Name of Committee: Override Study Committee – Capital SubCommittee

Meeting Date: January 23, 2014   Time: 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Location: Town Hall

Members Present:

X Carol Levin  X Lisa Serafin Sheehan
X Sergio Modigliani  X Timothy Sullivan

The Committee reviewed its working estimates for the Devotion School at $110 million total project cost and Driscoll expansion total project cost of approximately $54 million. It also reviewed the assumption that the net new classroom need was 23 additional classrooms over time.

A discussion about the timing of Old Lincoln School (OLS) space took place. The understanding of the OLS plan called for swing space for 15-16 through 17-18, for it to be in construction the following year with a 19-20 timeframe available for BHS. Tim pointed out that there was probably a year of slip in this schedule in terms of BHS need since the projected size of the 20-21 class was actually a bit smaller than 19-20. BHS would truly not need the capacity until 21-22.

Sergio talked about the capacity of OLS as about 500-525 students and since it was not large enough to accommodate an entire K-8 class, it was likely to be used for some grades from some schools, probably in grades 6 to 8. Devotion would likely be a part of this with another population from other schools. It might serve as swing space for Driscoll too. There would be a transition principal hired. Other potential space during this timeframe included the Lawrence modulars and the Sperber Room.

There were three potential plans considered. In addition to Devotion students, some Driscoll students would create a 446-476 student school at OLS. A Devotion plus Lawrence option would create a 470-517 student school, and a Pierce option would be 500-530 students. These all assumed grades 6-8 in combination with Devotion. The assumption was up to 8 sections for each grade 6 to 8.

Sergio raised that changes to enrollment policy choices could impact the demand for classroom space. He noted on a shorter-term basis this could provide for more time for other options and on a longer-term basis could eliminate the need for some of the additional classrooms being called for.

Lisa asked about the sub-optimal classrooms and how those should be thought about. It was noted that the Expand-In-Place approach did not address the sub-optimal classrooms.
The meeting adjourned.