

**SHERMAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Architectural Design Committee Meeting**  
**December 7, 2015**

The Sherman County School District Board appointed Architectural Design Committee met in the Sherman County Public/School Library Meeting Room in Moro, Oregon. The following were present: Mike Marino, Wes Owens, Ree Ella von Borstel, Angie Thompson, Craig Wood, Ken Melzer, Jeanie Pehlke, Kyle Blagg, Bill Blevins, Lowell Smith, Kim McKinney, Amy R-Huffman, Mike Carter, Brian Powell, Scott Jackson.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

**Meeting Notes**

The purpose of this meeting was to review the interior colors and materials selected by the color selection sub-committee, review the value engineering items that were removed from the design, and discuss other building options that will allow for the science room and bathrooms to be added back to the plan.

Review of Interior Materials and Colors

On behalf of the color selection sub-committee, Jeanie Pehlke presented the paint and material colors and described their locations on the floor plan. The committee was in favor of the presented selections.

Value Engineering Explanation and Update

KNCC and Mike Marino went line-by-line over a detailed list of items worth approximately \$130,000 that were removed from the design following the bid to bring the project under budget.

Building Options

Superintendent Owens asked committee members for their thoughts about the current central entry design that BBT has proposed and Option 4, that is an idea that would keep the administrative offices for the Jr./Sr. High School at the current location and add a small elementary entrance and reception area near the library. He noted that KNCC has estimated that Option 4 could potentially save around \$300K and this would allow for the Science Classroom and bathroom upgrade. He added that Option 4 would allow the District to retain the fireproof vault.

Committee members discussed how the entrance design evolved from an entrance next to the library where the students would come in and go in the opposite direction to an entrance where they all come in together at the middle of the building so far away from the elementary wing. This led to a discussion on how far students will walk from the bus and the safety of mingling between elementary and junior/senior high school students if they entered through the one central entrance. Several committee members expressed their preference for having an up-to-date science lab/classroom and excellent educational programs as a priority over a new

central administrative office design. Craig Wood expressed his concern about the stairs at the current entrance and the loss of the washrooms near the cafeteria. Ken Melzer suggested that we consider leaving the science classroom and the lab where they are and not pursuing the middle school model that Dr. Tarzian suggested. Superintendent Owens added that the middle school model would add FTE and our current teachers have concerns about this educational model.

Superintendent Owens addressed student safety as one of his biggest concerns and stated that with Option 4 there could be secure doors and an elementary secretary would be down at the elementary entrance where access would be monitored from the public library. A lengthy discussion related to the best student egress options and a potential elementary receptionist office area took place.

Committee members agreed with Gerald Casper who summed up the task by stating that the contractors either need to find the \$300k through value engineering with the current design or they need to come up with a modified plan to keep the administrative offices where they are and reduce the scope of work at the science room and bathrooms in order to save the money needed for the science classroom and lab update.

Mike Marino warned that there may be code and volume of people issues related to the proposed Option 4 plan ideas, but if the committee wants to look into the Option 4 plan changes to save the science upgrades, then that's what he will pursue. Superintendent Owens noted that if someone can give an educated explanation for why these Option 4 ideas do not work or why they will not save money, then he will let it go, but he feels it is worth looking into. He further stated that he would like to see accurate numbers, not just the \$300k estimate.

Committee members agreed that they are in favor of looking at Option 4. Mike Marino asked for an Option 4 scope of work so he can get an accurate cost savings number. Craig Wood expressed a concern about the current stairs and ADA compliance. It was determined that this will need to be looked into further. Superintendent Owens shared the scope of a possible Option 4 design that would add a secure elementary reception office near the library, and would keep the current administrative entrance and offices in the present locations, fortify security at the current front entrance, and add three (3) offices, a staff work room, a conference room and some secure storage where the existing room 3 and dark room are currently located. Superintendent Owens stated that his only concern with this idea is that he had the impression that the Design Committee wanted only one (1) entrance. He stated that from an administrative prospective, having personnel at two (2) entrances would be safer because someone will be able to monitor the entrance to the elementary school from the public library.

Mike Marino stated that he didn't know if the change in design would set the project back. Ree Ella von Borstel expressed her desire to do the right thing with no regrets even if it pushes the date back a little.

Superintendent Owens recapped the process, from his perspective, that has led to this point:

- KNCC and BBT looked at value engineering and did not come up with enough money to upgrade the science lab.
- That led the Board to make a motion that mentioned everyone including BBT, KNCC, MMC and the District needs to be looking for ways to capture the funds needed to save the science upgrade. This is the Design Committee's attempt to find a way to save the money.
- Now it's back to BBT and KNCC to tell us if the Option 4 plan change idea will save the needed money. If not, they need to give the District some educated reasons for why we need to stay with the current design.

Mike Marino was asked what happens to the money that was saved from Phase I. He stated that it will go into the contingency fund and will come back to the school. He said that the plan before this meeting was to get closer to spring, have a better understanding of the amount of money available in the contingencies so the list of alternates can be prioritized. Now he understands that the priority is saving money to upgrade the science lab. He promised to work with BBT to create a plan that will keep the entrance at the current location and add an elementary reception area. Mike Marino emphasized that cost savings for Option 4 should be substantial and he expects savings to exceed the estimated \$300K. However, he noted that code requirements and other things can add money back so he is not willing to say for sure how much.

The committee directed Mike Marino to have BBT and KNCC either find the needed \$300k for the science improvements with the current plan or provide pricing for the Option 4 design idea.

Mike Marino asked Superintendent Owens and KNCC to come up with some Option 4 pre-design ideas to share with BBT.

Committee members agreed with Ken Melzer who reiterated that it might be more feasible to keep the science lab and science classroom as it currently is and consider moving the 6<sup>th</sup> grade classroom down to the elementary wing near the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms as it was originally designed. This led to a discussion and questions related to the reasoning behind the Junior High wing model.

It was again reiterated that the entire committee is in agreement with going forward with exploring cost savings by looking carefully at Option 4 ideas.

### **Adjourned**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.