



Harlem School District # 12

"We are here to Provide a Learning Environment that encourages Excellence."



03.07.2018

Middle School Committee Meeting

Present:

Bonnie Nessler
Crystal Doney
Lyle Faulkinberry
Doug Komrosky
Shiloh Seymour
Marty Dirden
Teresa Cornell
Doreen Warren

Absent:

Kori Kindle
Kristin Landre

There have been three construction plans discussed by the committee. 1) Building classrooms at the elementary to keep the 6th grade students at the elementary (~1.92 million dollars); 2) Construction at the Jr/Sr High to accommodate the 6th grade students (~2.2 million dollars); and 3) Construction at the Jr/Sr High to accommodate the 6th grade students and update athletic facilities (~8.25 million dollars).

Mr. Faulkinberry presented his new proposed construction plan with changes that would make it more affordable.

Reasons to move the 6th Grade up to the Jr/Sr High

- Will provide more room at the elementary.
- A middle school principal will likely improve discipline issues in the Jr/Sr building
- 6th graders would get more electives.
- Remove 6th graders from younger students.
- More counselors for the 6th graders at the Jr/Sr High building.
- Reduce the number of Special Education students at the elementary school.
- 6th graders could participate in more sports and more music/band opportunities.
- Elementary Art and Music would lose their classrooms and have to work from a cart.

Reasons to keep the 6th Grade at the Elementary

- There will be a significant cost involved which will have to come out of the School District's savings. It is impossible to know the cost until a plan, if any, is selected.

- Must hire additional administrators for middle school.
- Must hire additional teaching staff for 6th graders.
- High School may become overcrowded in the future.
- 6th graders would be exposed to older students a year earlier.
- More students might result in more discipline issues.

The committee agreed that the next best step would be to survey 1) Districtwide Staff and 2) Families. This will take place at the April Parent-Teacher Conferences. First drafts of the surveys will be created and reviewed at the next committee meeting.

Next meeting: 04.11.2018 at 3:35 p.m.