



Project Name: Colo-NESCO Community Schools Facility Assessment
ISG Project Number: 22362
Location: Zearing, IA
Date: Wednesday, July 31, 2019
Time: 7-9 p.m.

MEETING TOPICS

Welcome + Introductions

- Superintendent Walker welcomed Task Force members back and new member Brian Anderson.
- Discussed questions that came in since last time. Will be added to list. Some related to cleaning and maintenance which administration will handle.
- Discussed a handout about a public survey and the associated fee. Members discussed other ways to get the information without spending the money.
- Discussed meeting location for Task Force #3 meeting in McCallsburg. More information to follow.
- Set meeting #4 in Colo for September 11 at 7 pm
- Open Questions (to be added to master list)
 - What is our goal as a group and how are we getting there. Discussed the process. The goal is to have a recommendation to go to the Board.
 - Is there a teacher checklist for end of year as to how to leave their room when they head into summer break?
 - Is there enough representation from McCallsburg?
- Open discussion:
 - Opportunities: How does community get to see what we see?
 - Do we do video tours? Display during open houses, games, online?
 - Do we set up stations for tours and have people go thru at their own pace?
 - How do community members express concerns and provide input? Public communication is very important.
 - Community outreach opportunities.
 - Food brings in people.
 - Are there any good times to match up with?
 - Games, open houses?

Meeting #1 Notes

The notes from Task Force Meeting #1 were distributed and reviewed. These notes were shared with the Community via the District website at <https://www.colonesco.org/>.



Tour: Elementary School, Zearing, Iowa

The tour included areas of recent facility improvements, areas in need of improvement, and a general understanding of facility and site, and maintenance and improvement needs. Stops along the tour included but were not limited to the following:

- Art Room
- Cafeteria
- Downstairs bathrooms
- Lobby (safety)
- Gym/Locker rooms (drain lines)
- Top two floors (heat shut-off)
- Conference room (Paula's room, Tony's room)
 - Heat leak required shut off
- Science Room
- Boiler Room
- Special Education Room
- Office
 - Lacks nurse area
- New Addition – At capacity with rooms

Exercise – Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities, Questions

Following the visit, Task Force members added their thoughts to poster paper related to the tour and their impressions. If an item was repeated a check mark is indicated.

Strengths

- New Addition ✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓
- Chair Lift Impressive ✓✓
- Classroom Adaptability
- Art Room greatly improved since before ✓
- Secret Garden green space ✓✓✓✓✓
- Classroom/space is filled ✓
- Band Room ✓
- Teachers ✓
- Current administration doing their very best ✓✓
- Science area seems to be in decent shape

Challenges

- Security, Front Door, Alarm System ✓✓✓✓
- Old Building- Everything (Equipment/Life Expired) ✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓
- No working showers? ✓
- Classroom space ✓✓
- Locker Rooms ✓✓✓
- Lunch Room floor nice/needs painting now ✓
- Electrical in old building ✓✓✓
- Cleaning ✓
- Access ✓
- Basement ✓
- Ceilings ✓
- Maze (Levels to spaces, rooms) ✓✓
- Entry – 1st Impressions ✓
- Classrooms are full
- Structural issues ✓
- Environmental issues in old building
- Playground
- Underutilized space
- Age of building
- Smells – Air quality
- Temporary fixes



Questions

- Life of boiler/heat in old building
- Is there space to grow here?
- How long until old building has to go?
- If the open enrolled kids came back, are facilities large enough?
- What was the plan after the addition was put on? (Phase 2-3 etc.)

Opportunities

- You can only go up from here!
- Lunch Room
- Locker Rooms
- Special education room maybe a carpet remnant?
- Library sound system
- Put baseball and softball fields in same location
- Space
- Smaller tables for PK, 1st graders (and restrooms)
- Take down everything older than 2009 Move west/new class room
- New gym: Don't tie into 75 year-old stuff when we can tie into 10 year-old stuff
- Preschool numbers are up
- Need an actual entry
- Bathroom added to PK-K rooms

NEXT STEPS

The Task Force will participate in a series of six (or more) meetings with the last tour scheduled in McCallsburg. Following the tours, the Task Force will work through a consensus-based planning process that will include identifying both needs and wants for the District, financial considerations, and concluding with a recommendation to the School Board by late fall or early winter on how to move forward. Community members wishing to submit questions about the process are invited to email Superintendent Jim Walker, at jwalker@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us.

- Meeting #3 – Tour school facilities in McCallsburg, Iowa – Wednesday, August 14, 7-9 p.m.
- Meeting #4 – Identify needs and wants – Colo Middle/High School, Wednesday, September 11, 7 p.m.
- Meeting #5 – Alternatives analysis and financial considerations – Location and date TBD
- Meeting #6 – Develop a recommendation and next steps – Location and date TBD



TASK FORCE MEMBERS

The following individuals are serving on the Task Force:

- Amy Lennie
- Angela Dontje
- Aric Jurgensen
- Bill Lytle
- Brad Kohlwes
- Brandon Kelley
- Brenda McGuire
- Brian Anderson
- Connie Tjelmeland
- Dave Skinner
- Hazel Purtell
- Jason Erickson
- Jeff Brinkman
- Jim Walker
- Justin Walker
- Karen Davis
- Kathy Mens
- Kim Heidemann
- Kristine Brinkman
- Lana Voga
- Levi Bappe
- Lisa Waddell
- Liz Gaunt
- Lonny Flack
- Mark Venner
- Mary Wilkins
- Nathan Wilson
- Nicole Jeffries
- Pam Niemeyer
- Peggy Obrecht
- Robin Pruisner
- Ty Adams