

The Board of Directors of the Burlington-Edison School District No. 100 met on Tuesday, November 12, 2013, in the Board Room of the District Office at 4:30 p.m.

**In Attendance**

All Board members were in attendance except Mr. Lowell. Staff members present were Laurel Browning, Superintendent; Dr. Jeff Drayer, Assistant Superintendent; Joe Stewart, Director of Finance and Technology; K.C. Knudson, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning; and Jeff Brown, Special Education Director. Dr. Jerry Jenkins, Northwest Educational District No. 189 Superintendent, was also in attendance.

**Call to Order**

President Howard called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**Burlington-Edison School District Facility Needs/Planning**

NWESD 189 Superintendent, Dr. Jerry Jenkins, and Finance Director, Joe Stewart, gave a PowerPoint presentation detailing the process of putting together the proposal, the issues/challenges, a review of the documents and considerations, and ultimately the recommendations (options A, B, and C).

Following were questions from the Board:

- Why is painting considered a capital improvement?  
Response: According to legal counsel, capital improvement levy funds can be used to pay for painting a building. Law says it will extend the useful life of the building; therefore, it is legal. You can paint the building, but not put silver coating on the roof. It is wise to seek legal counsel to avoid an audit finding. The auditor will want to know if you have appropriately expended the funds.
- Where did we get the estimate for the gym/field house?  
Response: Director of Auxiliary Services, John Leander, provided this information.
- Define bus garage replacement.  
Response: This is for an offsite building that is beyond repair.

- What does the improvement to the parking lot at Bay View include?  
Response: It includes the present space and an additional acre.
- How do the rates compare with those of surrounding school districts?  
Response: Mr. Stewart will get this information for the Board. However, he thinks it is lower than Mount Vernon and Sedro-Woolley.
- One of our Board goals is to have a discussion with the community about the K-8 versus middle school concept. Why is that discussion not happening until 2017?  
Response: When the district had a committee on this topic before, the results were very divisive. We need to have a discussion with the community about student programs and learning and the educational opportunities of the middle school concept. Maybe have a Blue and Gold Committee assist with this issue.
- We have more capital projects than what we were told about in a previous presentation.  
Response: It is the same, but costs have increased, and they did get moved into different categories. We added a three percent inflationary factor each year. Our staff and Board have done a lot to regain trust with the community, and we need to continue to build the trust.
- At what point do we need to make a decision?  
Response: If the Board wants Option C, the decision needs to be made right away. Superintendent Browning stated the strongest proposal is Option A. Before a decision is made, consider sharing an abbreviated version of the presentation with a citizens' group (i.e., Blue and Gold Committee). Option A or B will allow you time to do this. Bonds and levies of surrounding districts have all passed.
- The last line on each slide talks about future sitings. Can you define this?  
Response: Add to slides' last line: or school reconfiguration modernization.
- If Option A is chosen and there is no tech levy run in 2014, will the district be prepared to do state online testing in the spring of 2016?  
Response: Don't think it is doable. There will have to be accommodations. Don't think it is a realistic goal.

- Have you heard if the Legislature will be funding technology (i.e., funding total basic education)?

Response: There is great pressure to fund the McCleary decision. There will be an increase, but not in technology. The revenue stream to B-ESD is grossly inadequate for the programs we are trying to offer. You may do more harm if you run a levy and fail because you did not have enough time.

- Is \$1.2M added to the capital levy for technology?

Response: Yes.

- Student population is stagnant. Is that factored into this?

Response: When you have unhoused students in temporary classrooms (41 portables), it costs more than a classroom that is part of a school.

- All day kindergarten and reducing class size will put pressure on us.

Response: When you start siting portables at a school, it puts extra demands on core facilities.

President Howard stated the presentation was an excellent analysis and “hits the nail on the head” putting into perspective what we need to accomplish. He thanked Dr. Jenkins, Superintendent Browning, and Mr. Stewart.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

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Board President

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Board Secretary