

November 6, 2017

The special meeting of the Wessington Springs School District Board of Education was held on November 6, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. with the following members present: Tonya Aldrich, Jeff Assman, Jim Burg, Todd Grohs, Amber Kolousek, Gerry Orth and Dustin Weber.

Tours had been given by Todd Grohs and Amber Kolousek at 6:30 pm prior to the meeting and many people participated in these walk through tours of the middle/high school building.

Motion by Aldrich, seconded by Burg to approve the agenda as proposed. All ayes, 0 naves. Carried.

President Todd Grohs spoke to the large group present as to why the Board is going to the public for a \$4.5 million bond for middle school/high school renovation and \$1.0 million bond for an auxiliary gym and the impact on the students, school and community. Amber Kolousek also spoke as to why this project is important to our school and community. The MS/HS building is structurally strong and solid, but the heating and plumbing systems are wearing out, some of which is the original piping from when it was built 100 year ago and many of the windows leak air and water when it rains. The gymnasium would allow more flexibility with school activities and athletic practices as well as community events.

Jerry Spethman of D. A. Davidson was present to discuss the bond and tax implications as per valuations. Approximately 62 cents per \$1,000 valuation would be levied for 20 years, depending on future valuations. The possibility exists to refinance bonds at a later time that would lower the amount of debt or to pay off the bonds after 5 years if funds were donated or available.

Marty Gilbertson, Doug Maust and Shane Christensen of Johnson Controls as well as Dean Marske of HKG Architects presented drawings to give an idea what each floor would look like. From west to east on the north side, the top floor would consist of a science lab, library/study hall and social studies classroom with a large English room on the south side of the corridor as well as classrooms for health and special education. On the main floor north side, west to east would be a math classroom, FACS classroom and math/technology classroom with offices on the south, switching the principal's office to the east side of the building. On the lower level, west to east, would house the art room, large assembly room and music room (vocal and band), with storage rooms and classrooms on the south side. The ag shop would be accessible through the art room and would be handicap accessible also. Bathrooms would be available on all three floors, stacked in the center for plumbing efficiencies and an elevator, accessible from the outside ground level as well as each floor on the interior would be located on the west side near the current entrance. A sprinkler system needed for fire safety would be installed. New windows to allow more natural light would be installed on the south and east sides and some on the west and north, depending on the final layout and cost. A fire suppression/sprinkler system would be installed also. The gymnasium would be attached to the elementary school on the south side of the current gymnasium. Dean Marske said ADA code requirements would have to be met on these projects.

Patrons present brought forth their concerns and support for these projects.

9:40 pm Motion by Aldrich, seconded by Weber to adjourn. All ayes, 0 naves. Carried.

Todd Grohs, President

Julie Kraft, Business Manager