

BPS Facilities Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 9, 2026 @ 5:00 PM

Administration Conference Room

Present: James RunningFisher, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Rebecca Rappold, Jennifer LaFromboise Wagner, Sandra Rivas, Kellen Hall, Tim Peterson, Abigail Klauk, Alexis Armstrong (online), Sanford Stone (online).

Meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m.

Approval of Committee Minutes: BPS Facilities Committee Meeting 1-8-26 & BPS Facilities Committee Meeting 2-12-26

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

Sportsplex Update (weed mitigation, softball/baseball scoreboard, other): Tim stated that the field turf is supposed to be onsite the third week in May to fix the football field and track. They need to wait a while for the temperature in order to do the striping and the fixing of the track it need to be 50 degrees and above to do that.

Superintendent Rappold stated we are going to purchase a scoreboard. It is \$6,500 for one big long score board not installed. Tim did confirm that the conduit is out there but they need to put the wire in there. Mr. Evans stated that Trails End installed the Softball one so they should no how to set this one.

Sportsplex Well(s): Superintendent Rappold stated that 406 Wells in Great Falls, it was half the price of AquaSource. Both of the quotes will be on the next board meeting, the board will just have to make a motion on which one to accept. Tim stated that he asked if everything was included, because he wondered why it was half the price and it is all included.

Babb Playground: Tim stated that they put an ad in the paper because it was over \$80,000, he did have one more contact him that stated that he could not do it for \$80,000 the same guy that is looking at the middle school playground. The same company that originally gave us a price, Tim asked them to contact Tero and their price did go up a little bit because they are including some local labor now. TERO is requiring two local TERO employees, they didn't include TERO fees because it is under \$100,000. They do have Davis bacon wages in there, everything that the district requires and they are at \$91,000. Mr. Evans stated that the colonies is going to remove the old playground so that price should come down a bit. Timeline for the playground is once it is board approved and the old one is removed is to get it done this summer.

BMS Playground & Football Practice Field: Tim stated the himself and Reid went out and walked the football practice field, he is going to get specifications from land designs landscape architect to see if we could just come in and fill in the holes reseed and flatten it. The sprinkler system works out there so we do not want to tear up anything just need to get it repaired. Jonas Sprinkler System worked out there before so we can reach out to them to see how much it will cost to repair. Hopefully we can get that done late spring or early summer and get it done for next year.

Tim stated that for the BMS playground they looked at two different locations scheme one is on the westside behind the school between the parking lot and the back door of the school. There is a shed there and a well there now so we will have to shift a little bit because it being on top of the well. This is less grading; it is pretty flat back there. On this scheme he showed them the Birk fitness, that was brought to the district by Larry Grandala approached the district about doing this playground. It is on a turf surface and is an obstacle course and also moving all the piece that is out in the walking path into this area as well as a paved basketball court, it would be surrounded with fence. Tim stated that the scheme showed a retaining wall but don't think that it would be needed.

It is showing chain link fence, we were talking 8ft fence, the chain link fence that is out there now has been trashed. We need to look at a better option for a fence. Mr. Gallup stated that the playground has a longer lifespan than the fence. There were suggestions of a fence like at the arbor and the elementary school. Tim stated that he would get a price for both ways.

Scheme 2 would be on the south side of the housing area; it does have more grades and slopes to deal with. The only thing about this side is it is easier for the students to get to from the school. Superintendent Rappold stated that this was one of the issues the students had with the playground facing the housing projects. It was in agreement that they continue to get a price for the westside. There was discussion on the parking lot behind the gym and if no one uses it why it could not be used. The garbage truck goes through there, it is used in an emergency. Mr. Evans suggested using it for basketball courts. Tim asked if we need anything out there other than that out there. Superintendent Rappold stated some of the things they wanted out there where benches and tables for seating area, they wanted the Volleyball set up. Tim asked if we would have to extend the turf, as well as add 4 or 5 basketball hoops along the west side of the parking lot. Kellen stated that BHS has a volleyball set up. Ms. Rivas stated that Mr. Rivas could not attend the meeting tonight but wanted it put out there that his Avid Club would help pay for the benches. Tim will get the changes shown and the pricing for that. BMS will not be this summer, maybe by the fall. Superintendent Rappold stated that if we could get the hoop and practice field done by fall that would be okay for now. Tim is hoping by the next facilities meeting we have a decent good pricing for that and get it out for bid.

Browning Elementary School Future Planning Discussion: Tim stated that he walked through with BES with Superintendent Rappold and Assistant Superintendent LaFromboise Wagner a month and a half ago. Since then, Martin came in and shot more stuff with the camera. They now have a full plan of the whole school. They looked at some option and talked about what needs changed and what level of finishes that would change, with red being high, yellow being mid, green being low and orange being new construction and looked at the color-coded drawing. They will then put per square foot numbers to them so they can get an overall budget of what the project will be.

There is not a whole lot of design that has been done yet but they did move somethings around based on their conversations when they walked through the school. Tim went through and explained the plan they have for BES. Superintendent Rappold stated that when they did the walk-through BES has quite a bit of asbestos that needs to be taken care of. Superintendent Rappold stated that there is more than enough space in this building. Tim stated that it is an access because of so many levels in this building, we need to make it so it is handicap accessible as much as possible as well as making all of the classrooms adequate for kids. He stated at malfunction junction they are adding an elevator to this space to have accessibility.

Tim stated that he talked with Swank to make sure they thought we where in the same range as to where we should be. To do this project as it shows right now is going to be more than \$20 million. Tim stated that if we are going to design something we need to know where the budget is going to be. The estimate as to where we stand now \$21.6 million right now, that includes 10% contingency, 20% soft cost which would be AE fees, permits, furniture and fixtures this does not include the playground. We are really at a high level because we did not do any design work. There was discussion on the pricing of a new school versus the remodel.

Superintendent Rappold stated that there were other issues when they did the walkthrough that was not included like the internal operating systems electrical, plumbing. She asked if that would raise the cost significantly. Tim stated that he is hoping that they plugged those numbers high enough to cover those costs. Morrison and Mairele walked though last week and putting together their report and cost estimate. We are at \$450 per sq. ft. for remodeling that has to include mechanical and electrical. Superintendent Rappold stated that we no this building is going to need a new roof, window and heating. Tim stated that windows is included but may not be enough and the roof was not included, we do need to include that.

Browning High School Future Planning Discussion: Tim present drawing to what was put together for BHS. He stated the circle areas are what they show for additions. Classrooms are at the ends of the wing as talked about. Talked about doing the cafeteria in the back of the building but Tim stated just to get there you would have to funnel student through the tight areas just to get there. He thinks the ideal spot would be in the front of the school. Superintendent Rappold stated that this would prevent people from driving on the lawn and sidewalk.

Superintendent Rappold stated there is not enough space in the counseling center right now for the counselors, Gear- Up and Trio. She talked about incorporating the health room into part of the counseling center like a couple of offices and moving the health room down towards the gym. Tim stated that they could get about four offices out of that space and suggested putting a little hallway through the middle. Superintendent Rappold also pointed out that there is not exit out of the counseling center in an emergency situation. It would be nice to exit that area from the backside.

Tim stated that the auxiliary gym we are showing on the southside, they would increase the size of the breezeway create more of a commons area extending the doors farther to the east. He there would be a large concession right off of the commons which would be accessible to the old gym and the auxiliary gym. New rest rooms for the auxiliary gym, weight room adjacent to the auxiliary gym. There was discussion on what to do with the weight room we have. Classrooms and offices were a discussion. Mr. Hall stated that concessions need their own kitchen and delivery area. He suggested the concession area where the weight room is now and build a kitchen with 2 regular ovens, sinks and plug-ins.

Auxiliary gym will seat 300-400 people. There was discussion on the walking path being better in the big gym. There was lots of discussion and input on the drawings Tim presented.

Tim stated that there is going to be four classes' rooms added to each wing. Superintendent Rappold stated they were considering to have a separate building behind BHS for the Academy. The reasoning for this is so BHA students have access to the CTE classes. Mr. Evans stated that the Academy needs to be connected to BHS. Tim stated that he could quickly put something to get looking at the current square foot figuring for 200 students.

Invasive Weed Management (Tim Kipp, CHS Chemicals): Tim was not able to make it to the meeting. Ms. Klauk stated that they were able to meet with Rebecca about Sletten's commitment and getting thing clarified at what Sletten is responsible for in the weed mitigation in that area.

Shelterbelt Planting Project Opportunity (Alexis Armstrong, DNRC): Ms. Armstrong present on a shelter belt planting project opportunity. DNRC secured an award from the EPA across Montana. Consists of large-scale tree planting hoping to plant 100,000 trees total. Application is not ready to be open yet but will be in the near future. The agreement and awards will be 2 years in length and will be reimbursement based. The award that the DNRC received terms out October 2029. Mr. Evans asked what type of trees. Ms. Armstrong stated that would be up to the partner. If you have questions Ms. Klauk has her email address. Superintendent Rappold stated that she met with Mr. Reagan and Ms. Klauk about some larger scale projects would be around the stadium and the snow fence we have at the stadium. There is some need for spaces at the middle school.

Mr. Stone asked if individual schools and non-profit apply for the shelter belts. Ms. Armstrong stated yes, they can. Mr. Stone stated that Babb is a very windy spot and could use some trees as well.

OTHER ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

Sanford Stone: Mr. Stone parent and chair for the non-profit Babb foundation. He stated they are working on improving quality of life for people in the valley especially the kids. He talked about his concerns with the Babb School playground they are getting versus what they are presenting at this meeting for the other schools. He also stated that the Babb Foundation is working on grants to help pay for the playground.

Superintendent Rappold stated asked Tim to draft something out with the Babb PTO plans and maybe this could be something that we work towards. What they want to do could be done in phases so that it would not interrupt any one part of what has already been done. Tim would like to find a date to get up there and walk the site with people from the foundation and from the school. He would like to set that up within the next week or two. Mr. Stone stated that he could do that at any time and he also stated that they applied for two \$50,000 grant to help pay for the development of the playground, walking path and other areas. If they get the T-Mobile grant it has to be completed within one year of June 1st. Grants will be decided by late May.