

New School in North Central - Planning

March 12, 2020

Outcome of this Planning Meeting

- Preliminary Design Elements for a New School in North Central to inform an RFP Process by...
 - Reviewing our History
 - School in North Central
 - Measure P and Next Steps
 - Measure X
 - Discussing Community Desires
 - Sharing Ideas for Program Design Elements

Brief History

- Increasing enrollment presented an opportunity to open new schools - Stepping Stones Program from May 1992
- Among other projects, the District opened Turnbull Learning Academy
- Unfortunately, Program Improvement cut points forced a decision:
 - Replace all staff
 - Close
 - Reconstitute
- Federal Funds requested to support reconstitution to a Mandarin magnet program in 2007

Facilities Needs Arise

- Continued enrollment growth, aging facilities led to Measure P Bond
- Measure P failed 2013
- Board enacted a Next Steps Process for Community Gathering of Information

Next Steps Recommendations for New School in North Central

- Final Report Page 26
- The Committee recommends that the District establish a neighborhood school to serve the North Central area of San Mateo
- The Committee believes that a small, 250 student school is the most responsible solution at this time.
- The Committee is aware that creating a new school for North Central San Mateo may result in “voluntary segregation” that runs contrary to the desegregation program that the District has promoted.
- The Committee is well aware that a large majority of respondents during the Phase Two engagement favored moving the Mandarin program to Knolls.

Next Steps Recommendations for Knolls

- Next Steps also considered the use of Knolls:
 - Relocate the Mandarin Immersion magnet
 - Reopen as a magnet program
 - Move the District Office to the site
- Whatever the choice, the Committee did recommend keeping Knolls as an asset.

Next Steps led to Measure X Bond

- “To provide additional classrooms, relieve overcrowding and address increasing enrollment at San Mateo and Foster City schools, with funding that cannot be taken by the State, shall San Mateo-Foster City Elementary School District replace aging portable classrooms, update and add new classrooms, provide modern classrooms, reduce class size, improve handicapped access, repair, construct, acquire equipments, classrooms, sites/facilities, by issuing \$148,000,000 of bonds at legal rates, with citizen oversight, no money for administrators’ salaries, and all funds benefiting San Mateo and Foster City schools?”

Measure X Bond Language - Project List

- Additional classrooms in both San Mateo and Foster City are required to relieve overcrowding and address increasing student enrollment in both San Mateo and Foster City elementary and middle schools
- All San Mateo and Foster City students must have access to similar safe, modern classrooms and technology
- Students from low income families must have equal access to quality schools

Thoughts

- Take a moment to read the final recommendation of the Next Steps Committee and the Measure X bond language
- Write thoughts that are pertinent to you related to the New School in North Central project
- Share ideas with an elbow partner
- Share with the Governance Team

Moving Forward

- Concern about the previous closure of Turnbull and potential segregation underlies the Next Steps Report
- However, it has been 5 years since the Next Steps Report was presented to the Board of Trustees
- Significant changes have been made in how instruction is delivered, assessed and monitored
- LCAP and SPSA processes are more robust and gather information leading to action plans for the betterment of all students
- Phase I Measure X projects are coming to a close...

Gathering Information?

- Do we have the information that we need to move the New School in North Central project forward?
- Do we have a need to gather information from our North Central families?
 - If so, what would we ask of a consultant?
- Write your idea and share with an elbow partner.

Design Elements

- Times have changed and Board Members have changed.
- What qualities would this Board of Trustees wish to see in a new school in North Central?
 - Consider our present focal points: Family Engagement, Wellness and Academic Program
- Using the stickies write key elements that you believe should be considered
- Place ideas on the chart paper and add to the ideas generated

Timing

- District staff will take the ideas discussed in this workshop to draft an RFP for consultant support for the design work for a new school this spring.
- Basic programmatic designs could be ready by summer/fall.
- Architects could be interviewed by fall to design a school meeting the programmatic design qualities.

Final Thoughts / Questions