

Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Projects Working Group on 1300 High School Seats

January 4, 2016, 7:00pm, Ed Center

Meeting Minutes

FAC and APS Staff in Attendance: Lois Koontz, John Chadwick, Ingrid Gant, Laura Simpson, Greg Greeley, Laura Saul Edwards, John Giambalvo, Colleen Pickford, Stacey Snyder, James Dankovich, George Buzby

External Speakers: Tamara McFarren, Lee Davis, Valerie O'Such, Jon Berroya, Gary Steele

Observer: Megan Haydasz

1. Welcome: Lois Koontz
2. Public Comment: Four speakers (Ms. McFarren, Mr. Davis, Ms. O'Such, Mr. Berroya) advocated for a fourth comprehensive high school and to ensure that overpopulation is felt by choice programs as well as neighborhood programs. Mr. Steel spoke out on behalf of the special needs population who are excluded by choice programs and asked the FAC to take into consideration the substantial special needs population when making siting recommendations.
3. Admin: Colleen Pickford agreed to take minutes.
4. Why we're meeting; whom we're supporting; what's in the CIP: Lois Koontz provided overview of our focus and our activities, emphasizing that ACI will be setting the focus on instruction and our goal is to inform decision makers about the world of possibilities in terms of timelines/costs/options available from a facilities standpoint. There was substantial discussion about how facilities and instruction should interact when planning for new schools. There was agreement that coordination between the two councils is important.
5. Scope of work: The group discussed how to focus efforts in order to be helpful to ACI in advance of the joint meeting on February 15. Given the short turn around the group planned to prioritize assessment of APS-owned lands, followed by County-owned lands, and then privately held properties for potential acquisition. John Chadwick asked that the group include a listing of all locations suggested by the public in this document.
 - a. Facilities options: The group discussed what criteria to include and agreed to not eliminate options which may have limited space for fields or parking, but rather to note those limitations in the analysis. The analysis will include options that spread the 1300 seats throughout the county. In addition, the group agreed it was important to note which options included not only space for 1300 high school seats, but may also provide space for additional seats in the future.
6. Next Steps:

The group will make use of existing assessments of APS/County properties and email all suggestions to be considered (or included in a list showing why some sites are NOT considered though often suggested) to Lois Koontz by January 11, 2017.

APS staff will assist in mapping out the sites suggested to Lois for the next meeting on January 12, 2017.

Lois will initiate a list of criteria for keeping or eliminating sites. This will be refined by the group.

Lois will send out an agenda and meeting room location for Thursday Jan 12th as soon as it is available.