

NOTES: Comprehensive Facility and Growth Plan

August 2007

Come Join the School Growth Committee

Gallatin Gateway School currently has a growth committee that recently completed its first phase, where we documented the needs of the school as the enrollment continues to increase. Our next phase is to find solutions to these needs so students can continue to receive a quality education. If you are interested in helping us find solutions to our needs as a growing district please call the school office 763-4415. We will begin this next phase of growth planning in August 2007. We appreciate all the help we can get. We need the support of our community to make these next vital steps for our school if we are to continue to be the best that we possibly can be.

October 2007

The school growth committee met with ten community members attending on October 29, 2007. The newly formed committee took a walking tour of the building and visited about the history of the school facility. The goal of the committee is to develop a long-range Comprehensive Facility and Growth Plan for the school district. If you are interested in participating, the next meetings will be held at the school on November 13, 2007 and again on December 11, 2007. For more information call 406-763-4415. Thank you for your community support.

May 2008

Gallatin Gateway School is experiencing enrollment changes and although there is no immediate need for building expansion, we want to be prepared and ready to take action when the time comes. We are currently looking for land so we can eventually increase our school campus. If you have land that you would be interested in selling, leasing, or donating (even land away from the current school location that the school could sell to purchase land closer to its current location) contact a school board trustee. Thank you for your ideas and contributions to the growth of Gallatin Gateway School.

Facility Capacity – Gallatin Gateway School’s capacity is approximately 200 students. When the district meets 200 in-district students, the school will have met its maximum enrollment.

May 2008

Special Meeting of Trustees, Gallatin Gateway School District #35

Date: May 27, 2008

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Superintendent’s Office

Members Present:

Nikki Robbins

Committee Members Present: Don Hargrove
Sandra Hart
Kim DeBruycker, Superintendent
Ann Prescott

Others Present: Jeff Radick

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by

The members discussed whether or not to include septic and well on the Needs Assessment Spreadsheet. Kim DeBruycker suggested that we turn our Needs Assessment into the Community Planning Group as is and add the septic and well when we had more information. Jeff Radick explained that if he had the Well and Septic Report from the DEQ he would call the state to get their recommendations on what our current systems could handle. Nikki Robbins agreed to get Jeff those reports.

The members discussed the purpose of our meeting. Nikki Robbins suggested that we research solutions to our needs and make a recommendation to the School Board. Kim DeBruycker suggested that we first ask the School Board what direction they want us to go with this committee. She also suggested that we ask the School Board if they are willing to spend some money out of the school budget to pay professionals to help find information and make recommendations. Kim DeBruycker and Nikki Robbins agreed to present the Needs Assessment Spreadsheet at the next School Board meeting in June. Nikki Robbins agreed to contact Gary Griffith to find out what some of those preliminary costs might be. Nikki Robbins also stated that she would try to figure out a rough estimate of the building costs based on the Needs Assessment and formulas that Bozeman School District uses.

Jeff Radick suggested presenting options along with our Needs Assessment in the narrative. These options could be presented to the School Board. Kim DeBruycker suggested that we work on that during our July meeting. The group agreed to try to meet July 15, 2008 at 7pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

June 2008

June Agenda Regular Meeting of Trustees

Matt Donnelly from the Sewer District Committee was unable to attend, but Dick Shockley explained the water/sewer concerns of Gallatin Gateway to the Board and noted that the concerns are critical with the mounting growth issues with the dense areas of Gallatin Gateway. Mr. Donnelly is expected to attend the next Board meeting to provide more information on the subject.

Dick Shockley and Christie Francis, both members of the Gallatin Gateway Planning and Steering Committee, thanked the Board and the School Growth Committee for providing them with the school growth plan and information about the school's current condition and how it will be affected by growth within the community. They explained that the community is very concerned about the well-being of the school. They presented a letter from the Monforton School Board to its community members addressing the issue of school impact fees. Mr. Shockley and Mrs. Francis explained that there are currently no impact fees for school districts, yet growth has a significant impact on a school district. Therefore, they encouraged the Board to write a letter in agreement with Monforton School District to the County Commissioners. In addition, they encouraged the Board to attend the County Commissioner meeting, most likely in September, where they will address this concern. They explained that the County Commissioners must vote unanimously to approve impact fees for schools; therefore it is important the Board present their concerns and urge them to approve impact fees for school districts. The Board agreed that Board Chair Erik Yager will attend the County Commissioner meeting and represent the Board.

Trustee Nikki Robbins provided the Board with the needs assessment conducted by the School Growth Committee and asked the Board for further direction as to where they would like the committee to focus their efforts. Trustee Robbins presented several options to the Board for school growth such as split the district into two campuses, purchase neighboring land to expand, or abandon current facility and build a new facility on more acreage. The Board encouraged the committee to research acquiring more land near the current building and expanding the current facility. The School Growth Committee will advertise for new members, as the committee is now moving on to Growth Phase II and some of the current volunteers would like to be relieved of their duties. An advertisement will be placed in the next school newsletter and Trustee Robbins proposed an August meeting for the committee members of Growth Phase II in order to look at options available to expand the current campus.