

DESTIN HIGH SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

July 20, 2017

GOAL: PLAN/PRESENTATION TO SCHOOL BOARD IN AUGUST

MEMBERS PRESENT

Alonso, Fountain, Ramswell, Stone, Williams

Approval of Minutes: March 14, 2017

Member Reports/Old Business

Alonso:

- Noted the importance of fundraising; many businesses would support; maybe DHS Day at the Fishing Rodeo?

Ramswell:

- Project presented at Destin City Council; Council selected DHS Project as one of the four projects they want considered for Triumph funding; next step is county and school board because we want to work cooperatively
- At the Triumph funding meeting Billy Williams from Walton County was highly supportive of our project and its potential for funding. His goal is ensuring our county presents viable projects to ensure Triumph funding stays and is spent here in NW Florida. Williams to **get contact info on Billy Williams** to Ramswell for further discussion and ideas moving forward.
- Noted the increasing population and that a new military realignment was set for 2021. This will also increase our population.
- Asked for any edits/changes to project plan package

New Business

- Review Destin High School Project
 - Williams said that she will work on getting the missing info from the Due Diligence bullets
 - Possible **ask Dewey Destin for insight into where that information might be located**
 - We should add a section about what the project does for the community
 - Improving deteriorating conditions that exist at DMS and DES
 - Help alleviate overcrowding at NHS and FWBHS
 - Assist in becoming compliant in regards to portables
 - Fountain notes that she heard 118 portables have timed out in OCSD

- Comment from Facebook: DES is still using the same portables they put in when my daughter was in 2nd grade there.... that was 25 years ago!
We need to fact check this!
- We need to pick a scenario and stick with it for a cohesive plan

Discussion moved to an in-depth conversation about continuing to look for property or whether it was most feasible and likely to be approved if we utilized existing school properties.

- Beals property was discussed again
- Vacant parcel at Turnberry and south of Turnberry discussed
 - It was discovered that a potential school benefactor owns the property north of Turnberry
 - Ramswell to reach out to benefactor and see if there might be potential to use this property



This lot is further from DMS, but still close; same easy access by back road. Possibility of land swap with owner and Turnberry?

- Committee feels as if best course forward is utilizing existing school property
 - Costs lower
 - No need to purchase land
 - New building and add-ons would help alleviate issues at the schools
 - School board perhaps more likely to approve this scenario because of reduced cost
 - Added potential of possibly obtaining benefactor parcel of 2.95 acres for possible use as a 10-12 campus or football stadium; **Ramswell to reach out**

- Stone to reach out to Turnberry about possibly obtaining the north part of their 13.57 acre parcel for possible use as a 10-12 campus



Allows for separation by wetland only, easy access by back road

- Committee believes best option is:
 - Add a 5th/6th grade campus at rear of DES property
 - Add third wing and possibly second level to current DMS building for 7-8-9 campus
 - Two scenarios for 10-12 campus:
 - Convert main parking lot and build new three-story building for 10-12; add another two levels to existing teacher parking lot
--This scenario can also be reversed: convert teacher parking lot and extend to build new three-story building for 10-12; add another level or two to main parking lot for additional parking (student parking and teacher parking)
 - If able to obtain Turnberry or benefactor parcel, build 10-12 campus on that site.



Existing lot north is nearly empty during school, no need for more parking; additional entrance/drop-off could be created using right of way on southern property line giving access to Beach Dr.



Add a third wing (yellow) to existing building to create 7-9 campus; utilize one of the existing lots for a new building for 10-12 campus; other lot expanded into multi-story garage

- Fountain to ask why DMS lot is shared with Legendary
- Discussion followed on size necessary for 5th/6th grade. It was determined that we could estimate 750 students for future projections (already nearing 200 per grade), necessitating 30, 30x30 classrooms. A high school we should estimate 300 per grade (thinking ahead)
- 1 acre=43,560 sq ft
- Alonso to investigate sizes/square footages matched with footprints
- It was decided to hold off on contacting DAG

Need to ask Dewey Destin his opinion on positioning ourselves...

- Partnership? Cooperative, helping one another?
- Good news that Don Gaetz is now on the Triumph Committee. Should Ramswell reach out or is that premature?

More numbers showing an increase:

- South Walton: From Sherri Binkowski, Assistant Principal, Butler Elementary
The feeder pattern is Butler Elementary and Bay Elementary into Emerald Coast Middle into South Walton High:
Current enrollment numbers are Butler @1100. Bay @450. Emerald coast @800. South Walton @750. This are all approximations of course. We also have Seaside Neighborhood and Seacoast Collegiate that are both charter schools in the area. I am unsure of their enrollment.
- DES at 950 students K-4
- DMS maxed out with 748 students in grades 5-8

DELAYED

- Ask Anderson for assistance?
- Request meeting with Superintendent to be added to their August 14 agenda
- CHOICE/Charter- postponed
- OCSD hold charter- postponed

Adjourn