



FACTS Committee Meeting 1

December 9, 2014

MINUTES

- The WISD FACTS Committee met on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 in the Seguin Elementary Library. Dr. Hanks called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm
- In attendance:
 - FACTS Committee members present included: Emma Beard, Donna Black, Amy Bonnett, Linda Bourland, Amy Crippen, Carrie Ellis, Brad Goss, Dr. Tim Huggins, Zane Kemp, Brian Lixey, Kelley Long, Mindy Mahan, Frank Martin, Ramalou Prince, Zan Prince, Michele Snow, Courtney Taylor, John Thielepape, Clif Tramel, Lorri Williams, and Trey Woodard.
 - Board of Trustees members present: Tiffany Branson, Ashley Conlon, Dr. Joshua Tarbay
 - WISD staff: Dr. Hanks, Tracy Ray, Chuck Graham, Charlotte LaGrone, Cody Lee, Frances Adams, and Lisa Wulfjen
 - Huckabee – Alan Albers, Jennifer Brown, Tim McClure, Megan Smith, Paul Thompson
 - Baselice – Matt Gamble
- Dr. Hanks reviewed the FACTS committee purpose, objectives, and responsibilities
- Election of officers for the committee will be held at the beginning of the next meeting. We will need co-chairs and a secretary.
 - Co-chairs will lead the committee meetings; adjust meeting agendas; make sure all discussions are fair and that all have a voice; keep the meetings focused and on track.
 - Secretary will keep accurate notes for the meetings with assistance from WISD staff.
- Overview of Weatherford ISD
 - Mission, Vision, Value Statements, and District Goals were reviewed
 - WISD embraces a philosophy of Continuous Improvement
 - District Information:
 - ~ 7,600 students
 - At-Risk 34.5%
 - Economically Disadvantaged 45%
 - English Language Learners 8.2%
 - 11 campuses: 7 elementary, 2 middle schools, Ninth Grade Center, and WHS
 - Additional departmental buildings: Bowie Learning Center, Travis, District Services Building
- Guiding Principles for Committee
 - Growth
 - Safety and Security
 - Aging Facilities
 - Technology
 - Career and Technical Education (Vocational Education)
 - Grade Alignment
- Review of Public School Finance – Alan Albers, Huckabee
 - Maintenance and Operations / Interest and Sinking explanation
 - WISD budget presented
 - Administrative cost percentage for WISD is much lower than other districts around the state
 - Technology is typically funded thru a 5 year note (not a 30 year note)

- The WISD M&O rate is \$1.17; I&S rate is \$0.21 for a total tax rate of \$1.38
 - The total tax rate for Weatherford ISD has come down thru the years
- Tim McClure, Huckabee
 - The FACTS committee will be provided with:
 - Demographic Report
 - Facility assessment and staff feedback reports
 - District visioning document
 - Community survey
 - Bond Process
 - Study documents and tour facilities
 - Bring recommendation to the WISD Board of Trustees
 - Voter education
 - Early voting and Election Day
 - Move forward with design concepts
 - Facility Assessment process reviewed
 - Security assessments are held with Weatherford ISD for safety purposes
- Community Survey Results - Matt Gamble, Baseline
 - Telephone Survey
 - 400 interviewed
 - All registered voters in the district
 - Format of interview discussed
 - Scientific approach
 - Survey responders are reflective of our voters
 - Breakdown of voters by election year
 - Survey results presented
- FACTS Committee website information:
 - www.WeatherfordISDFACTS.com or www.weatherfordisd.com under Planning for the Future
- Committee members were invited to attend one of two scheduled tour of WISD facilities.
(Meet at District Services Building)
 - Monday, December 15 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
 - Tuesday, December 16 from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
- The next FACTS Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at Crockett Elementary located at 1015 Jameson Street. Dinner at 5:30 pm; meeting begins at 6:00 pm
- The meeting concluded at 8:00 pm with a tour of Seguin Elementary.

Requests for Information

- Request for district debt profile – Frank Martin

Comments

- Seniors may understand their taxes are frozen but may be worried about their children's taxes going up – Frank Martin
- Survey responders appear to be in favor of moving 9th grade to high school but not 6th grade to middle school – Linda Bourland

Questions

- **Do capacities include additions?**
Frank Martin
Answer: Yes
- **What constitutes civil engineering?**
Linda Bourland
Answer: Outside the building envelope but contributing to the building...driveways, sidewalks, etc.

- **What was the primary age range of non-parent responders?**
Dr. Huggins
Answer: Those voters in the over 65 group.
- **Survey responders were in favor of moving 9th to WHS but the responses to athletic improvements was not favorable. Did we explain that we can't do one without the other?**
Clif Tramel
Answer: No – we were limited in the number of questions we could ask; couldn't address every scenario.
- **Was there a breakdown of parents who have school aged children but don't attend WISD?** John Thielepape
Answer: We did not include responses to be able to segment the data in this manner.
- **I was under the impression that many of the elementary campuses don't have room to expand...is that true?**
Lorri Williams
Answer: At some campuses it would be difficult to expand the facility.
- **Can you survey about athletic facilities with informed questions?**
Trey Woodard
Answer: We could.