

Half-Cent Oversight Committee Meeting
Approved Minutes
February 28, 2022 at 4 p.m. (District Office – Boardroom)

**WELCOME AND
INTRODUCTIONS**

Chairman Karl Smith called the meeting to order at 4 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

Members present: Chairman Karl Smith, Karen Alford, Jennifer Boe, Margaret Loy, Tom Mason, Karen McCann, Rik McNeal, Brian Scarborough and Steven Vann

Members absent: Dean Cheshire, Jason Haesler, and Jeanna Mastrodicasa

District members present:

Carlee Simon, Superintendent

Shane Andrew, Chief of Operations

Alex Rella, Chief of Finance

Suzanne Wynn, Dir. Community Planning, Concurrency and Major Construction

Community Engagement Coordinator Jamarr Akins.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Motion by Brian Sarborough

Seconded by Jennifer Boe

to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2021, Half-Cent Oversight Committee Meeting as presented.

Upon Vote: Motion Passed

**SUPERINTENDENT
UPDATE**

Superintendent Dr. Carlee Simon gave an update, opinions and shared concerns:

- Discussed the land deal and felt it was a bad deal, three-year agreement to purchase land and was surprised that the “superintendent” was not the last person to sign the agreement. There is no notice that either party can walk. The city has a tighter contract but we consider the contract null & void and would like to think of the contract as being over. Stated that a real estate person should not be representing the buyer and seller at the same time.
- Moving Newberry Elementary School up on the priority list---and because of that it got presented that the superintendent was changing the rules. Prices are up and the power plant at Oak View would not function.
- Westwood Middle, under Scorpion as the contractor, was up way over budget. The contract with Scorpion was ended.
- It was discussed with questions on the original plan vs. a new plan with prioritization.
- Zoning issues were brought up – Metcalfe is under-zoned, not under-enrolled. There is a need to do zoning first.
- It was raised about how all this would fit into the strategic plan.
- A magnet school should magnetize kids.
- Buchholz High if overenrolled and has magnet programs. A thought was to take magnets from Buchholz and move them to other schools.
- Suzanne -- Moving timelines was discussed, Moving Westwood and Idylwild this summer. Moving groups into a transition school. Need to finish design. We are starting advertisements. Demolitions start in January, starting construction in January 2023.
- Suzanne Wynn -- In reference to Westwood area, we listened to potential traffic concerns. Looked at traffic patterns and had extra crossing guards to move traffic efficiently.

- Karl Smith – Have challenges and decisions we need to make. Hawthorne Middle High needs a plan of action. And Carlee Simon added that we should have a workshop at Hawthorne and Shell and go into these schools.

- FINANCE UPDATE:** Chief of Finance Alex Rella went over the financial updates and explained the reporting.
- We have received interest on deposit but it wasn't much.
 - There has not been a lot of changes.
 - On Elementary I, the cost has continued to go down, we are nearing the end.
 - There is a correction on the Finance report – 19 million should be 27 million.
 - It was mentioned about how much was being spent locally and how much was being spent on minority businesses.
 - Talked about moving to hard bids on projects – which would eliminate the ability to choose local and minority businesses.
 - With a decrease in enrollment, funding is reduced.
 - It was asked how many teachers were funded by the One-Mill – 200?

- FACILITIES UPDATE:** Suzanne Wynn reviewed with everyone the Capital Improvements Projects Update presentation:
- Elementary “I” (Terwilliger) and Metcalfe projects have been completed and will go to board on March 1.
 - They broke ground at Oak View Middle School
 - Idylwild Elementary will be moving back to the Idylwild campus from Prairie View this summer.
 - Discussed the HVAC at Oak View and will be requesting a hard bid which will save money. There is a 15-20% reduction in cost by going the bidding route. It was mentioned that we should not be trading quality for price.
 - Westwood Middle School Redevelopment – Westwood will be moving to a temporary location this summer. Meetings are being planned. The project is being scheduled to start early in 2023 and will be opened by August 2024. Discussed changing to hard bids to reduce costs. Followed by discussion of hard bids based on cost only, quality, and minority-owned and local companies.
 - Littlewood Elementary is projected to begin in 2023.

DISCUSSION: Discussed Santa Fe College opening a charter school and also another private school was opening in the county. Vouchers have been expanded and empowerment scholarships.

NEXT MEETING: April 25, 2022, at 4 p.m., in the Boardroom at the District Office.

MEETING TOPICS: Will need to select a nominating committee along with a chair and vice chair of this committee.

MEETING Adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

ADJOURNED: