

# TIMBERLANE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 14, 2010

**Present:** Lisa Withee, Chair, George Stokinger, Jim Hughes, Michelle Auger, Kathie Dayotis, Nancy Hart, Doug Rolph, Nancy Steenson, Lori Aubrey, Angelo Fantasia, Patrice Liff, Bob Dawson, Mike Hogan (8:37), Don Woodworth (8:43), and Richard La Salle (9:26.).

**Special Guest:** Elmer Arborgast, Arborgast Energy Auditing.

At the SAU Office, 30 Greenough Road, Plaistow, NH, Mrs. Withee called this December 14, 2010 Timberlane Regional School District Facilities Committee meeting to order at 8:35 am and noted the order of the agenda shall be changed to accommodate the presentation of an outside guest.

## Minutes

Mrs. Withee called for a motion to accept the October 19, 2010 Facilities Committee minutes.

***MOTION: Ms. Auger motioned to approve the October 19, 2010 Facilities Committee meeting minutes as presented. Mrs. Dayotis seconded. With no further discussion the motion passed with one abstention (Mrs. Liff).***

## Atkinson Academy Energy Audit

Mr. Hughes introduced Mr. Elmer Arborgast of Arborgast Energy Auditing and explained that the Town of Atkinson received a grant for an energy audit of town buildings and included Atkinson Academy in the audit.

Mr. Arborgast reported he conducted an ASHRAE Level II Energy Audit of Atkinson Academy. This was a comprehensive audit which took several days to perform. The audit report reflects his findings as well as provides a list of recommendations to address energy savings cost and to use for future planning. He stated the facility actually audited well for its age and number of phased additions. The building ranked in the 31<sup>st</sup> percentile based on the Oak Ridge National Laboratory benchmark, and tested very well in overall air quality. He tested the air for CO<sup>2</sup> which averaged around the 400 mark. Outside air generally measures 320-350 and the acceptable measurement is under 1100. He did particle counts which were much lower than most schools tested. He noted that 66% of energy is heat which is typical for New England. Most of the lighting at the school has been upgraded and the school staff is energy conscious. All these factors contributed to the school's ranking.

Mr. Arborgast then presented on where the school can go from here to improve its energy conservation – there is a potential to save 45% on fuel and 9.74% on electricity, which could bring Atkinson Academy to be one of the top rated schools in New Hampshire. He noted the part natural gas will have in the future as a clean fuel and that the district should keep this in mind as part of their future energy plan.

He went on to present the next step to reducing energy costs by investigating federal, state and utility loan programs, implementing the recommendations separately or implementing them comprehensively by employing a professional. The district can also use in-house staff to address each of the recommendations. He noted the utility history of the school reflects very little change from 2009 to 2010, though the new lighting has reduced the electricity consumption somewhat.

Mr. Arborgast reviewed his list of recommendations which included weather stripping around doors, demand control ventilation, enthalpy based control, zone valves, boiler replacement, single pump in old boiler rooms, extension of Johnson controls BAS, weatherization for select walls, windows and insulating behind heaters. He then provided slides of thermal imaging pictures taken of doors, windows and building walls. He listed several on-site renewable energy options for future consideration: thermal solar, PV solar, wind, combine heat and power, district heating, and bio energy. Natural gas is probably the best long term energy plan for the district.

Mr. Hughes noted that the full 80-page report is available for review and that district buildings are pretty much typical with respect to energy, although Atkinson Academy is different as it has a single heating source. In 15 to 20 years from now as the current heating system ages, they will look at another energy source, or maybe install

**The MISSION of the Timberlane Regional School District is to engage all students in challenging and relevant learning opportunities, emphasizing high aspirations and personal growth.**

multiple boilers. He concluded by noting work orders have already been written to address many of the recommendations cited by the auditing firm.

### **Pollard Kitchen Warrant Article**

Mr. Stokinger reported that the Pollard kitchen project was brought before the school board two weeks ago. They had received sketches and pricing which turned out to be more than expected. It was their plan to charge the cost of the project against the capital reserve fund; however, the estimated cost of the project is \$381k and the capital reserve fund's balance is \$300k. They have since met with the principal, superintendent and architect and made modifications to the plan in an effort to reduce the overall cost. Those modifications included renovating the current bathroom versus moving it to another location, and not moving an entrance as originally proposed. Instead they will remodel the serving line and create a safer loading dock area. The new estimate will be presented to the school board this Thursday. They are hopeful the latest plan will be more cost effective as they do not want to ask voters for any additional monies beyond the capital reserve fund.

Mrs. Withee stated that at the last board meeting it was noted that having a bathroom in the cafeteria was very important, although it drives up the cost of the project. She asked if they considered waiting another year after more money is added to the capital reserve fund and paying for the entire project in the next voting session.

Ms. Auger stated the compromises to the plan are necessary and she is really fine with them. She would have preferred better kitchen access for her staff members; however, this plan is the best they can do with the limitations they are under. Mrs. Steenson asked if there was a way to address this with the architect before Thursday's school board meeting. Ms. Auger replied that the plan looks good and really addresses everything they talked about except the access door. Mrs. Withee agreed they should clarify the access piece with the architect first. She stated this project is important and she supports the plans.

### **Principal's Building Report**

Mrs. Withee opened the meeting for principals to report on any facilities matters concerning their schools.

#### **ATHLETICS**

Mr. Fantasia reported that he and Mr. Hughes conducted a walk-through of the locker rooms and outside facilities to consider improvement possibilities (rearranging the area to make better use of what they have). They are still in the planning stages.

Mrs. Withee informed the committee that the school board could not support a large athletic overhaul at this time, thus other improvement options need to be considered. The board was sympathetic to the need, but could not justify the expense given the economic climate.

#### **HIGH SCHOOL**

Mr. Woodworth reported work orders have been issued for items, but the building is in relatively good shape. They have plans to address the nursing area. He then noted the business wing is experiencing heating issues as the rooms are on scheduled climate control for computers and the room temperature is not suitable for classrooms. Teachers are requesting direct control over room temperature. He will work with Mr. Hughes on addressing this.

#### **SANDOWN NORTH**

Mrs. Liff reported Sandown North is in good shape; they have addressed big ticket items with the budget committee (air conditioning in the gym and cafeteria and the need for new carpeting).

#### **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Mr. Hogan noted his concerns are being addressed in the new budget. They have been down one custodial staff member thus they have fallen behind in work orders. They expect to be caught up shortly. He stated he added locker replacement in his new budget as unjamming lockers on a daily basis consumes a half days work for one of his staff members. He concluded by reporting he is enjoying the new library wall.

#### **SANDOWN CENTRAL**

Mr. Rolph stated the Sandown Fire Chief recently inspected his school and discovered a couple of fire alarm pull boxes were not connected. These will be addressed as the district has known about them for quite some time. Mr. Hughes responded the pull boxes were added when the building grew and although they are fully wired,

they are not tied into the system. Mr. Rolph added that there is not much heat in the gymnasium and that a heating unit is included on the facilities list.

#### POLLARD

Ms. Auger reported that Pollard's main problem is regulating heat. In one area she has a room temperature of 65° and the room next door is 90° - there is a 20-30 degree difference between adjacent rooms. She then inquired if there was a policy on room temperature. Mr. Hughes responded he want to see rooms at 70-72°. The older buildings have old pump systems and are inadequate.

Ms. Auger then requested railings of some sort be installed at dismissal area on the front of the old building as having none poses a safety risk to her very young students. She noted her building's water is good; however another notice will need to go out as part of the notification cycle.

#### DANVILLE ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Hart stated her building is also experiencing heating issues and looks forward to the new boiler. She noted the chimney in the 87 wing had cracks in the liner and fumes were entering a grade one classroom. She stated for future reference, boiler rooms should never be located in the middle of classrooms. The problem has since been addressed (new chimney, cap, installed air handler unit next to chimney and placed an exhaust fan in the classroom). She noted this was an unexpected expense.

#### ATKINSON ACADEMY

Mrs. Dayotis reported Atkinson Academy is in good shape. They have already begun working on some of the energy recommendations as well as some heating issues (changing out some heating valves).

#### **Pollard Kitchen (Resumed)**

Mr. La Salle distributed copies of the latest Pollard kitchen renovation proposal noting two modifications from the previous plan: truck access to the loading dock and improvement of current bathroom facilities. These two goals are achieved with the new plan. The overall plan moves the service area forward by 4 feet addressing all the code issues – they have met all of their goals by 75% and are now just waiting for the pricing. He stated they also added hand washing sinks so that children wouldn't be tying up bathrooms just to wash their hands. This new plan minimizes structural changes.

He concluded by noting the new plan is much better than what they are working with now and that he is impressed with the kitchen staff's ability to do such good work with their current working conditions.

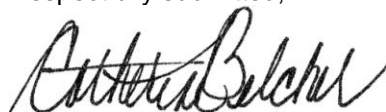
#### **Other Business**

None

#### **Future Meetings**

Mrs. Withee noted the next Facilities Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am. She adjourned the meeting at 9:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine Belcher  
Administrative Assistant

Minutes completed and on file December 14, 2010.

Minutes approved April 12, 2011.