



Steering Committee #2

August 15, 2024

Welcome & Notes

Tonight's focus:

- Financial considerations
- Facilities conditions
- Facilities functional pain points

We're listening and appreciate your input:

- Creating feedback and discussion opportunities
- Keeping community apprised of our progress



OUR COMMITMENT

*Provide timely, transparent
data and facilitate a
productive exchange for the
future of SJPS students,
staff and community!*

Agenda

- 1** Recap, Celebrate & Survey/Question Follow-ups
- 2** Financial Questions & Considerations
- 3** Facilities Conditions & Limitations (Pain Points)
- 4** Kudos, Better-Ifs & Next Steps



What's Your Super Power?



1. Recap: Team Norms

Review of last meeting's brainstorming:

1. Our work is for the kids.
2. Listen to other people's ideas
3. Assume positive intentions
4. Ask questions and be curious
5. Seek to understand others
6. Agree to disagree
7. Be solution-focused
8. Be vulnerable and open
9. Bring best version of yourself; find success
10. Think shared purpose/bigger than yourself
11. Seek consensus for broader community (Embrace the "gray")

Center for Creative Leadership 

Team norms are a set of rules or operating principles that shape team members' interactions. Team norms establish clear, agreed-upon behavior, how the work will get done, and what team members can expect of each other. This is a key way to [build trust, which is critical for team success.](#)

1. Recap: SC Priorities

Review of last meeting's Steering Committee (SC) priorities:

Tangible and Lasting Impact:

- Focus on making improvements that will have a significant and lasting impact on students and the community.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement:

- Actively involve the community, including local trades, families, and students, in the bond proposal process.
- Highlight achievements of staff and students to garner support.

Modern, Future-Ready Facilities:

- Ensure that facilities are modernized to meet current and future needs.
- Prioritize upgrades to both athletic and academic facilities.

Safety and Security:

- Prioritize the safety and security within all district buildings.
- Address deferred maintenance to maintain safe, high-quality environments.

Fiscal Responsibility:

- Reflect fiscal responsibility, balancing educational needs, community priorities, and sustainable spending.
- Protect or increase property values through thoughtful investments.



What would need to be prioritized for you to be highly energized and excited to share the committee's recommendation with your neighbors?

SIKS IS competitive with any school district in the Greater Lansing area academically. An infrastructure opportunities, + social growth of our students post-graduation.

MORE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, MORE TEACHER INVOLVED, ANSWERS TO OUR SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

1. SC Priorities - Discussion



1. Question Follow-ups

Q2 Finance Q&A: What questions about school finance/bond financing do you have?

Answered: 19 Skipped: 3

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I need to have a better understanding of how a sinking fund works.	8/15/2024 12:21 AM
2	How much do we owe on the existing bond?	8/14/2024 8:42 PM
3	None at this time.	8/14/2024 11:15 AM
4	I do not have any. I do think the conversation at the end about what we could have asked for, what we did asked for, and what it seemed like we were asking/how we were going about it is a good one to figure out how to clarify to people as I do think some people in the community had some misunderstanding and mixed feelings about the amount.	8/14/2024 10:37 AM
5	How can make voters believe there will be no tax increase?	8/13/2024 11:24 PM
6	How does a school district determine the amount it can borrow?	8/13/2024 9:06 PM
7	I would like to see detail budget overall of the school plus a detailed budget of the overall project. First as a committee we need to decide what our goals are to complete	8/13/2024 7:01 PM
8	None right now	8/13/2024 5:58 PM
9	Is there any leftover documentation from the previously passed bond that sheds light on what was proposed v what was completed? This seems to be a hot topic for many people.	8/13/2024 5:54 PM
10	How many millions gained per mil levied	8/13/2024 5:13 PM
11	Once the bond is approved, say five years from now, can the school refinance the debt to save money? If so is there a projection of rates over the next 5 years?	8/13/2024 4:27 PM
12	Is it costing the district extra money to hold a special election?	8/13/2024 4:18 PM
13	None.	8/13/2024 4:17 PM
14	I am curious how the price breakdown goes and how we can best use funds...how much would it cost to build a new elementary school to replace Riley? How much would it cost to make a nice bathroom facility centrally located south of tennis courts to help tennis, baseball, softball, track, lacrosse, soccer, phys ed, band, community, etc.?	8/12/2024 10:02 PM
15	None	8/12/2024 8:41 PM
16	I would like more information on what comes from the general fund vs. why this bond is important (other than some of the obvious). I think that clear language will help us to convey this information to community members who feel skeptical. I would also like to understand more about the debt extension the bond asks for.	8/12/2024 3:14 PM
17	None	8/10/2024 8:51 AM
18	What Ali's allowable and not allowable for spending of bond funds.	8/9/2024 9:14 PM
19	A quick explanation about how districts seek and pay off their bonds and how it affects our taxpayers would be helpful for me. I honestly don't know much about how this all works.	8/9/2024 5:48 PM

Q3 Process Q&A: What would make you and the community more confident that an effective process was used to establish facility recommendations?

Answered: 21 Skipped: 1

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	To know who provided the input regarding the needs presented. I think the original survey offering people a chance to rate the priority of the six elements for improvement was well done. But there was a low % of staff participation and I don't think enough people in the community knew about it to participate.	8/15/2024 12:21 AM
2	No sure	8/14/2024 8:42 PM
3	Just the fact that the Steering Committee is comprised from several different types of stakeholders, and even some who haven't necessarily supported the bond in the past.	8/14/2024 11:15 AM
4	I feel confident personally but I wonder if there is a way to communicate visually and more frequently about the process. Example - a pic of the committee even now meeting and posting that on Facebook/website/etc. (Not everyone may be comfortable with pic being taken and do not mean a formal picture but one of us in the middle of a discussion) - Mini video tours of each area (where I can put my hole in the finger of the steel and wall, a teacher setting up for her class in the closet). These I think show the how and the why in bite size pieces to help people understand the process.	8/14/2024 10:37 AM
5	Seeing pictures of areas needing improvement. Hearing teachers, coaches, administrators and kids say why improvements. Statistics comparing what to rated schools have vs what SH schools have.	8/13/2024 11:24 PM
6	A broader group of the community, perhaps including business leaders.	8/13/2024 9:06 PM
7	Owners rep someone watching out for the school district	8/13/2024 7:01 PM
8	I think this is a typical process implementing a steering committee and I'm good with that.	8/13/2024 5:58 PM
9	I think it already was for engaged and involved community members. I realize that architectural renderings are costly but I do believe tangible (although simple) plans might help people who lack vision. Also, making the aging facility photos available (again, if they are actually looking and not just complaining) would help some understand the current state of some facilities. In addition, comparatives to other school communities might help.	8/13/2024 5:54 PM
10	A compromised outcome representative of the general consensus of the community.	8/13/2024 5:13 PM
11	Compare the cost of maintaining current facilities with the costs associated with the bond proposal. Additionally, please provide an infographic illustrating the cost comparison.	8/13/2024 4:27 PM
12	Clear expectations for the money- what improvements are needed, how will this improve the education provided	8/13/2024 4:18 PM
13	Document this process. I think if people in the community knew the number of people involved and the effort put into the plan, it would resonate with them. I think some people had the wrong impression that the last bond wasn't well thought out.	8/13/2024 4:17 PM
14	I think that the confidence will come from a diverse steering committee and a staff/admin team that listened to input and did what was best for kids and community.	8/12/2024 10:02 PM
15	Maybe a little more detail and emphasis on why these recommendations are being made. Ramifications, negatives if improvements are not made.	8/12/2024 8:41 PM
16	knowing that everyone's voice was heard, and that community input was brought to the table as well. Making sure that questions are answered with intentionality.	8/12/2024 4:12 PM
17	I think ways to be assertive in what I am communicating. It would help to have an	8/12/2024 3:14 PM

2. Financial: School Funding Overview



General Fund Budget Summary

	<u>2022-23</u> <u>Final Actual</u>	<u>2023-24 Final</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2024-25</u> <u>Preliminary</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>Change</u>
Total Revenue	\$36,341,023	\$36,790,176	\$36,582,645	(\$207,531)
Total Expenditures	\$36,149,564	\$36,477,121	\$37,873,528	\$1,396,407
Net Budget				
Surplus/(Shortfall	\$191,459	\$313,055	(\$1,290,883)	\$1,188,876
Beginning Fund Balance	\$5,813,488	\$6,004,947	\$6,318,002	
Ending Fund Balance	<u>\$6,004,947</u>	<u>\$6,318,002</u>	<u>\$5,027,119</u>	
Fund Balance as				
Percent of Expenditures	<u>16.6%</u>	<u>17.3%</u>	<u>13.3%</u>	

I would like to see a detailed budget overall of the school plus a detailed budget of the overall project.

2. Financial: School Funding Overview

General Operating Fund - Day to day school district operations

- **2024-25 Expense Budget = \$37.9 million**
 - **Staff Salaries & Benefits = \$30.7 million or 81%**
 - Purchased Services = \$1.9 Million or 5%
 - Classroom, Operating Supplies, Utilities, Equipment, Furnishings = \$3.0 Million or 8%
 - Payments to ISD, Transfers to Other Funds, & Other = \$2.3 million or 6%
- **2024-25 Revenue Budget = \$36.6 million**
 - State Aid Revenue Based on # of Students X Foundation Allowance (State Aid/Student)
 - **2,529 students X \$9,608 per student = \$24.3 Million or 66%**
 - Local revenue (Athletic Revenue, Reimbursements, & Local Grants = \$1.0 Million or 3%
 - Restricted State & Federal Grants = \$9.9 Million or 27%
 - Transfers from Other Funds & Other Sources = \$1.4 Million or 4%

Your question:

How does school funding work?

2. Financial: Allowable Expenses

<i>Funds CAN be spent on...</i>	<i>Funds CANNOT be spent on...</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Purchase of or development of real estate for school buildings✓ Construction of school buildings or additions✓ Renovations of school buildings and athletic facilities✓ Technology equipment✓ School security improvements✓ School buses, furnishings, and equipment✓ Playground development and improvement✓ Energy conservation improvements✓ Asbestos abatement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">x Repair of school buildingsx Maintenance of school buildingsx Staff salaries and benefitsx Curriculum <div data-bbox="1000 532 1734 707" style="background-color: #f06292; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"><p><i>What's allowable and not allowable for spending of bond funds?</i></p></div> <div data-bbox="954 729 1781 1013" style="background-color: #f06292; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px;"><p><i>Your question: I would like more information on what comes from the general fund vs. why this bond is important</i></p></div>

2. Financial: What is a Mill?

A mill is the rate at which property taxes are levied.

- Taxes = Property Taxable value X # of Mills
- 1 Mill = \$0.001 in tax revenue
- \$1,000 in taxable value = \$1.00 of property taxes
- Current SJPS Taxable Value = **\$922,659,869**
- **1 Mill = \$922,660 in tax revenue**

Your question:

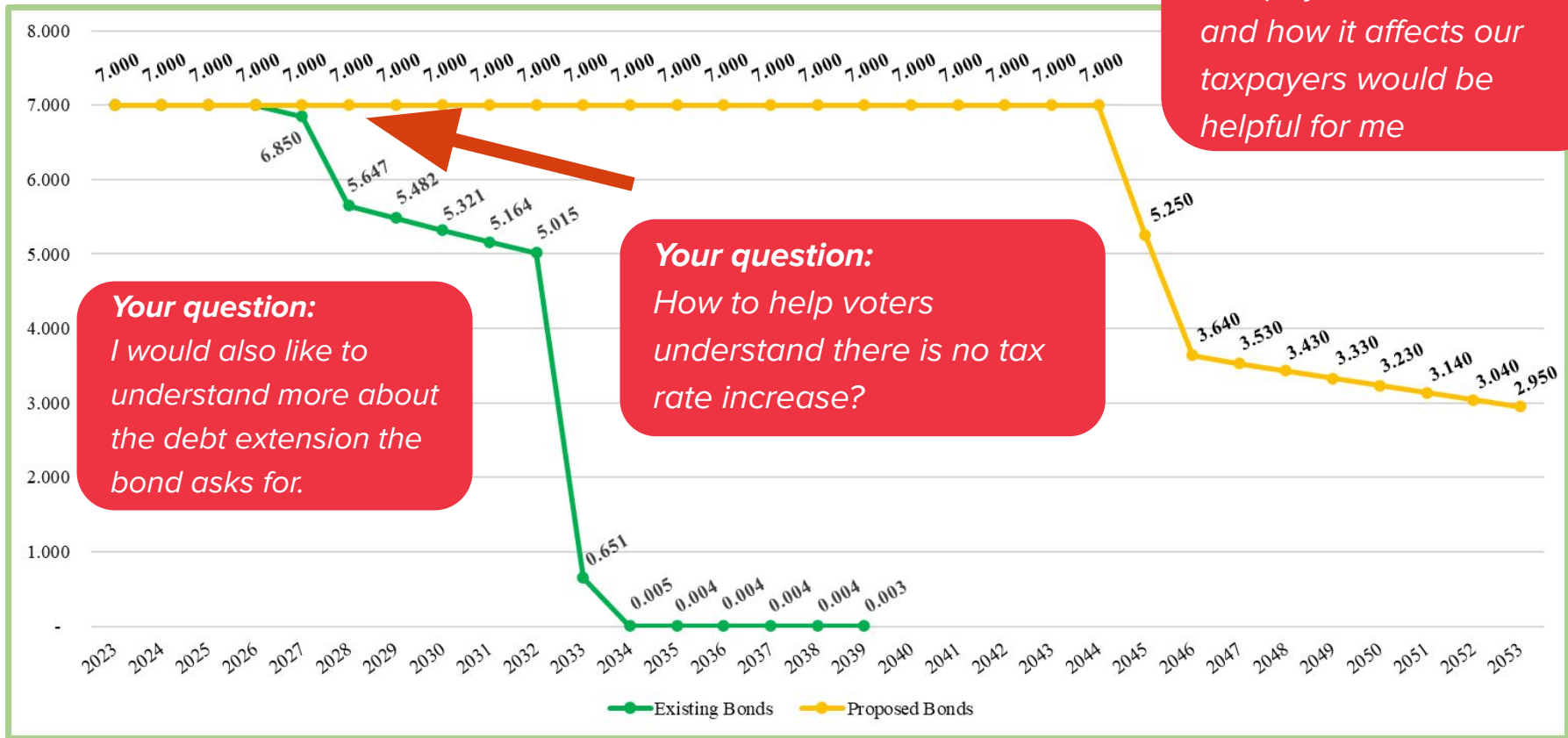
How many millions gained per mil levied?

Market Value	Taxable Value (0.5)	Equation	Cost Per Year
\$100,000	\$50,000	$\$50,000/1000 \times \$1 = 50$	\$50.00
\$150,000	\$75,000	$\$75,000/1000 \times \$1 = 75$	\$75.00
\$200,000	\$100,000	$\$100,000/1000 \times \$1 = 100$	\$100.00
\$250,000	\$125,000	$\$125,000/1000 \times \$1 = 125$	\$125.00
\$300,000	\$150,000	$\$150,000/1000 \times \$1 = 150$	\$150.00
\$350,000	\$175,000	$\$175,000/1000 \times \$1 = 175$	\$175.00

2. Financial: Debt Millage Rate

Your question:

A quick explanation about how districts seek and pay off their bonds and how it affects our taxpayers would be helpful for me



Your question:

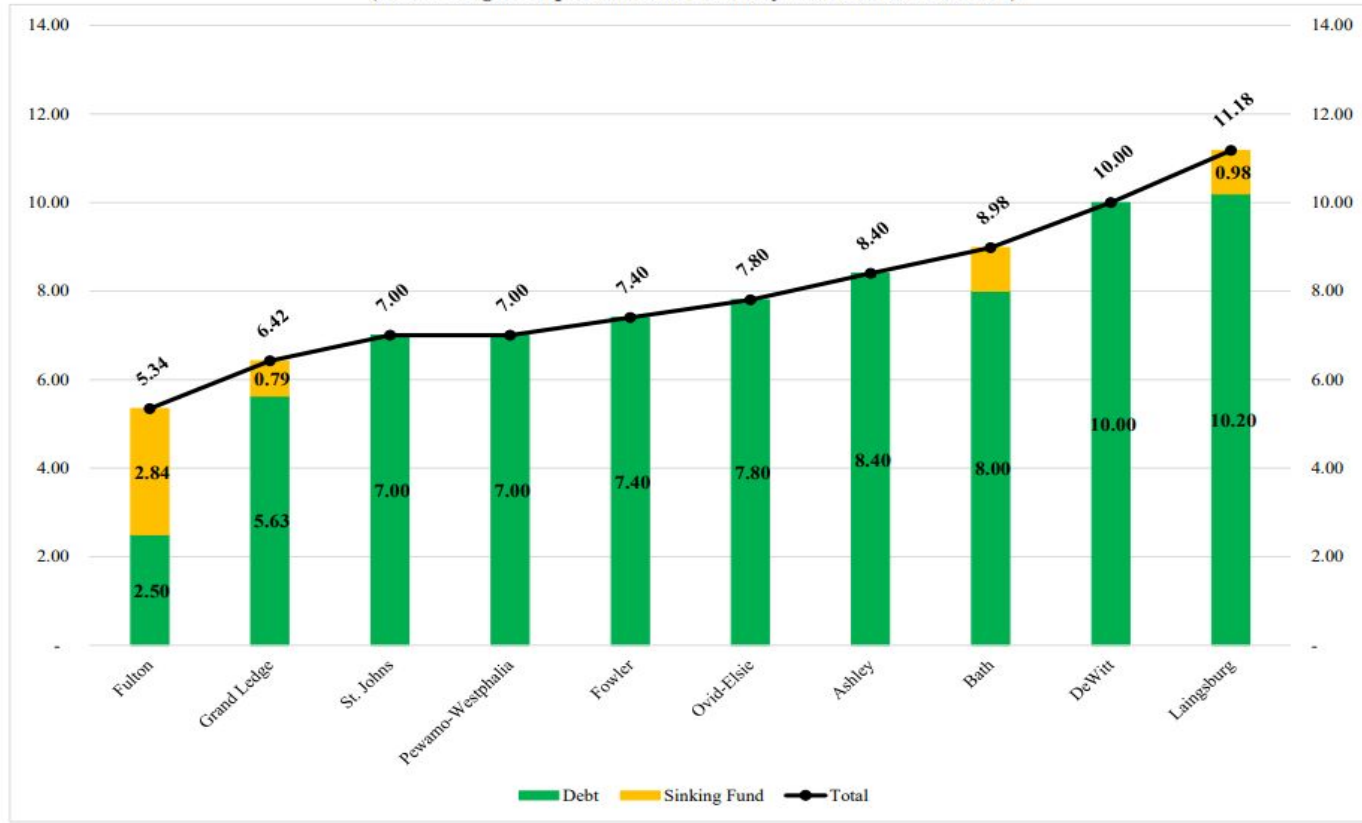
I would also like to understand more about the debt extension the bond asks for.

Your question:

How to help voters understand there is no tax rate increase?

2. Financial: Neighboring Districts

COMPARISON OF AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2022 TOTAL MILLAGE RATES
(Per Michigan Department of Treasury Website as of 8/22/23)



2. Financial: Bond Refundings Debt Savings

Bond Issue	Bond Amount	Gross Savings	Present Value Savings
2014 - Refunded 2010 Bonds	\$39,960,000	\$4,583,276	\$2,746,393
2020 - Refunded SLRF	\$33,825,000	\$6,362,499	\$4,908,630
2021 - Refunded SLRF	\$13,715,000	\$1,378,271	\$1,149,556
Total	\$87,500,000	\$12,324,046	\$8,804,579

Other Steering Committee Questions - Discussion

How does a school district determine the amount it can borrow?

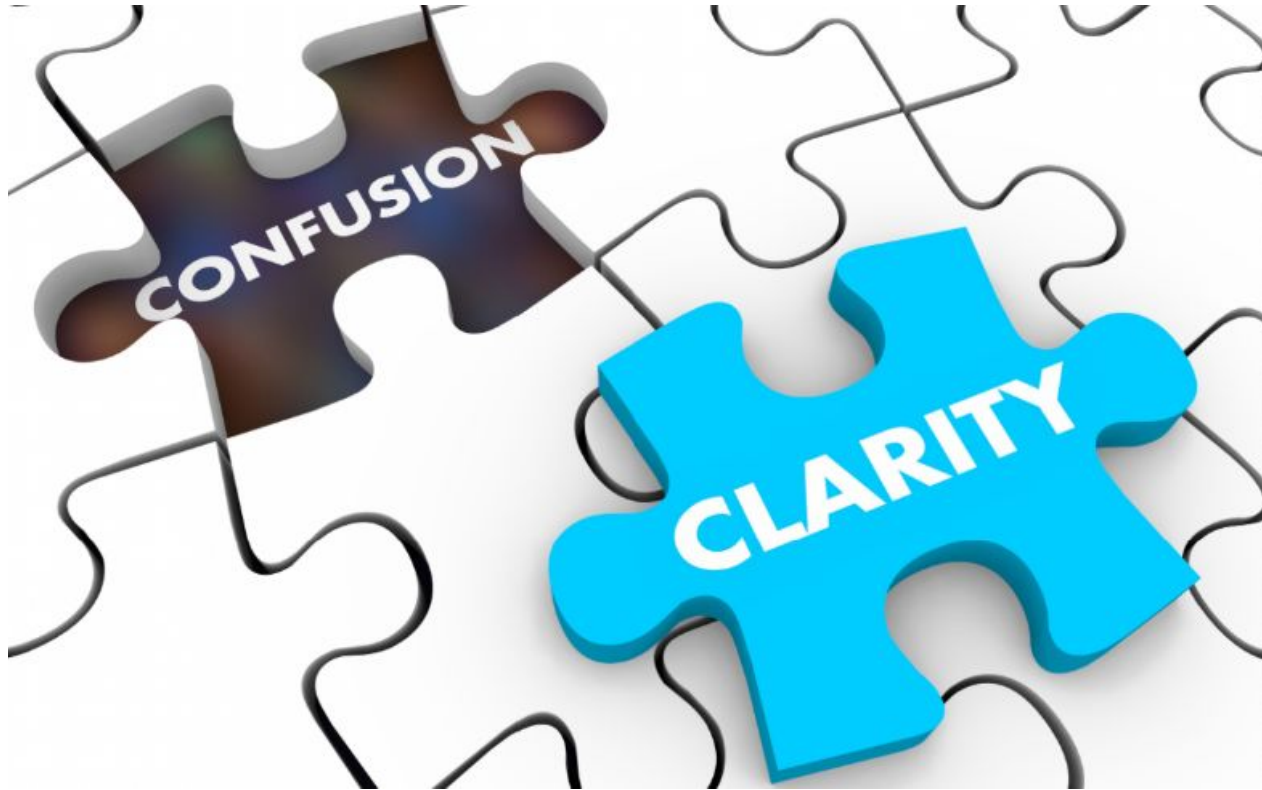
Is it costing the district extra money to hold a special election?

I need to have a better understanding of how a sinking fund works.

Once the bond is approved, say five years from now, can the school refinance the debt to save money? If so is there a projection of rates over the next 5 years?

Any leftover documentation from the previously passed bond that sheds light on what was proposed/what was completed?

2. Questions



Your question:

I would like to see pictures of the needed improvements...



Outdated security vestibule



Outdated classroom setup

3. Facilities: Riley

Outdated doors
and locks



3. Facilities: Riley

Interventionist
"office" in a janitor
closet



3. Facilities: Riley



No secure vestibule



3. Facilities: Eureka



Outdated doors and locks



**Outdated doors
& locks**



**Old
equipment**



3. Facilities: Oakview



3. Facilities: Gateway

**Outdated
classroom
setup**





3. Facilities: Athletics / Activities



3. Facilities: Transportation

3. Kudos &

Even-B



4. Wrap-up & Next Meeting

	DATE	STEERING COMMITTEE ACTIVITY	GROUP
AUG	AUG 8	Background & Big Picture Priorities	Steering Committee #1
	AUG 15	Continue Big Picture Priorities Discussion	Steering Committee #2
	AUG 29	Draft Outline of Recommended Scope	Steering Committee #3
SEP	SEP 9	Review Draft Outline of Rec. Scope	Board of Education (BOE)
	SEP 12	Adjust w/ BOE Feedback - First Full Draft	Steering Committee #4
	SEP 16	Community Survey - Review of First Draft	Community Feedback
	SEP 26	Adjust w/ Survey Results - Second Draft	Steering Committee #5
	SEP 30	Review Second Draft	BOE (Workshop)

1. Question Follow-ups

This Meeting

1. Is it costing the district extra money to hold a special election?
2. What all's allowable and not allowable for spending of bond funds.
3. How does a school district determine the amount it can borrow?
4. How can make voters believe there will be no tax increase?
5. How many millions gained per mil levied
6. Once the bond is approved, say five years from now, can the school refinance the debt to save money? If so is there a projection of rates over the next 5 years?
7. I would like more information on what comes from the general fund vs. why this bond is important (other than some of the obvious)
8. I would also like to understand more about the debt extension the bond asks for
9. A quick explanation about how districts seek and pay off their bonds and how it affects our taxpayers
10. I need to have a better understanding of how a sinking fund works.

Next Meeting

1. I would like to see detail budget overall of the school plus a detailed budget of the overall project.
2. Is there any leftover documentation from the previously passed bond that sheds light on what was proposed v what was completed?