on the board beginning in January 2009. One will actually take their seat following the general election.

- Who are the stakeholder groups?

The bargaining units and the City Council PTA, who would assist in identifying and selecting representatives who will be invited to participate. Dr. Joseph advised she would be speaking with principals about engaging parents who might have a high interest as well.

- Is there an expectation that TOAST will not have a 6th grade when it returns from swing space?

That has been an expectation. Discussions with Mr. Fowler will begin in terms of how this is played out with the other schools and what that may mean for TOAST.

Mr. Barnette asked board members for their recommendations on moving forward. Discussion followed relative to moving forward in establishing the committee, taking into consideration broad representation from all schools on the committee, and transportation. The board recommended that the superintendent move forward in establishing the committee.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Barnette noted that the public was not able to comment on the approval of the TOAST project and called for public comment. There was no additional public comment.

Adjournment

Ms. Doesschate made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Mackey seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine L. Cutting
Clerk of the Board