

Kit Carson School District R-1

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The school year has started and many positive programs have been updated and transformed. Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) has been ramped up to include Dojo for the elementary and tickets/prizes for the secondary students. PAWS (Pride-Attitude-Wise Choices-Safety) are being rewarded around the school on a daily basis. The PBIS is being led by Jasmine Jacobs and Natalie Framel.

The advisory period has started, it is a 15 minute period before lunch, and it will discuss many social emotional topics as well as a time for class meetings, AR reading, and general information. This time is being led by Penny Isenbart.

Teachers will be traveling to see other teachers in action this year. The professional development and collaboration gained from watching other teachers teaching will be invaluable. Our teachers will be able to come back with new ideas and thoughts about their teaching methods, plus an understanding of other schools and their issues and accolades.

The last community meeting was a great meeting where we were able to discuss many items. Here is an outline of discussed items.

A. Introductions by School Board members:

1. Guiding principle: what is best for the kids and the School District.

B. Wold Architects and Engineers gave a presentation. The following questions were raised and discussed.

1. Question raised about BEST Program limiting what the school can have, ex. Kit Carson needs two gyms.
 - a. Kit Carson would need to justify the need for two gyms. BEST projects are based on the needs of the District.
 - b. VOAG shops would be built to meet current State standards and District program needs.
 - c. Concern was raised about other schools using cheap building materials.
 - 1) Design decisions including building materials would not be made without the District's approval.
 - 2) Design decisions would be up to Kit Carson and their hired architect.
 - d. Would it be possible for Kit Carson to provide additional funding sources outside of BEST?
 - 1) Obtaining outside funding would not hurt/help Kit Carson's chances to receive a BEST grant.
2. Question asked if BEST has a cost per square footage cap.
 - a. BEST does not have a cap.
3. Question about costs changing during construction.
 - a. BEST has a contingency plan built into the project for cost fluctuations.

C. Questions and Feedback from Community:

1. Will the \$8.3 million bond limit the District? Can the District support the burden of an \$8.3 million bond?
 - a. \$8.3 million would be paid by tax payers. The group discussed how that might impact Kit Carson.
 - b. Wold indicated that studies have shown that improving quality of school facilities within a community results in positive economic impacts.
 - c. Most bonds are 20 years.
2. How much money has been invested in roof repairs recently?
 - a. The District clarified that a definite number is hard to give due to the multitude of issues. Problems have been severe enough to be covered by insurance. Patching has been done. A tear off and re-roof has not. New issues are materializing. Example: Skylights are now causing problems. A significant amount of money was put into fixing the roof a few years ago, and most problems have returned.
3. Feedback from the community:
 - a. Many people within the community are not aware of the current condition of the building.
 - b. More information about the deficiencies of the building should be provided to members of the community.
 - c. Most people are in favor of building a new school versus repairing the current school when comparing the cost of both options.
 - d. Community Members of Kit Carson are aware of problems being faced by other School Districts, and they want to avoid those problems. Example: not maintaining new gym.
 - e. The group feels that community input and support is the most important criteria going forward.
 - 1) Campaigning will be crucial to pass the bond, maintain transparency, and reiterate to the community what is best for the School District.
 - f. More committee involvement from community members is necessary and desired.
 - g. There is need for another community meeting.

Our estimated Assessed Value has come back just over \$40 million. This will lower our maximum match to around \$8.08 million instead of \$8.3 million.

Please come to the next community meeting. The information gathered at the meeting will help guide the School Board as it makes decisions.



8/29/2017

The next school board meeting will be September 19th at 7:00pm in the conference room.