

AT A JOINT MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AND THE SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024, IN THE
MEDIA CENTER AT THE MIDDLESEX HIGH SCHOOL
SALUDA, VIRGINIA:

Present: Wayne H. Jessie, Sr., Jamaica District
Don R. Harris, Saluda District
William A. Harris, Hartfield District
Reginald A. Williams, Sr., Harmony Village District
Randy Crittenden, Pinetop District

Matthew L. Walker, County Administrator
Heather W. Lewis, County Attorney (late- arrived at 6:15 p.m.)
Ann Marie Ricardi, Assistant County Administrator
Shanae Hammond, Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Don Harris called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Attendance was taken by Mrs. Hammond with the following roll call: Supervisor Williams – Present; Supervisor Bill Harris (late -arrived at 6:12 p.m.) – Present; Supervisor Crittenden – Present; Supervisor Jessie – Present; and Chairman Don Harris – Present. There was a quorum. A quorum was present for the School Board. Supervisor Williams led the group in prayer; Ms. Ricardi led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

HIGH SCHOOL RENOVATIONS

Stephen Halsey with Moseley Architects presented to the Board the master study of High School renovation showing diagrams of the following four items.

1. Facility Assessment
2. Master Plan with the site plan showing three options:

OPTION 1:

- a. Adds a 500-seat auditorium.
- b. Incorporates revised building program.
- c. The total cost of the project would be in the amount of \$24.4 million dollars.

OPTION 2:

- a. Adds a 500-seat auditorium.
- b. Adds an Auxiliary Gym
- c. Right -sizes classrooms

- d. The total cost of the project would be in the amount of \$36.7 million dollars.

OPTION 3:

- a. Adds an 8th grade wing. Adding a 2nd floor to the East wing.
- b. Adds a 500-seat auditorium.
- c. Adds an Auxiliary Gym
- d. Adds a cafeteria expansion.
- e. Right-sizes classrooms
- f. The total cost of the project would be in the amount of \$48.3 million dollars.

3. Conceptual Images which were:
 - a. View from Gloucester Road
 - b. View from General Puller Highway
 - c. The Widening of the main entrance
 - d. Library
 - e. Forum
 - f. Three views of the Auditorium entrances
 - g. Auditorium and Auxiliary Gymnasium
4. Project Timeline
 - a. Community Engagement: 2 months
 - b. Project Design: 9 months
 - c. Bidding and Award: 2-3 months
 - d. Construction: 28-32 months
 - e. Project Closeout: 2-4 months

The timeline of the project is estimated to be a four-year project.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

Questions and comments came from both Boards, and they are follows.

- Could additional parking go behind the tennis courts?
 - o Master study shows only current property availability.
 - How many parking spaces are there currently?
 - o 197
- Is the parking concern for everyday parking or event parking?
 - o Event parking • Is widening the parking lot entrance an option?
 - o Possibly
- Is it necessary to use all the available space?
 - o Yes • Is the property adjacent to the school available?
 - o The property is privately owned. • What about the space where the water tank is housed?
 - o Would help if it were available
- Are right-sizing classrooms optional?
 - o Yes. Right-sizing classrooms are according to VDOE guidelines.

- Will Dominion Power help with the lighting?
 - o No. They may help with outdoor lighting.
- What is the purpose of turning the current auditorium into a forum?
 - o the space is currently not large enough to host events, but as a forum the space can be used for smaller events and classroom activities.
- Will the cafeteria space increase?
 - o Option 3 of the master study shows an increase in the space
- Are portable walls an option?
 - o in some spaces, such as the forum
 - What is the building capacity?
 - o 400+
- Is space lost when rightsizing?
 - o No
- Will there be any unutilized space?
 - o Very little
- Will there be an increase in the number of rooms?
 - o Not in options 1 and 2
- What are the accommodations for adding eighth grade to the high school?
 - o the lower level of a new 2 story addition
- Will there be interaction between eighth graders and other grade levels?
 - o Some; most likely times would be in cafeteria, in advanced classes, and during JV sports
- Will there be bathrooms at the tennis courts?
 - o Bathrooms were not factored in the options but can be added
- What would be the capacity of the forum?
 - o About 125
- Is adding the east wing doable in options 1 and 2?
 - o Yes
- Will there be a need for a generator?
 - o It depends if the school is deemed an emergency shelter.
- Why not build a whole new school?
 - o This is a study.
 - o new building cost estimated at 75 million
- Does renovation allow for addition of vocational programs?
 - o Yes
- Is the eighth grade move-up necessary? Could space designated for eighth grade be used for vocational classes?
 - o Yes, but that is not cost effective.
- What happens to extra space at the elementary school?
 - o Extra space will allow for a PreK wing. Some rooms currently are being shared.
- When will the current two-story addition be paid?
 - o Debt service will expire July 2029
 - o Debt service for sports complex will expire in 2028
 - o Debt service for SCWMS will expire 2027

Other items discussed were the adjacent property not being purchased when it was for sale; roof run-off for two buildings; temporary housing of student during

construction and the cost. It was stated that projects in Gloucester and Farmville counties were completed by Moseley Architects, and depreciation. It was also discussed that moving eighth grade to the high school would allow fifth grade to move to the middle school. Currently 50% of all MCPS students are at elementary school. Moving fifth grade to the middle school would also open teaching opportunities at SCWMS.

Mr. Halsey stated to the Board that this renovation will be based on 450 students attending the High School and there will be an increase in the number of parking spaces from 197 to 225.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Supervisor Jessie and seconded by Supervisor Bill Harris, and the other Board members agreed, by consensus, until the next regular meeting scheduled for February 27, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Don R. Harris, Chairman
Board of Supervisors